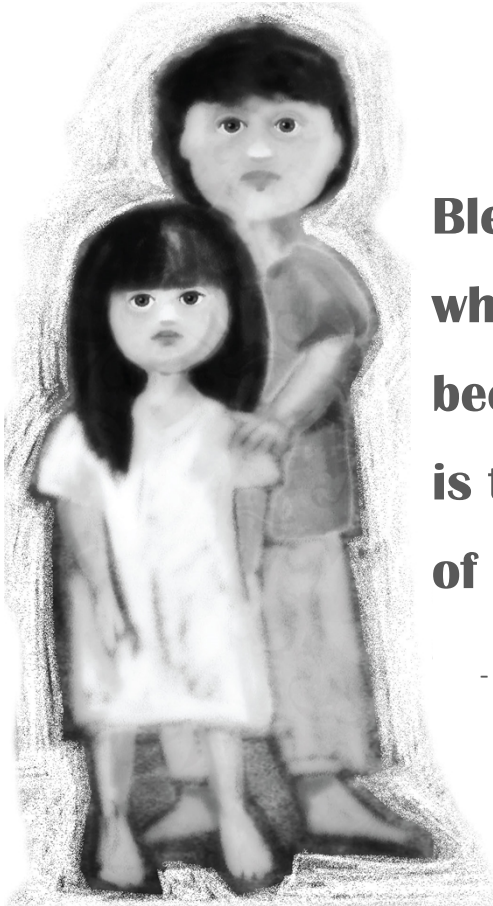


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



**Blessed are you
who are poor,
because yours
is the kingdom
of God.**

- **Luke 6:20 (EHV)**

**DEFINITIONS UNCOVERED:
BLESSINGS ARE CURSED;
CURSES ARE BLESSED**

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church | Wisconsin Rapids, WI

February 13, 2022



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Sunday



When someone is new to something, there is a period of orientation. For example, when someone takes up a new game or sport, they need to first learn the rules. Likewise, when someone is a new disciple of Jesus, a period of orientation follows. It's necessary, because by nature we assume that Jesus' kingdom works the same way the world works. The truth that is uncovered this week is that the principles on which Jesus' kingdom runs are the exact opposite of the principles of the world. That which the world considers to be a blessing can often be a curse. And that which the world calls bad, God always uses for the good of those he loves.

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The Service: Setting Three

Hymn

867 Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

The choir will sing the first two verse and the first refrain. Please join in on verse 3.

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the un - it - y of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men. A - men.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Glory to God in the Highest'. It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-8

The one who is blessed is the one who has been given the gift of faith, whose trust is in the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

1A Blessed Are They

The choir will sing the verses. Please join on the refrain and the "Glory be...."

Refrain



Bless - ed are they, bless - ed are
they who hope in the LORD.

Tone



Blessed is the one who / does not walk
in step with the / wicked
or stand in the way that / sinners take
or sit in the company of / mockers,

but whose delight is in the law / of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law / day and night.
That person is like a tree planted by streams of / water,
which yields its fruit in / season
and whose leaf does not / wither—
whatever they do / prospers. *Refrain*

Not so the / wicked!
They are like chaff that the wind / blows away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the / judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the / righteous. *Refrain*

For the LORD watches over the way of the / righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to de- / struction.
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. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul came to see his weakness as a blessing, as it forced him to rely on God's strength.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

Lead Me, Lord

Stand

Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus teaches that the good things we seek are found in places we would least expect.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!
Be seated

Children's Message

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

2 Cor. 6:18

Is. 51:13

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18

Lk. 1:35

Lk. 1:34; 2:7

Lk. 23:16

Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47; Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42

1 Pet. 3:19

1 Cor. 15:4b

Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31; 2 Tim. 4:1

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

Mt. 3:16-17

Eph. 5:23

Eph. 4:3-6

Rom. 4:6-8

Ecc. 12:7

1 Th. 4:17

Be seated

Please take a moment now to fill out a Connect Card

Prayer of the Church

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort those who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. 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.



WELS Connection

Michigan Lutheran Seminary

Hymn

800 How Firm a Foundation

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

816 I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus



Take Home Questions

1. Reread Jeremiah 17:5-8. Compare and contrast those the LORD calls cursed (vv. 5,6) and those the LORD calls blessed (vv. 7-8). What is the root difference between these two groups? For what reasons does the object of our trust create these distinctions? (Hint: read Isaiah 40:6-8)
2. We don't know what Paul's thorn in the flesh was. While that leaves us with a curiosity that's unsatisfied, it helps us apply the principle Paul learned to ourselves. What might be a thorn in the flesh for you? What is something in your life that puts your weakness on display and thus demonstrates the power of Christ?
3. As crowds gathered and Jesus demonstrated his power in Luke 6:17-26, what temptations may have been present in the disciples' minds? How do the principles Jesus then taught address those temptations? In what ways did Jesus demonstrate these principles in his own life?
4. Read all of the Psalm of the Day, Psalm 1. How does this psalm describe a life that is truly blessed? In what ways is that different from what the world considers a blessed life?
5. BONUS QUESTION: Read following sections of The Small Catechism: the Third Commandment and the Second and Third Petitions of the Lord's Prayer. (If you don't own a catechism, you can find it printed on pp. 286-294 of the blue hymnal.) In what ways do these sections echo the readings and psalm for today?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: Getting into the Public Ministry

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

Special Offering Today

Feb. 13

We are holding a special offering to send both of our pastors and their wives on a ministry retreat in April. Last week we raised \$1,620, over half of our goal of \$3,000. If you want to help with this effort, you can place your special gift in the plates in the Welcome Center or note "Pastors Retreat" on your offering envelope. Please consider supporting our pastors in this way.

Teacher Called

Last Sunday, we called Miss Deb Buelow to serve as our 1st-2nd grade teacher beginning this fall. Miss Buelow currently serves a 3rd-4th grade teacher at First Lutheran Church in Elkhorn, WI. We ask you to pray for Miss Buelow as she deliberates this call. If you would like to encourage her, Miss Buelow's contact information can be found on the Welcome Table.

Hygiene Drive Begins

Feb. 13 - Mar. 6

We are collecting new hygiene and cleaning items for our local food pantry. Food Share (formerly Food Stamps) does not cover the cost of non-food items such as soap and diapers. The most urgently needed items are laundry soap, kitchen-size trash bags, shampoo, cleaning supplies, and toilet tissue. Your donations will remain in this community. The collection is part of the larger "Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive" taking place throughout eastern, northeastern, central and west-central Wisconsin. Please place your donations in collection box in the Welcome Center by March 6.

Volunteer for Easter for Kids

Help us share the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Easter for Kids will be held on the morning of Saturday, April 2 for children ages 3-10 years. Volunteers are needed for crafts, games, music, food service, and more. You can be a helper or a leader. See the signup sheet on the Ministry Table or look for the SignUp Genius link in the Sunday Sneak Peek email or on our website. If you want more details, please contact Kent Schroeder at 715-213-7904 or knks@wctc.net.

Make Soup. Donate to a Silent Auction.

These are a couple of ways you can help with Northland Lutheran High School's annual Together We Shine fundraiser on March 6. Your soup could win the golden ladle award! See the flyer in your mailslot for more details and for ideas for silent auction donations.

Register for Summer Camp

Camp Phillip in Wautoma is now accepting registration for summer camps. They offer camps for Kindergarten through 8th grade including specialty camps for horseback, rock climbing, and more. They also have family camps and a grandparent/grandchild camp. For more information, contact Camp Phillip at 920-787-3202 or visit www.campphillip.com.

Looking for a podcast?

Time of Grace offers several Christian podcasts of different lengths and of different interests. Listen to one (or binge) while you work, exercise, or relax. Visit timeofgrace.org/podcast-feeds to see what they have to offer.

Your gifts, God's blessings

The synod's annual report is now available online. The report includes photos of Christian brothers and sisters around the world, stories of faith, and updates on WELS' ministry. Print versions are available from Northwestern Publishing House for free. Visit nph.net or call 800-662-6022. To view the report online, visit wels.net/annualreport.

Paid Openings at St. Paul's

We continue to seek an administrative assistant and a part-time custodian. Both positions have somewhat flexible hours and training will be provided. For more information on the office position, please contact Judy Stensberg at churchoffice@stpaulswr.org or 715-421-3634. To learn more the custodial position, contact Larry Wesenberg at lwes@wctc.net or 715-204-7685.

Special Prayers This Week:

- Alexander James Christopher was baptized on Saturday.
- Tom Stensberg, the brother of Dennis & Gary, was diagnosed with cancer.
- Madi Ruther, a friend of Jamie Meister, has a broken foot.
- Becky Doro is having knee replacement surgery this week.
- For Deb Buelow as she deliberates the call to serve as St. Paul's 1st & 2nd grade teacher
-
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Sunday	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in church
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the West Wing
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
	10:30 AM	Worship
Monday	6:00 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
	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
	2:00 PM	Willing Workers in the cafeteria
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Resource Center
Wednesday	8:55 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:00 PM	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
Sunday	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the West Wing
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
	10:30 AM	Worship

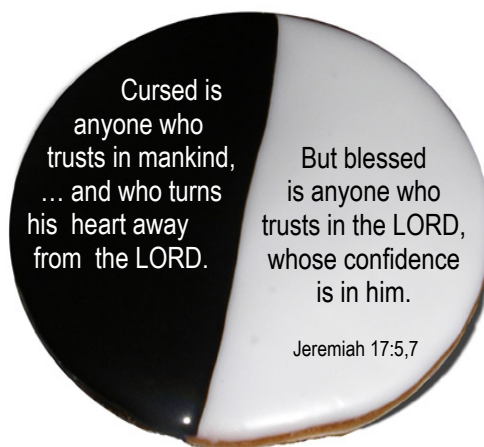
Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week's Attendance: 213

Anticipated offerings YTD: \$ 483,200

Actual offerings YTD: \$ 462,648

YTD giving to the Organ Fund: \$ 104,917





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Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org