



January 28, 2024

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

2045 LYNN ST | SANFORD, MI 48657

Pastor: Christopher P. Vossler

Organist: Sara Glynn-Dishaw

Hymn:

825 Rise, Shine, You People



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
 He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
 Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing.
 Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
 All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
 To all the world go out and tell the
 Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
 driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
 sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus

Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the
Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*

**but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in
the LORD.**

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in-
| iquity,*

and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in-
| iquity;*

**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the
LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.**

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you
at a time when you | may be found;*

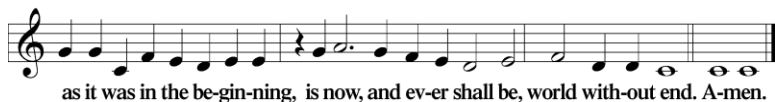
**surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not |
reach him.**

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from |
trouble;*

you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*

**but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in
the LORD.**



Kyrie

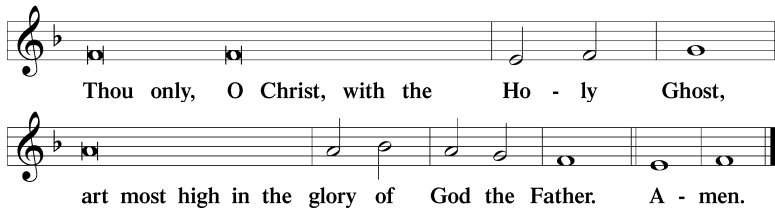
LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15–20

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD

your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.’¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Special

Epistle

1 Corinthians 8:1–13

¹Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom

we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

⁹But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹²Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand in Honor of the Holy Gospel

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Apostles' Creed

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✚ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn:

696 O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
 2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing
 3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;
 4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and ac - tions,



With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
 What - ev - er You com - mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing;
 Guard me lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;
 And let me find good friends For coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.



Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in
 That I do what I should While trust - ing You to bless
 But when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,
 Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small



A con - science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.
 The out - come for my good, For You must give suc - cess.
 Then to my words give grace Lest I of - fend the weak.
 And by Your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

Continued next page>

- 5 Let me depart this life
 Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul
 That it may live forever;
And let my body have
 A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave;
 And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day
 When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
 My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice,
 Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice
 With those who love Your name.

Goal: That the hearers would build one another up in love.

I. Introduction

-

II. Meat and Idols

- What does it mean for meat to be sacrificed to an idol?
- Why might such meat cause problems for a believer?

III. Modern “Meat”

- What are some possible stumbling blocks for modern believers?
- How can our “knowledge” hurt a fellow believer?

IV. Building Up

- “Knowledge doesn’t bring you to God; _____ does”

V. Conclusion

- Where does the love come from that brings us to God?

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

C 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;

Hymn:

948 All Glory Be to God Alone



1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, For - ev - er - more the
 2 We praise You, God; Your name we bless And wor - ship You in
 3 Lord God, our King on heav - en's throne, Our Fa - ther, the Al -
 4 You take the whole world's sin a - way; Have mer - cy on us,
 5 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One And o - ver all are



high - est one, Who did our sin - ful race be - friend And
 hum - ble - ness; From day to day we glo - ri - fy The
 might - y One. O Lord, the sole - be - got - ten One, Lord
 Lord, we pray. You take the whole world's sin a - way; O
 Lord a - lone. O Je - sus Christ, we glo - ri - fy You



grace and peace to us ex - tend. A - mong us may His
 ev - er - last - ing God on high. Of Your great glo - ry
 Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's Son, True God from all e -
 Lord, re - ceive our prayer this day. From God's right hand Your
 and the Spir - it, Lord Most High; With Him You ev - er -



gra - cious will All hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.
 do we sing, And to Your throne our thanks we bring.
 ter - ni - ty, O Lamb of God, to You we flee.
 mer - cy send, To all the world Your grace ex - tend.
 more shall be One in the Fa - ther's maj - es - ty.

Dismissal for Sunday School

Dismissal for Youth Bible Study

P Go in Peace, serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Church Office: 989-687-2824
 E-Mail: stpaulslutheran@tds.net |
www.stpaulsanford.org

WELCOME:

We join in welcoming our visitor's this morning. If you would please be sure to sign the guest book (Elders can direct you to the location), Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL
SUNDAY: <i>Worship Service 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Bible Study/Youth Outing to Live Oak Coffee House 1pm</i>
MONDAY:
TUESDAY: <i>5pm Confirmation Class/7pm Lighthouse</i>
WEDNESDAY: <i>Lighthouse 1pm/Choir 7pm</i>
THURSDAY: <i>Elders 6pm</i>
FRIDAY: <i>Stephen Ministry Training Class 10am/</i>
SATURDAY: <i>Band Rehearsal 4pm/</i>
SUNDAY : <i>Worship Service with Communion 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Bible Study/</i>

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 1/21/24				
OFFERINGS Env / Plate	mom	Memorials	TOTAL	ATTENDANCE
\$2177/298	31	-	\$2506	77

Ladies Aid –Resumes 9am on February 14th to begin planning future projects

February Council Meeting 2/11 @ 11 am

*Youth Movie Night-Saturday, February 10th
@ 6pm Pizza/popcorn/smores and movie
discussion. Featuring the movie "Big Hero 6" 😊*

Today, 1pm Youth Group outing to the **Live Oak Café**, Midland where we will be brainstorming youth activities.



For more information about youth group, Sunday School, youth bible study and events, please use the QR code to get to the form.

Prayer Request: *If you or someone you know are in need of prayers please call or email Edna Rottiers at 989-687-9687 / hughrottiers@gmail.com . Those with additional prayer request please complete a prayer slip and give to one of our Elders before the service or to one of the Ushers during the offering. Your prayers are important and our Lord does promise to answer*

Mission of the Month: In January, we are collecting donations for **Shelterhouse of Midland County**, which offers safety and shelter to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. Your donations will help local survivors begin a new life of hope, healing and independence.



This week's flowers are sponsored by Sandy and Richard Hoogerhyde in celebration of their Anniversary.

Happy Anniversary Sandy and Richard! ☺

January Altar Guild representative is Kathy Engblade - 989.631.6447

To our families with small children:

Relax! You and your children are welcome to our worship service! Being in worship with you to observe and participate in the service will help them to learn how to behave in church – and they will learn that best by watching you worship on a regular basis! Sit anywhere in the sanctuary that you wish. The last two rows of pews are set aside for families with small children, but you don't *have* to sit there. In fact, sitting close to the front so your children can see what's happening may help them to feel more involved in the service. If they need something to keep their hands occupied, please ask one of the ushers for a copy of the children's bulletins for them to color. If for any reason you need to take your children out of the sanctuary so they can calm down, feel free to bring them into the bathroom at the back of the church. In addition, at the bottom of the stairs we have a cry room to the right, as well as the fellowship hall to the left. With the speakers in the basement, you will be able to hear the service while your child calms down. If your children don't want to sit still or be quiet through the whole service, there is absolutely nothing wrong with them: they are young and learning. The sound of children in worship is the sound of the Church's future.



Blacktop Project-We are accepting donations to the Blacktop project as we work toward future upgrades.

Pastoral Care: Please contact the Pastor @ cell 973-303-8252, office 989-687-2209, or email stpaulrev@tds.net. The Church Office (989-687-2824) / cell (989 859-9300) email stpauullutheran@tds.net, or Deacon Don Barnard (989-751-7726) email: stpauldeacon@tds.net or esocidnator01@gmail.com if you or anyone you know are in need of a visit from the Pastor or Deacon whether it's an illness, hospitalization, nursing home or shut-in. It is important to us that we receive these communications to plan a call or visitation. May God's blessings be upon you today and every day!

Pastor Hoogerhyde Bible Study is be on vacation through Easter

#Up Coming Events#

January 28th, 1pm Youth Group outing to the **Live Oak Café**, Midland where we will be brainstorming youth activities.

*Youth Movie Night-Saturday, February 10th
@ 6pm Pizza/popcorn/smares and movie
discussion. Featuring "Big Hero 6" 😊*

3 Lent Crosses – First showing of the 3 crosses made by Mike Schweigert, Randy Engblade, and Don Retzloff will be Feb 11th

February Council Meeting 2/11 @ 11 am

February 14th **Ash Wednesday Service** 7pm

Interested in joining the **Youth Ministry Board**,. Next meeting is Thursday, January 25th @ 6pm. The board will focus on the planning of education and activities designed for our congregation's youth. Please let Gerianne or Pastor know if interested.

Sanford Food Pantry: The current needs for the Food Pantry are **Hamburger, Tuna, Chicken Helper**. There are refillable canvas bags from the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry available on the food pantry table in the fellowship hall. The bags have a suggested list of items and instructions. You may take these bags home and place the purchased items in the bag and return it to the church. The bags will be delivered to the Sanford Food Pantry the last week of the month. The empty bags will be returned to the church to be used again. *Thank you for all of the items and monetary donations. Please remember that the food pantry does not accept expired or dietary food.*

SERVING	This Week 1/28	Next Week 2/4
Flowers:	Sandy & Richard Hoogerhyde	Carolyn Sutton
Music:	Sara Glynn-Dishaw	Heidi Stecker
Proclaimer:	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler
Fellowship Host	Finneys & Hoogerhydes	Open
Ushers	Stacy & Gary Smith	Duane Grubaugh & Curt Bowland
Acolytes	Madison & Bradyn	Natalie & Jackson
Greeters	Laura & Mark Sprenger	Curt Bowland

Read the Bible in a Year!

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

For Christians – and especially for Lutherans – nothing is more important than God’s Word. God speaks to us through His Word, and we do well to listen to what He has to say to us. That is why regular devotions and prayer and Scripture reading are so important for our spiritual life.

It’s always a good time to start a plan to read the Bible! And in fact, you can read through the entire Bible in a year, with only 15-20 minutes per day. Are you worried that the Bible might be too much for you to read in a single year? There are resources that can help. One option that is available is on your smartphone: Download the YouVersion Bible App and look up the “Reformation Reading Plan,” which was developed by the Michigan District to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

If you don’t have a smartphone, you can follow this reading plan in the bulletin every week, along with suggested readings from Luther’s Small Catechism. Note that whatever day you start the reading plan in the app will be “Day 1,” so you may find yourself on a different day than what is in the bulletin.

Daily Readings:

Days 92-98	Reading	Catechism
Monday	Luke 4, Numbers 2, 3	The Lord's Prayer- The Third Petition
Tuesday	Luke 5, Numbers 4	The Lord's Prayer- The Fourth Petition
Wednesday	Luke 6: 1-16, Numbers 5, 6	The Lord's Prayer- The Fifth Petition
Thursday	Luke 6: 17-49, Numbers 7, 8	The Lord's Prayer- The Sixth Petition
Friday	Luke 7, Numbers 9, 10, 11	The Lord's Prayer- The Seventh Petition
Saturday	Proverbs 7: 1-13, Psalms 45, 46, 47, 48	The Lord's Prayer- The Conclusion
Sunday	Isaiah 40: 21-31, Psalm 147: 1-11, 1 Cor. 9: 16-27, Mark 1: 29-39	The Means of Grace

Daily Devotion Resources:

Daily Prayers for Morning, Noon, Evening, Close of Day
(LSB 294-298)/*Treasury of Daily Prayer*/Portals of
Prayer

Prayer Requests:

- Youth in the Church, especially our Confirmands
- Our Shut-ins
- Pastors of our congregation and Synod, and for increase in the numbers of Seminary students for future Pastors

