

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



**“We have found him about whom
Moses in the law and also the
prophets wrote, Jesus son of
Joseph from Nazareth.”**

JOHN 1:45, NRSV

MYSTERY REVEALED:
COME AND SEE WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED
Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. For worshippers joining us in person, we are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer.

We would love to see just what kind of impact our worship services are making. Please fill out our online Connect Card to let us know where you're worshipping from and how we might continue to serve you. You can find a link at www.stpaulswr.org/watch. You can also contact us via email or phone (churchoffice@stpaulswr.org or 715-421-3634) with any questions or prayer requests.

SPECIAL GUIDELINES DURING THE PANDEMIC

- † **Please practice social distancing whenever possible.** Keep close personal interactions to a minimum, especially when inside the building. Please feel free to worship from the Welcome Center, if you feel uncomfortable with the number of people in the sanctuary.
- † **Please practice good hygiene.** Masks, hand sanitizer, and kleenex are available in the Welcome Center. Our restrooms are located along the hallway on the west side of the worship space.
- † **Large print service folders, hearing devices, and printouts of the Bible readings and hymns** are available on the Information Booth in the Welcome Center, if you need them.
- † **Your offering and connect card** can be placed in the slots on the top of the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If you have a smartphone, you can fill out the online connect card. Empty offering plates will be brought forward and placed on the altar to symbolize our sacrifice to God.
- † **Children's bulletins** can be picked up at the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If your children become fussy, you can quiet them in the Welcome Center. The Children's Message will still take place. However, the children will not be invited forward. Please keep them with you in your pew.

† **Please wait for the ushers to dismiss you.** Following post-service announcements, pastor(s) will leave down the side aisles and head outside to greet you. Ushers will dismiss worshipers from the back moving forward; and down the center aisle, as well as the side aisles. This is to minimize personal contact. Please take this service folder with you and dispose of it properly.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



God is certainly a marvelous God, isn't he? Every day, we are forced to sit back and let our senses be satisfied by what God gives us to see, hear, smell, taste, and touch. Today, we focus on this marvelous God and how he reveals himself to us—namely, through his Son, Jesus. We also observe Sanctity of Life Sunday today, during which we can, in a similar way to the “come and see” theme, marvel at God’s wonderful gift of life from before we are born and into eternity.

The liturgical color* for this Sunday is green, which signifies the growth our faith experiences whenever we hear the Word of God.

Today’s service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using the questions on page 11.

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“Speak, O Lord.” by Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend. © 2005 Thank you Music. Use by permission: CCLI#143045

* The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

THE COMMON SERVICE

The common service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening | CW 283
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-All

Please stand.

INVOCATION

Minister (M): In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

CW p.16

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C: ♪ Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
We glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory,
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.
For you only are
holy; you only are
the Lord.
You only, O Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
Are most high in the
glory of God the
Father. Amen. ♪**

*Drawing from the
themes in today's
Gospel, the Prayer of the
Day asks God for mercy,
blessing, and aid in
living a Christian life.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Come and listen as the LORD speaks.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 139b | CW p.117

Pastors will sing the verses; All sing the refrain and the "Glory be..."

All: ♪ I will praise you, O Lord, for I am wonderfully made. ♪

Pastors: O LORD, you created my inmost 'being;*
You knit me together in my 'mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonder'fully made;*
Your works are wonderful, I know that 'full well.
My frame was not hidden 'from you;*
Your eyes saw my unformed 'body.

All: ♪ I will praise you, O Lord, for I am wonderfully made. ♪

All the days or'dained for me*
Were written in your book before one of them 'came to be.
How precious to me are your 'thoughts, O God!*
How vast is the 'sum of them!
Were I to 'count them,*
They would outnumber the 'grains of sand.

These words speak not only of God's penetrating knowledge, but also about his care for our lives. Both truths are highlighted in today's worship service.

**All: ♪ Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son*
And to the Holy 'Spirit,
As it was in the be'ginning,*
Is now, and will be forever. 'Amen. ♪**

All: ♪ I will praise you, O Lord, for I am wonderfully made. ♪

SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Come and give thanks for what God has done for you.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
"Look! The Lamb of God,

C: **who takes away the sin of the world! Alleluia!** (*John 1:29*)

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:43-51

Come and see the Son of God.

After the Gospel, the announcement is made:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

For the time being, please keep children with you in the pews for the Children's Message.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Speak, O Lord | CWS 735

Verse 1-Women: 2-Men; 3-All



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the
 ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to-day In our acts of
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic
 grace we'll stand on your pro - mis-es, And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your



fill in us All your pur - pos-es for your
 nev - er fail, Let their truth pre - vail o - ver
 Church is built And you fill the earth with your



glo - ry.
 un - be - lief.
 glo - ry.

Please stand.

RESPONSE

| CW p.20

♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.** ♪

Be seated.

OFFERING

St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Speak, O Lord

Please remain seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Holy Spirit, Comfort True, open our minds to the wonder of the Messiah who connects earth with heaven, who was delivered over to death for our sins, and who was raised to life for our justification. Lead us to daily contrition and repentance that trusts ever more firmly your promises that our apathy, impatience, and resentment for ministry are forgiven in Christ.

C: Raise us up each day in the new life of faith so that we are joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, God and Lord, so fill our hearts with the assurance of salvation that we never lack zeal to be your witnesses. Awaken us to the opportunities to invite others to come and see their Savior through his written Word. If we cannot minister in certain places, move us to support those who can with our gifts and prayers. Fill us with compassion for those in need and a love that is not idle.

C: Transform us by the renewing of our minds so that we may be devoted to you and one another in love.

M: Holy Spirit, Advocate and Guide, pour out your blessings on families, churches, schools, governments, health care agencies, and all other institutions you have established for our physical and spiritual good. We pray especially for the ministry of Christian Life Resources. Prosper it in their mission to use life and family issues to draw people closer to you. Give us all the courage to share the truth about the sanctity of life. Make us especially passionate in being advocates for the washing of rebirth and renewal that you give in baptism.

C: Help us test, approve, and accomplish everything that is according to your good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

M: Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

C: Amen.

Please stand.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

PREFACE

| CW p. 21

M: The Lord be with you.

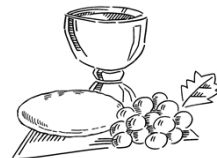
C: ♪ And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.* Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

C: ♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.** ♪

| CW p. 22

Even though we are not holy, God is. Because he is holy, we know he is the only place we can go for forgiveness.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

| CW p.23

C: ♪ **Amen.**

C: ♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.
Amen.** ♪

Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION

- † *Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness?*
- † *Do I believe that Jesus died on the cross to win forgiveness for me?*
- † *Do I believe that Jesus offers his true body and blood with the bread and wine in this sacrament?*
- † *Do I believe this sacrament strengthens my faith and strengthens me to live a God-pleasing life?*
- † *Am I a member of a church that belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)?*
- † *If you answered "no" to any of these questions, please hold off on communing with us today. Following worship, one of the pastors would be happy to explain why we ask you to do this.*

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

If you are in need of gluten free wafers or grape juice, please ask for directions from an usher.

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING

| CW p.24

**C: ♪ Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before
the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of your people Israel. ♪**

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: ♪ And his mercy endures forever.

M: Let us pray together.

**C: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your
Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us
pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us
but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly
serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be
gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Speak to Us that We May Speak | CW 561

Verse 1-Pastors; 2, Women; 3, Men; 4, All

*This hymn is nothing more than
a prayer which asks the Lord to
bless us as we go to spread what
he has told us to others.*

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. Philip turned a pre-existing relationship (it seems as though he and Nathanael were close friends) into an opportunity to share Jesus. Today, make a list of people you know with whom you could share a similar invitation to “come and see.”
2. In what ways do we tend to make witnessing to others more complicated than it has to be?
3. In what ways can you apply the same “come and see” mentality, specifically with those who share a different view on the sanctity of life than you?
4. 1 Samuel 3:1-10 is a pretty familiar account to most Christians. However, perhaps not as familiar is what the LORD speaks to Samuel in the rest of the chapter. Read all of 1 Samuel 3. How does the LORD speak to us in a similarly shocking way today?
5. In which verse of 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 does Paul seem to employ the same “come and see” idea that we saw in today’s Gospel?

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY **Dispensationalism**

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM
For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

LEARN MORE ABOUT NLHS

Jan. 24 | 9:15-10:15 AM

Mr. Frank Van Brocklin from Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) will be at St. Paul's next week for Christian Education Sunday. In addition to his sermon, Mr. Van Brocklin will have a special presentation on NLHS during our regular Bible study hour.

NEXT YEAR'S FRESHMEN

Jan. 19 & 20 | 4:00-8:00 PM

If you are considering becoming a future Wildcat, come to Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) on Tuesday, Jan. 19, or Wednesday, Jan. 20, for early registration and scheduling. Teachers will be available to you from 4:00 - 8:00 PM to get you lined up with all your registration information and tentatively schedule your classes for 2021-2022. For more on NLHS, visit nlhs.org,

VOTERS' MEETING

Jan. 19 | 6:30 PM

Our quarterly voters' meeting is this Tuesday, Jan. 19, at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited to come hear how God has blessed our ministry and look at some plans for the future. Please, remember to bring the set of reports was placed in your mailslots.

PRO-LIFE 101 WEBSITE

Whether you are facing a life issue and need direction, want to learn more about the issues, or desire to become more involved in the pro-life arena – Christian Life Resources (CLR) is there for you. CLR has now launched a new section on their website entitled, "Pro-Life 101." It's designed specifically to help guide you to a better understanding of the issues – everything you need to know in one place, including fact sheets, FAQs, videos, social media graphics, Scripture, and additional resources. Check it out at christianliferesources.com/pro-life-101/

CALENDAR

January 17-24

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship
MONDAY	11:00 AM	Worship for at-risk individuals
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	2:30 PM	Willing Workers in the Dining Room
	6:30 PM	Voters' Meeting in church
WEDNESDAY	8:55 AM	Chapel Service
	5:30 PM	Handbells in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Contemporary Choir in the balcony
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:00 PM	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
	6:00 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
	6:30 PM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Resource Center
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship - Christian Education Sunday
	9:15 AM	Presentation on Northland Lutheran High School
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship - Christian Education Sunday

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last Week's Attendance: 142
From July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020
Actual ministry income: \$499,985
Actual cost of ministry: \$508,892
Mortgage balance: \$1,305,818





www.stpaulswr.org

311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | churchoffice@stpaulswr.org

Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org

Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org