

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday after Epiphany  
January 17/18, 2026



*Jesus wird von Johannes getauft*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
*The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers*  
474 Yalick Road  
PO Box 802 – Dallas, PA 18612  
Phone: 570-675-3859; email: [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net)  
Website: [www.stpaulsdallaspa.org](http://www.stpaulsdallaspa.org)

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor  
Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist  
Senior Choir & Chimes  
Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours:  
Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**WELCOME!** Whether this is your first Sunday with us or your five-hundredth, we're so glad you're here! Every time we gather to worship is worth celebrating. If you're visiting today, we extend an extra warm welcome and hope you'll stop by for coffee and conversation after the service — we'd love to meet you!

**TODAY'S GOSPEL** opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

**WORSHIP BEGINS** in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God's word.

**IF YOU'D LIKE** someone's name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week's prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person's name during the intercessory prayers.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE** devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

**THE BLUE WELCOME PAD** in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number).

**LEAVING THE SANCTUARY** during worship? Please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** for January 24/25: Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27: 1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, and Matthew 4:12-23.

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## GATHERING

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*PLEASE NOTE: Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.*

**PRELUDE**

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Matthew Macheimer

### **BELL, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Stand as you are able to face the font for the confession.*

### **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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in + Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN # 311**

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

## 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.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Sit.*

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## WORD

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### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 49:1-7**

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

A reading from Isaiah:

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the

Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 40:1-11**

*Spoken responsively by lector and congregation*

<sup>1</sup>I waited patiently up- <sup>1</sup> on the LORD,  
who stooped to me and <sup>1</sup> heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the <sup>1</sup> miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my <sup>1</sup> footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise <sup>1</sup> to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they who trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who <sup>1</sup> follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup>Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God!

In your plans for us, none can be com- <sup>1</sup> pared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!

But they are more than <sup>1</sup> I can count.

<sup>6</sup>**Sacrifice and offering you do <sup>1</sup> not desire;**

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering  
you have <sup>1</sup> not required.**

<sup>7</sup>And so I said, "Here I <sup>1</sup> am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- <sup>1</sup> ten of me:

<sup>8</sup>**I love to do your will, <sup>1</sup> O my God;**

**your law is <sup>1</sup> deep within me."**

<sup>9</sup>I proclaimed righteousness in the <sup>1</sup> great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O <sup>1</sup> LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup>**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart;**

**I have spoken of your faithfulness and <sup>1</sup> your deliverance;**

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth  
from the <sup>1</sup> great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup>You are the LORD; do not withhold your com- <sup>1</sup> passion from me;  
may your steadfast love and your truth continually <sup>1</sup> keep me safe.



## GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit.*

**SERMON**

*Stand as you are able .*

**HYMN OF THE DAY # 309** *The Only Son from Heaven*

**APOSTLES CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of all creation.

Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.*

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## MEAL

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*Stand as you are able as the offering is presented.*

### OFFERTORY #184

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*The presiding minister unveils the paten and chalice and prepares for the communion.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

*The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

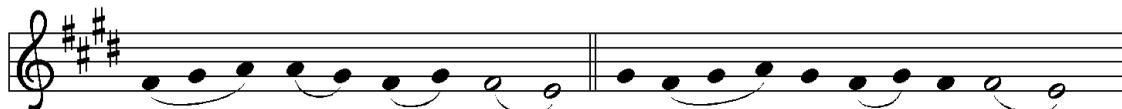
God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

*The presiding minister continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

*Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:*

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, you alone are holy...we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift...in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Come to the table; taste and see.

*The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word, The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.*

*We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step beginning with the person seated closest to the ambo. The communion ministers will come to you, beginning with the bread. Then, take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice or a prefilled glass of juice for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine. When you have communed, return to your seat by the opposite end.*

*We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say,*  
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond Amen.*

*During the distribution, Lamb of God is sung:*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*When the assembly and ministers have communed, the table is re-dressed and the assembly stands.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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*The service concludes with the blessing and the dismissal.*

### BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN # 314

*Arise! Your Light Has Come!*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Arise! Your Light Has Come!*

Barbara Harbach

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### SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeter:	Linda Gillies
Acolyte:	Morgan Holbrook
Assisting Minister:	Gail Smallwood
Lector:	Gail Smallwood
Communion Bread:	Geri Williams
Saturday Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Sunday Altar Clean Up:	Martha Kush
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God, in Memory of Loved Ones, by the Janoski Family.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to St. Paul's Dorcas Society for there generous gift of \$5,000.00 to the General Fund; the donation is greatly appreciated.

**NEW DORCAS FUNDRAISER** – a new member of Dorcas, Grace Fisher, took a photo of the church last summer, had note cards made, and suggested that they be sold as a fundraiser for Dorcas. Following discussion at the Dorcas meeting, members enthusiastically agreed. They will be available for sale for \$15.00 in the Narthex this weekend before Saturday and Sunday's services. Thank you for your support!

...**THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE** will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, January 21, at 10:30 am. Anyone (men & women) interested in Social Ministry is welcome to attend.

**THE MONTHLY** labyrinth walk will be held on Wednesday, January 21, from 3:00-6:00 pm. This walk is free and open to the public.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026 with a luncheon at 11:45 am followed by the business meeting in the Sanctuary (also available on Zoom); please bring a covered dish to share - salad, main dish, dessert, etc.; place settings and beverages will be provided. Elections for open positions on St. Paul's Congregational Council will be held at this meeting; there are four, three-year terms open. To date, Cathy Ridout has completed two, three-year terms and is leaving Council; Julie Holbrook (eligible to run for first three-year term) and Don Kretchmer (second term) have agreed to be on the ballot. If you would like more information regarding responsibilities, please contact Frank Mariano at 570.401.9611 or the church office at 570.675.3859 or via email at [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net).

**PINOCHLE CARD GROUP** seeking players! A group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 11:00 am starting with a bag lunch and then playing pinochle from 11:30 am till 3:00 pm. We would like more players – men and women. Please feel free to join us. For more information call Annie Bisher at 570.674.1277 – please leave a message and she will get back to you!

**THE DEADLINE** to submit articles for the February newsletter is Sunday, January 18; information for the Sunday bulletins should be submitted by Noon on Thursdays.

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** This event is celebrated the same day that Super Bowl LX is played. It is a time to enjoy the game while also thinking of those who do not have enough to eat. On February 7/8, two soup pots will be in the Narthex, one marked with the logo of the AFC champion and the other for the NFC champion. Youth of St. Paul's will be encouraging you to place your monetary gift in the pot representing the team for who you are cheering. You may also bring a can or two of soup and place them in the grocery cart next to the soup pots. Donations received will be given to the Back Mountain Food Pantry.

**BEAR CREEK CAMP NEWS:** Pack your bags and press pause on routines – BCC is inviting you to laugh, explore, and reconnect together in the great outdoors during Spring Family Nature Retreat, March 20-22. Spend the weekend wandering 3,000 acres of forests, wetlands, bubbling streams, and mountain trails. Check out more information on their website: [bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org). Also available on the website is registration for Summer Camp 2026 – register early and you will receive a free Summer Camp themed T-shirt when you arrive at camp.

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

Today: 8:30 am - Chime Practice; 9:30 am - Worship  
10:30 am - Sunday School  
5:00 pm - Cub Scout Pack 241 Meeting  
6:30 pm - Boy Scout Pack 241 Meeting

Monday: **Church Closed**

Tuesday 10:30 am - Bible Study  
7:00 pm – Christian Ed. Meeting

Wednesday 10:30 am – Social Ministry Committee Meeting  
3:00 – 6:00 pm – Labyrinth Walk

Thursday 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday 5:30 pm - Worship

Next Sunday 8:30 am – Chime Practice; 9:30 am – Worship  
10:30 am - Sunday School  
11:45 am - Congregational Covered Dish Lunch  
1:00 pm Annual Congregational Meeting  
5:00 pm - Cub Scout Pack 241; 6:30 pm - Boy Scout Pack 241

**THE BACK MOUNTAIN** Food Pantry is in need of the following items: ramen noodles, applesauce, jelly, juice, pancake syrup, stuffing, pork & beans, canned fruit & vegetables, boxed mashed potatoes, Hamburger Helper, canned meats and soups. Your donations may be placed in the grocery art in the hallway by the Social Hall. Thank you for your donations and continued prayers for the Food pantry and their clients.

**PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list.** Pray for the Congregations of St. Luke, Archbald and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Linda Ash, Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Pam Cyphers, Mary Lou Daley Button, Fran Dierolf, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi Fassett, Marge Fritzingler, Daniel Henderson, Robert Kline, Martha Kush, June Lorah, Linda Lundberg, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Ann Sabol, Mark Sabol, Dave Scheff, John Thomas, Anita Weiss, Peter & Carol Wittkamp, Alyson Wood, Shirley Zimmerman.

**Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net) if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.**

*Family & Friends:* Ed Banaszak, Kelly Bellezza, Michael Bowanko, Michelle Casey, Marjorie Catania, Susan Collini, Daniel Cornell, Susan Coslett, Paul Davis, Katrina Diel, Bob Dymond, Grace Sunglee Emmett, Bob Evans, Rich Fufaro, Jason Germani, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Bonnie Goodrich, Ron Hall, Nancy Harm, Scott Holbrook, Jenn Hubbard, Alyssa Hunter, Ashley Hutchins, Christine Ide, Frank Ide, Mimi Johnson, Jack Jones, Debbie Kertesz, Bradley Kessler, Alice Laskowski, Carol Marker, Julie Marra, Lillian McGrady, Becky Morgan, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Febe Quintanar, Doris Rosencrance, Robin Rosencrans, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Joyce Rutherford, John Sheeran and family, Nancy Shymanski, River Grace Siperko, Dorothy Smith, Sandy Sprau, Connor Spudis, Sandra Stankiewicz, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Corrine Varneke, Lisa W., Eileen Walsh, Tabitha Walters, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Carl & Ruth Zimmerman, Ashley, Bethann, Keith, Megan, Diane, Mary, Lori, Greg, Justin, the M family, Evan, Dominick, Kara, Bea, Marion, Cortland, Autumn, John, Ramah, Holly, Johnny (no last names given).