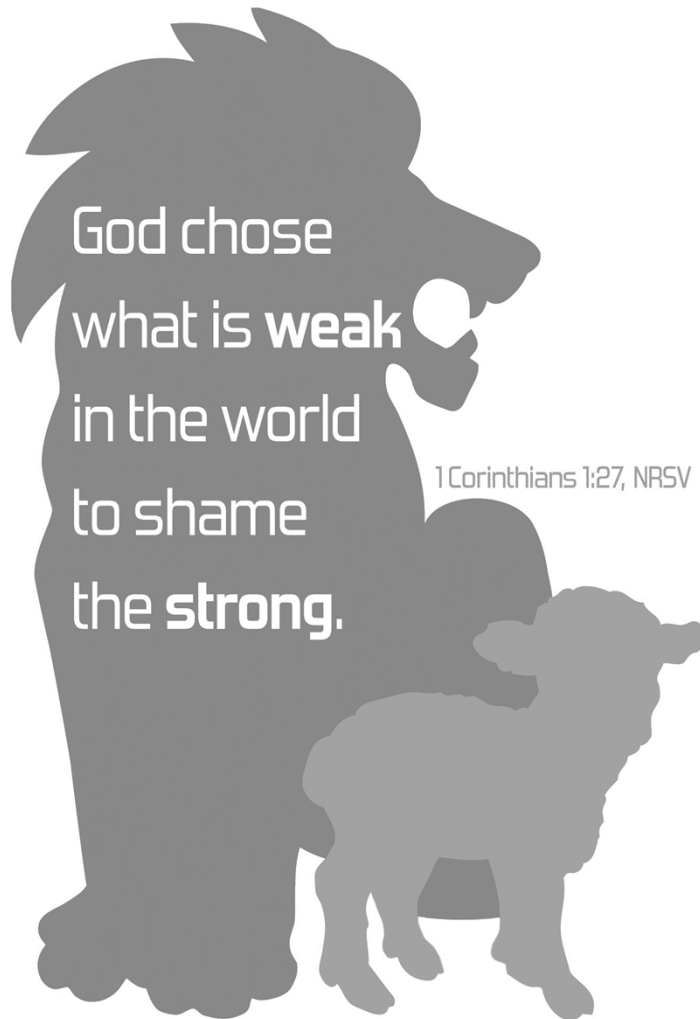


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



THE SAVIOR'S SERMON:
TRUST IN GOD'S STRENGTH!
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Wisconsin Rapids, WI*

Janauary 19, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can help you find the restrooms, family room or answer your other questions.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

The Beatitudes (found in today's Gospel account) are hard for us to swallow. Jesus seems to be saying that Christians have nothing but pain and suffering to look forward to. Call it fatalism or defeatism—things don't look great. Look closer, however, and see what he says. The weaker you are, the stronger God is in your life. The weaker you are now, the more ready you are to trust in a future reward. Look at the past acts of God's grace and you will find many reasons to trust his strength in the face of adversity, persecution or sorrow.

The liturgical color* for this Sunday is green, which symbolizes not only how Jesus further reveals himself to the world, like a blossoming flower; but also how our faith is strengthened by his teachings.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using page 156 in the front of the hymnal.

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"Breathe My Name." Text: © 1997 Rev. Darryl Andrzejewski. Tune: Hymn of Joy. Edited for Lutherans for Life by Pied-piper Music 1999, Frank Morgan 2000. Used by permission.

* 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.



The third Sunday in January is normally slated as a national Sanctity of Life Sunday. What a fitting day to also be reminded who gives life and strength!

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

O Master of the Loving Heart | CW 491

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

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

| CW p.16

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. ♪

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, you know that we are surrounded by many dangers and that we often stumble and fall. Strengthen us in body and mind, and bring us safely 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: Amen.

Be seated.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 3:13-27

Three young men trust God in the face of immense trial.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Short responses like this are a wonderful opportunity to engage small children in worship! Parents, encourage your young worshipers to respond with you by pointing along with the words in your service folder or drawing their attention to the bold words on the screens.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 139b | CW p.117

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Though we are weak, we boast in Christ's strength.

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 Spirit of the Lord is on me;

C: **he has anointed me to preach good news. Alleluia.** (Luke 4:18)

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus turns our views on weakness upside down.

After the Gospel, the announcement is made:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

This section of Scripture is normally called The Beatitudes ("Blessed is/are..."). There are other similar statements found in the Psalms and in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

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

The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Breathe My Name



God the Fa - ther, You have known me from cre - a - tion
Dear - est Je - sus, You have known me on the cross of
Ho - ly Spir - it, You have known me all my days be -
of the earth, Searched me, Lord, com - plete - ly know - ing
Cal - va - ry, Searched my soul com - plete - ly sav - ing,
fore they came, No - where can I flee Your pre - sence
of the mo - ment of my birth, Fash - ion'd me with -
breath'd your last in place of me, through the wa - ter
in the womb You knew my name, By Your po - wer,
in my mo - ther, with Your hands You knit - ted me,
and the Spir - it washed a - way my life of sin,
through Your wor - king, You have breathed my name a - gain
breathed in - to my life Your breath a liv - ing soul I came to be.
cru - ci - fied to - ge - ther with You, Lord in me You breathe a - gain.
that through faith it shall be writ - ten in the book of life, in heav'n.

SERMON - What Really Makes a Person Happy?

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. We ask that everyone, guests and members, sign the Friendship Register, which will be passed out during the offering. 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

Wonderfully Made

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Holy Spirit, Comfort True, open our minds to the wonder of the Messiah who was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Lead us to daily contrition and repentance that trusts ever more firmly your promise 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 preach repentance and forgiveness in your name. If we cannot minister in those 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 defend the sanctity of life from before the first breath of unborn infants to the closing breaths of the hospitalized and elderly.

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.

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.

P: 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:** | CW p. 22
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. ♪

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.

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. ♪

In the peace of Christ's rest, we put aside earthly frustration, envy, hatred, and discontent as we approach the Lord's Supper. The "Amen" here shows a Spirit-driven willingness to take part in that peace.

Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

The communicant members of our congregation will be invited to receive the Lord's Supper. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament, and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor prior to communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we've had an opportunity to explain and prove them from Scripture. The pastor would be happy to explore our convictions with you, on the basis of God's Word, so that you might commune with us in the future!

THE DISTRIBUTION

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord | CW 309

All Depends on Our Possessing | CW 421

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 in 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 upon 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

I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus | CW 446 (1,5,6)



These hymns are much more than just background music for the Lord's Supper; they speak of beautiful truths from God's Word, both about the Lord's Supper and about the theme of dependence on God's strength.

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. In what specific ways might you find yourself in a situation similar to the three young men in Daniel 3? In those situations, how would you show your reliance on God's strength?
2. Based on the words in 1 Corinthians 1:26-31, in what ways would you say strength is a bad thing? In what ways is strength a good thing?
3. Even with the Beatitudes as a guide to Christian living, what are some ways that you, as an individual, and we, as a church, might struggle to live as Christ calls us to live here? Try to come up with at least three examples for each (individually and corporately).
4. This one might take a little longer: Going through each Beatitude, think of an account in which Jesus shows he is the perfect fulfillment of each. For example, where in the Bible do we see Jesus being the perfect peacemaker? Or showing perfect gentleness? Or perfectly mourning over sin?

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY

WELS & Other Christians: Eastern Orthodox-ers
Join cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.



SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO LIFE

Christian Life Resources uses life and family issues as bridges to convey the love of God and to share the message of salvation through Christ. They are a great resource on ethical and social issues related to life, family, medicine, and sexuality. They have a network of pregnancy care centers in several states and a home for mothers in Milwaukee. To find out more visit christianliferesources.com.

WELS Lutherans for Life works in metro-Milwaukee to reach abortion-minded individuals, counsel those facing an unexpected pregnancy, and assist those with past abortions on their healing journey by sharing the Gospel of Jesus with them. To get more info, visit www.alife2.com.

Although these organizations are affiliated with the WELS, they do not receive funding from our synod.

NORTHWINDS CHOIR HERE NEXT SUNDAY

Jan. 26 | 10:30 AM

Our 10:30 AM worship service next Sunday, will feature the Northwinds Choir from Northland Lutheran High School. Students from St. Paul's Lutheran School will also sing one song with the choir.

BOOK FAIR OPENS NEXT SUNDAY *Jan. 26-Feb.2*

Our school is holding a book fair starting next Sunday. You are welcome to browse the book fair from 9:00 AM until noon. The book fair is also open after school and on Sunday, Feb. 2. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the school library.



CALLING ALL SINGERS

Jan. 22 | 6:30 PM

Our church choir will resume their practices this Wednesday at 6:30 in the balcony.

SHOE BOXES NEEDED

The 1st-2nd grade class is in need of empty shoe boxes for a project they are doing. You can drop off your donations in the church office.

ASSIST WITH BOOK FAIR

Jan. 26-Feb.2

Our school is holding a book fair at the end of the month. Volunteers are needed for cashiering and helping children select books. The book fair will be open on Sunday mornings and after school on weekdays. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Karen Obsuszt (Mrs. O) at 715-451-5970 or karen.obsuszt@gmail.com.

HELP NEEDED FOR DISTRICT DERBIES

Feb. 8

On Feb 8th St Paul's Pioneer group will be hosting the Tall Pine Girl Pioneer District & Whitetail Boy Pioneer District Pinecar Derbies. We are in need of help. We can use donations of food and supplies for the concession stand. Also we need help with concessions and help running the Derbies. Signup sheets for both of these are on the Ministry Table. We are also in need of a couple of people to help with judging the cars for craft. If interested please talk to Kent or Kristie Schroeder. Your help is greatly appreciated.



MARRIAGE WORKSHOP NEXT MONTH

Feb. 8 & 9

At the Healthy Marriage Seminar, you will be encouraged and equipped with habits and practices that make a marriage as healthy as it could be. This event will be held at Eron's Event Barn (near Stevens Point) all day on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 10:00-5:00 and Sunday afternoon, Feb. 9. Lunch on both days will be catered by Great Expectations; there will also be snacks and refreshments throughout the day. For more information, look under Events on our website (www.stpaulswr.org) or our facebook page.

QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING

Feb. 10 | 7:45 PM

Our quarterly voters meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 10 following the evening worship service. Catch up on what ministry has taken place and plans for furthering the kingdom of God.

SUNDAY SCRIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of more volunteers to sell St. Paul's scrip cards on Sunday mornings. We recently lost three volunteers and will be losing another for the summer. The commitment on Sunday involves selling cards for roughly 15 minutes before and after each service. Please give Deb DeWilde a call at 715-323-4028 if you can help. It is well worth the time. Our scrip rebates help to fund our school and offset tuition costs for families.

COME FOR VOLLEYBALL

Jan. 19 | 2:00-5:00 PM.

We will once again have volleyball in the gym on Sunday afternoons. It is open to both men and women. You are welcome to bring a friend for fun and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Todd Wolf at 715-697-2889. Bring a friend!



BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) needs a regular dependable driver for their Wisconsin Rapids route. This is a PAID position, and your training and testing will be paid for by NLHS. For more information, please contact the principal, Ryan Weichmann, at 715-297-4427 or the NLHS office at 715-359-3400.

HIRING: PART-TIME JANITORIAL WORKER

We are in need of someone to daily clean the restrooms, hallways and more. This position is for 20 hours per week. For more information, please contact Fred Camacho at 715-323-4566 or facjac@charter.net.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last Week's Attendance: 242

YTD Average attendance: 236

From July 1, 2019 to January 10, 2019

Actual ministry income: \$583,840

Actual cost of ministry: \$604,909

Mortgage balance: \$1,422,587

DERBY DAY

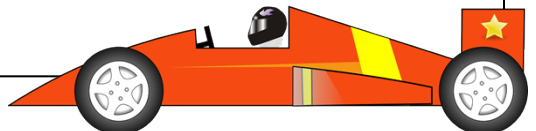
Sunday Jan. 26

12:00PM – Junk Car Derby

1:00PM – Pinocar Derby

Young & old can enter

More info on the Ministry Table



CALENDAR

January 19-26

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 4K-6 in Room 106
	10:30 AM	Worship
	1:00 PM	Leadership Council in the Bible Study Room
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball
MONDAY	6:30 PM	Willing Workers in the Dining Room
	6:30 PM	Worship
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
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministers Peer Group in the Resource Center
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	School Chapel Service
	5:30 PM	Handbell Choir in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Catechism Class in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice in the Balcony
	7:00 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	A People Close to God in the Bible Study Room
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for grades 4K-6 in Room 106
	10:30 AM	Worship
	12:00 PM	Junk Car & Pinocar Derbies
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 27	Call Meeting
Jan. 31	Panther Home Game





www.stpaulswr.org

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