

“Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper.”

During our service, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. If you are a visitor and are not a member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we encourage you to speak with Pastor Vossler or one of our elders before the service about what we believe concerning the Sacrament.



February 4, 2024

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

2045 LYNN ST | SANFORD, MI 48657

Pastor: Christopher P. Vossler

Organist: Heidi Stecker

Hymn: 398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
 To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
 All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.
 From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
 To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;
 The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
 And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.
 His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

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.

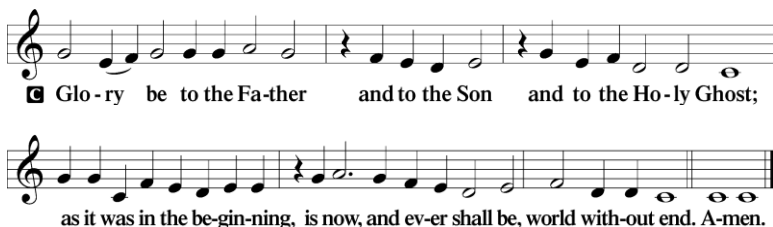
Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 13:3–5; antiphon: v. 6

I will sing | to the LORD,*
because he has dealt bountifully | with me.
Consider and answer me, O | LORD my God;*
light up my eyes, lest I sleep the | sleep of death,
lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed | over him,”*
lest my foes rejoice because I am | shaken.
But I have trusted in your | steadfast love;*
my heart shall rejoice in your sal- | vation.
I will sing | to the LORD,*
because he has dealt bountifully | with me.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



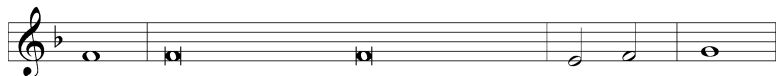
C Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on
on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

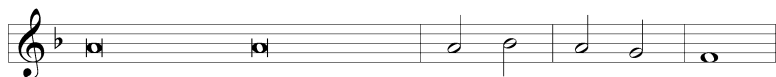
LSB 187



Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



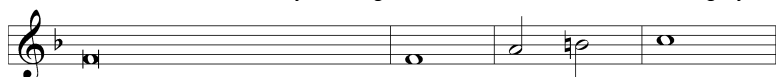
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



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;



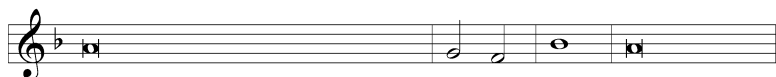
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



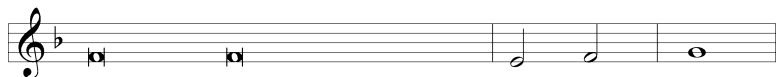
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



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 O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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

Isaiah 40:21–31

²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

²³who brings princes to nothing,

and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows on them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name,
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 9:16–27

¹⁶If I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship.

¹⁸What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.

²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

LSB 190



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

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:29–39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.




Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁹Immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” ³⁸And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn:

551 When to Our World the Savior Came



1 When to our world the Sav - ior came The sick and
 2 That good phy - si - cian! Night and day The peo - ple
 3 His prais - es then were heard and sung By o - pened
 4 Of long a - go: yet liv - ing still, Who died for
 5 His sov - 'reign pur - pose still re - mains Who rose in



help - less heard His name, And in their weak - ness
 thronged a - bout His way; And won - der ran from
 ears and loos - ened tongue, While light - ened eyes could
 us on Cal - v'ry's hill; Who tri - umphed o - ver
 pow'r, and lives and reigns; Till ev - 'ry tongue con -



longed to see The heal - ing Christ of Gal - i - lee.
 soul to soul, "The touch of Christ has made us whole!"
 see and know The heal - ing Christ of long a - go.
 cross and grave, His heal - ing hands stretched forth to save.
 fess His praise, The heal - ing Christ of all our days.

Pastor Christopher P. Vossler

Goal: That by the power of the Holy Spirit, the hearers would serve their neighbors in deed and in Word.

I. Introduction

-

II. The Mercy

- How does Jesus serve Simon’s mother-in-law? What is her response?
- What can we do to serve those around us in need?
- Why does Jesus help and heal?

III. The Message

- What message does Jesus have for his hearers?
- How do His works of service and mercy feed into that message?

IV. Conclusion

-

- 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

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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; 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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is God's gift to the Church. Through this gift we are fed with the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. When we gather together at God's table, we are also expressing our common faith and mutual commitment to the doctrine of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. (Attendance at the Lord's Supper is always a confession of that which we believe.) Because of the significance of the Sacrament and because the scriptures counsel us against its misuse (1 Corinthians 11:17-32), those who have not communed previously at St. Paul's are asked to speak with the pastor or an elder before communing

Distribution Hymn: 620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
me this hour___ In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His

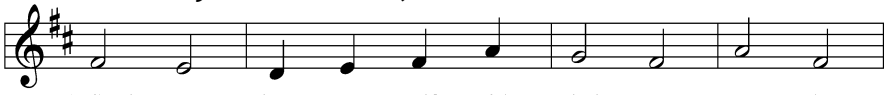


in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

Continued next page>

- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
 Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
 Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Distribution Hymn: 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

Continued next page>

- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.
- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Nunc Dimittis

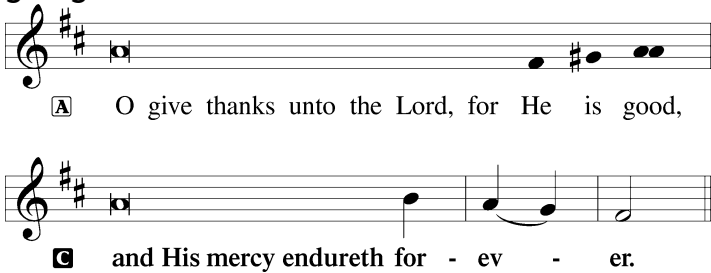
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through

Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



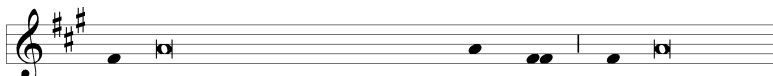
A Bless we the Lord.



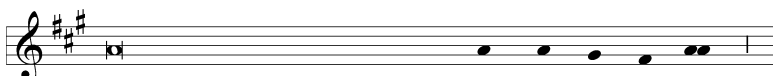
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

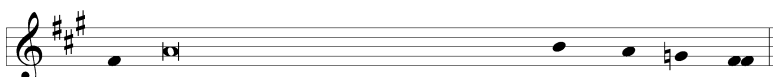
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn:

543 What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
 neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
 is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
 sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

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: stpaullutheran@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: *Worship Service with Communion 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Bible Study/*

MONDAY:

TUESDAY: *5pm Confirmation Class/7pm Lighthouse*

WEDNESDAY: *Public Relations 10am/ Lighthouse 1pm/Choir 7pm*

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY: *Men's Breakfast 8am/Band Rehearsal 4pm/Youth Movie Night 6pm*

SUNDAY : *Worship Service 9:30am / 10:30am Fellowship/11am Council Meeting/*

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 1/28/24

| OFFERINGS | mom | Memorials | TOTAL | ATTENDANCE |
|-------------|-----|-----------|--------|------------|
| Env / Plate | | | | |
| \$2607/203 | 21 | - | \$2831 | 89 |

Rev. Paul V. Young

July 5, 1948 - January 30, 2024

Rev. Paul V. Young (Emeritus) was called to his heavenly home on Tuesday, January 30, 2024. He pastored congregations in Wisconsin and Michigan (St. Paul, Sanford and Prince of Peace, Clare). He also served as the Midland Circuit Counselor for a number of years.

A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday, February 9, at St. John Lutheran Church; 505 E Carpenter; Midland MI. The family will greet guest from 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Pastors are invited to process and wear white stoles.

Please keep the his wife, Cynthia, and the whole family in your prayers.

Council Meeting February 11 –Council meeting next Sunday.

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

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



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 / hughroottiers@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 *February*, we are collecting donations for **Wellspring Lutheran Services**, a Christ-centered organization dedicated to helping families work through difficult life situations as well as providing housing options for seniors in need



This week's flowers are sponsored by **Carolyn Sutton** in remembrance of Ernie.

Altar Guild representatives for February are Carolyn Sutton (631-3953) and Patty Billingsley (860-4024).

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 stpaul Lutheran@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!



Wanted: VBS Coordinator for Summer 2024

Vacation Bible School is coming up on June 17th - 21st, and we are very excited for this opportunity to bless the youth of our congregation and community! Much of the ground work has already been accomplished, but there is more to be done over the coming months. The Youth Ministry Board is looking for someone to join us and serve as VBS Coordinator for this year. Responsibilities include: attending monthly Youth Ministry Board meetings, organizing VBS week, coordinating volunteers, and overseeing the registration process. If you are willing to serve in this valuable role, please talk to Andrea McDonald or Pastor Vossler.

Pastor Hoogerhyde Bible Study is be on vacation through Easter

National Honor Society Can Drive: Help support Aaron, Kaitlin and Jace, by bringing in your recyclable beverage cans or just the tabs. There is a deposit collection bin at the lower level entrance.

#Up Coming Events#

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

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

February Council Meeting 2/11 @ 11 am

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

Please be sure to lock up and turn down the lights when leaving Church.

Lenten Worship Services

“What Is a Christian?”

Have you ever been asked, “what is a Christian?” The simple Sunday School answer to this question certainly comes to mind: “A Christian is one who believes in Jesus as their Savior.” And while this answer does explain *whose* a Christian is and how one becomes a Christian, we can go so much deeper. A Christian is characterized by their faith in Jesus, but “you will recognize them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:16). The way we live shows us to be Christian. On the Sundays in Lent, Pastor Vossler will unpack the Christian life in five different ways: A Christian is Steadfast, Conciliatory, Zealous, Saved, and Humble.

“Hear Our Penitential Cry”

While most of our favorite psalms declare God’s glory and rejoice in His mighty deeds, not always are our prayers so joyous. Seven times, the psalmists turn to God in penitence, crying out for mercy because of their sinful actions. During our midweek worship services between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, we will be blessed by pastors of the Midland Circuit preaching on the Penitential Psalms to guide our own life of penitence. The Christian life is one of repentance: acknowledging our sins and turning from them toward God, the source of our forgiveness.

LENTEN Midweek SCHEDULE – 2024

| | | |
|----------|----|---------------|
| February | 14 | Ash Wednesday |
| | 21 | Lent I |
| | 28 | Lent II |
| March | 6 | Lent III |
| | 13 | Lent IV |
| | 20 | Lent V |

*Lenten Dinners @ 6pm & Services @ 7pm. February 21, 28 & March 6,
13, 20*

HOLY WEEK – 2024

| | | | |
|-------|----|----------------------|---------|
| March | 24 | Palm Sunday | 9:30 am |
| | 28 | Maundy Thursday | 7:00 pm |
| | 29 | Good Friday | 1:00 pm |
| | 31 | Easter (Sunrise Svc) | 7:00 am |
| | | (Breakfast) | 8:00 am |
| | | (Celebration Svc) | 9:30 am |
| April | 6 | Easter Concert | 4:00 pm |

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 2/4 | Next Week 2/11 |
| Flowers: | Carolyn Sutton | Open |
| Music: | Heidi Stecker | Heidi Stecker |
| Proclaimer: | Pastor Christopher P. Vossler | Pastor Christopher P. Vossler |
| Fellowship Host | Open | Open |
| Ushers | Duane Grubaugh & Curt Bowland | Duane Grubaugh & Curt Bowland |
| Acolytes | Natalie & Jackson | Jeffrey & Sam |
| Greeters | Curt Bowland | Linda & Bill Mitchell |



Held every 3 years since 1980, the **LCMS Youth Gathering** provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God’s people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

We encourage our Youth to share in the once in this lifetime opportunity to learn more about God’s love attending “Endure” 2025. To be held July 19-23, 2025 in New Orleans

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 99-105 | Reading | Catechism |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| Monday | Luke 7: 36-50, Numbers 12,13 | The Nature of Baptism |
| Tuesday | Luke 8, Numbers 14, 15 | The Blessing of Baptism |
| Wednesday | Luke 9: 1-17, Numbers 16, 17 | The Power of Baptism |
| Thursday | Luke 9: 18-62, Numbers 18,19,20 | What Baptism Indicates |
| Friday | Luke 10: 1-24, Numbers 21, 22 | Confession |
| Saturday | Proverbs 7:14-27, Psalms 49, 50, 51 | A short form of Confession |
| Sunday | 2 Kings 2: 1-12, Psalm 50: 1-6, 2 Cor 3: 12-18, 4: 1-6, Mark 9: 2-9 | The Office of the Keys |

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