

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist Lois Viebrock
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
AV Technicians Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild Janice Gerken & Rhonda Schlesselman
Ushers Victoria Fox, Assistant Head Usher
..... Scott Gerken, Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs & Braden Poe



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany ~ February 16, 2025

Assisting Minister Sandy Schlesselman
Communion Assistants Luther League
Reader Brian Randall
Children's Sermon Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
Acolytes Logan Jackson & Grant Kullman
Flowers Rhonda Schlesselman



Seventh Sunday after Epiphany ~ February 23, 2025

Assisting Minister Melinda Strathman
Communion Assistants Erin Oelrichs & Justin Tinney
Reader Adrienn Dieckman
Children's Sermon Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes Grady Elliott & Miranda Gerken
Flowers Sara Jackson

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ~ FEBRUARY 16, 2025



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325

“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn “Lift Every Voice and Sing” #841

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

Sunday, February 16:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
	AW	Luther League
Monday, February 17:	7:00pm	Esther Circle
Wednesday, February 19:	3:30pm	Worship & Music
Thursday, February 20:	8:00am	BCHD
Saturday, February 22:	5:30pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, February 23:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations




~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

March 2.....	Shrove Pancake Lunch
March 5.....	Ash Wednesday
March 9.....	First Sunday in Lent
March 9.....	Day-Light Saving Time Begins
March 20.....	First Day of Spring

Ash Wednesday: We begin the season of Lent with the remembrance of who we are: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Ash Wednesday is a solemn day of prayer that begins our 40 day season of Lent, where we will be invited into the discipline of Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. Join us for an Ash Wednesday worship service on **March 5th**, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. (There is no Simple Supper this evening.)



 **Staffing Update:** After serving as church secretary for many, many years here at St. Paul's, Shirley recently announced her intention to retire from the position. First, let us all offer our thanks to Shirley for all that she has done for St. Paul's. We are truly grateful and are working on plans to celebrate her time. Secondly, we are now beginning the search for someone to fill that position. The office is currently staffed for 18 hours each week across four days. If you or anyone you know might be interested in applying for the secretary position please speak with Pastor Stephen or Jake Jackson.

~ * ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ * ~

Fish Fry: The Sophomore Class will host a fish dinner on Sunday, **March 16th** from 11:00am until 1:00pm. Adults: \$15.00, Kids: \$12.00 and Kids 1-4 are free. The menu will include fish, cornbread, salads and desserts.

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5 - 10

⁵ Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. ⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? ¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12 - 20

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller

please stand in body or spirit
Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

page 151

Gospel

Luke 6:17 - 26

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.

With Sympathy: We also pray for those families who have lost loved ones; family and friends of Richard (Dick) Pabst.



Luther League: Today the Luther League will meet for some Food, Faith, Fellowship, and Fun immediately following worship. Food= Pizza! Fun= Pickleball! The Luther League is for anyone in grades 8th through college. We will have lunch, discuss our plans for 2025, explore our faith, and play some pickleball. For non-drivers, parents need to pick students up by 1:00pm. Parents are also invited to stay if they wish.

Circle: Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **February 17th** at 7:00pm at the home of Sharel Wienberg.



Planning: Worship & Music will meet on Wednesday, **February 19th** at 3:30pm.

Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **February 20th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



Newsletter: The Sunbeam committee will meet on Wednesday, **February 26th** at 3:00pm.

Shrove Sunday Pancake Lunch: On Sunday, **March 2nd**, the Luther League is hosting a congregational Shrove Sunday pancake lunch to celebrate the last Sunday before Lent begins. It will be right after worship in the Fellowship Hall, and include pancakes, sausages, hash browns, and more. It's our own little Mardi Gras celebration and all are invited! A free-will offering to support the youth will be available.



“THE HOPE OF CHRIST”



Welcome: Welcome to St. Paul's Church! May your soul be nourished, your faith be strengthened and your life be touched by God in a special way while you're here.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Ron Eickhoff, Laura Ruth Oelrichs, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, Dewey Jobe, Renee Weller and Kyle Luetjen.



Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Mike Hinkel, Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), Fred Beeman, Kylee Scheel (family of Teresa Viebrock), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Stacy Morrison (friend of Teresa Viebrock), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kaleb Mundy, Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Jamie Simon, Joe Campbell, Dustin Woods, Liz Smart, Art Heimsoth, Cliff Eckhoff, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).

Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Marie Viebrock & Florence VonHolten: *GSCC*.

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (son of Matt & Isabel Hamilton and grandson of Judie VonHolten), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



did to the prophets. ²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

please be seated
Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit
Hymn of the Day

“Blest Are They”

#728

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering

please stand in body or spirit

Offertory "Create in Me a Clean Heart" #186

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

"Jesus, the Very Thought of You" #754
"Beautiful Savior" #838

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

Sending Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" #705

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.