



# Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor**  
**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence. You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.*

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## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*

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### **HOLY COMMUNION** *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

#### **GATHERING**

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP FOR EPIPHANY**

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

**The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

Lift up your eyes and look around:

**all gather together to proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

Your sun will never set again.

**The Lord is our light and our salvation!**

Your moon will wane no more.

**The Lord is our light and our salvation!**

Your days of sorrow will end.

**The Lord is our light and our salvation!**

Whom shall we fear?

**Whom shall we fear? The Lord is the strength of our life;  
whom shall we fear?**

**\*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of light and peace,

**we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reunite us with one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of Peace, our Savior and Lord Jesus. Amen**

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come. **Amen**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

*Blest Are They*

ELW 728

**\*GREETING**

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

## WORD

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*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST READING

Micah 6:1-8

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalm 15

*Prayed in unison by the congregation.*

**O Lord, who may abide in your tent?  
Who may dwell on your holy hill?  
Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,  
and speak the truth from their heart;  
who do not slander with their tongue,  
and do no evil to their friends,  
nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;  
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,  
but who honour those who fear the Lord;  
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;  
who do not lend money at interest,  
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.**

### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*According to the world’s standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

ELW 172

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

\*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For messengers of the gospel throughout the world, that the light of Christ be made present to all, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of the earth and all its inhabitants, and for those who advocate for the just use of resources, that all creation continue to thrive, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations of the world—the prosperous and the poor, the peaceful and the perilous—that leaders work toward the betterment of all, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and all who need help for any reason, especially..., let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those gathered in this house of worship, that we continue to praise God, rejoice at the salvation brought about through Christ, and be guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

*Other prayers may be offered here in speech or silence.*

In thanksgiving for those who died in the faith, especially..., that by their witness we live in confidence that Christ has destroyed death and brought about life eternal, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the One who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**MEAL**

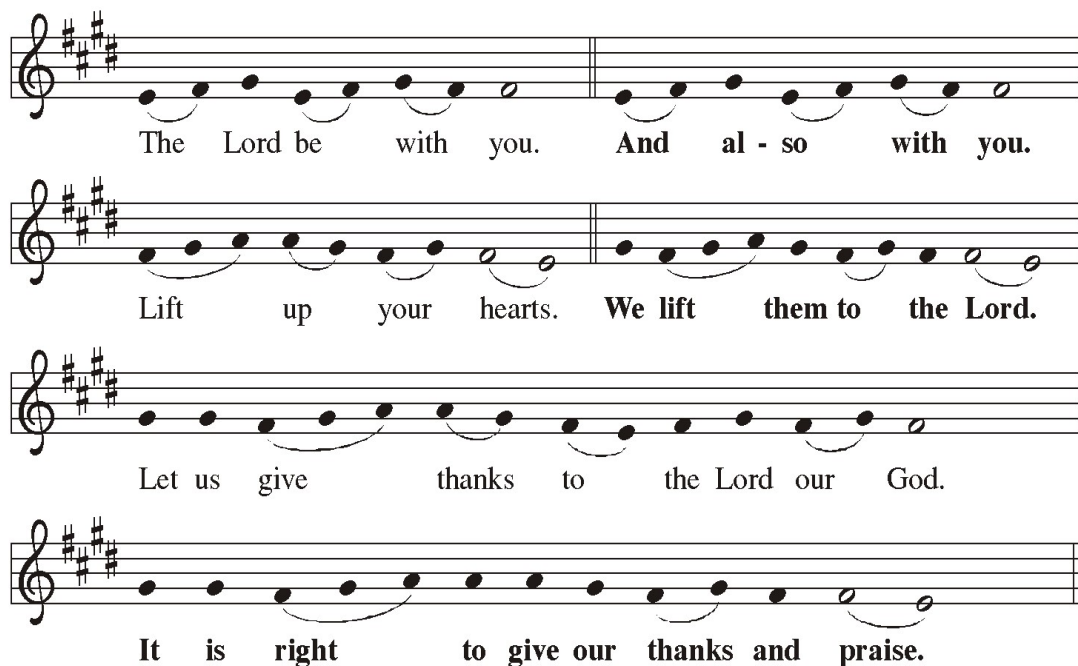
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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

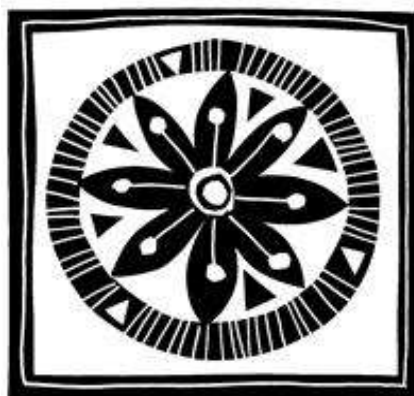
Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## \*DIALOGUE

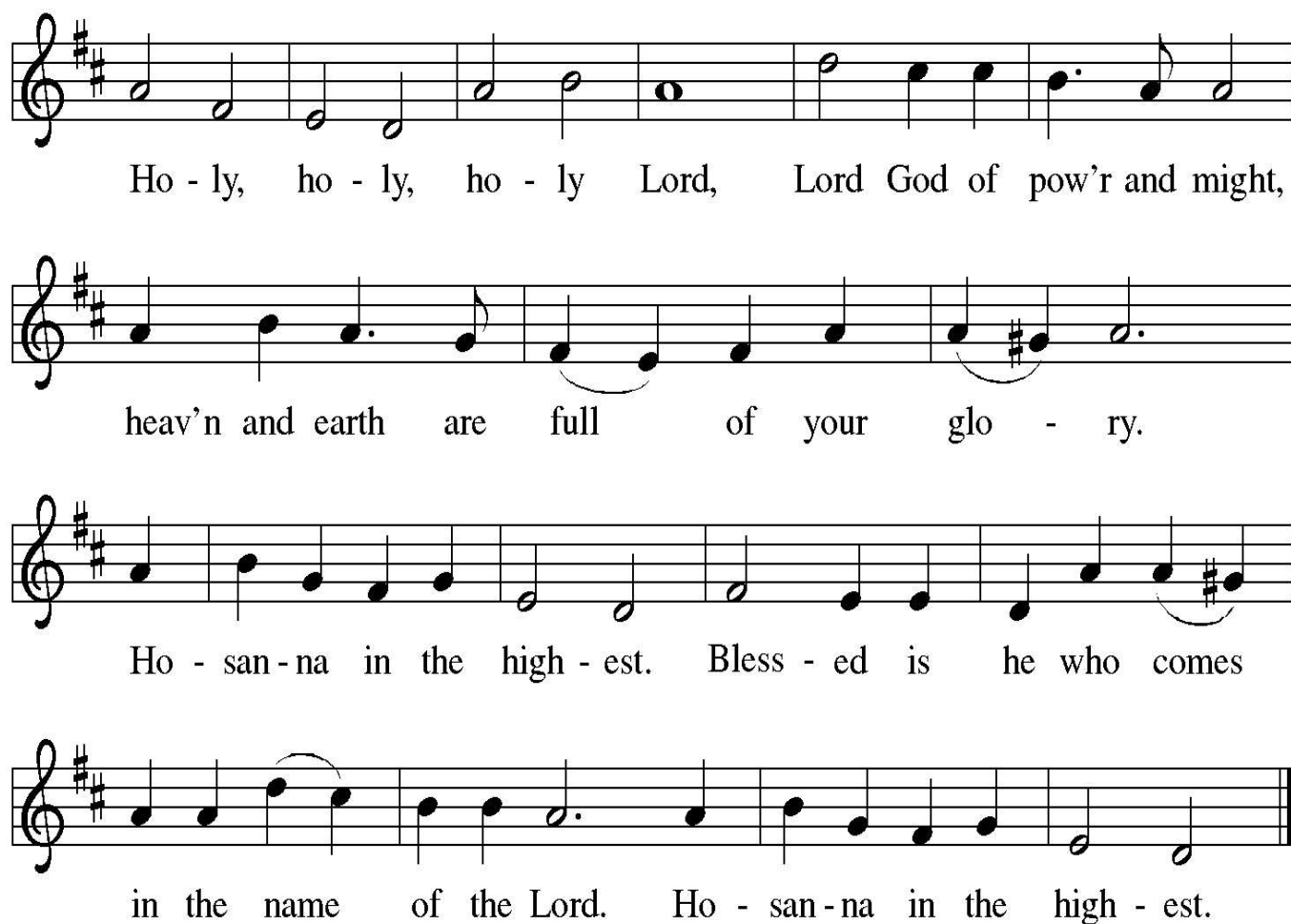


## \*PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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



Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen

#### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

#### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

## DISTRIBUTION

### \*BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. **Amen**

## SENDING

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### \*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

*Jesus, the Very Thought of You*

ELW 754

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## **SERVING IN THE LITURGY**

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

LECTOR

John Kostelny

GREETERS

John and Shirley Kostelny

LIVE STREAM

Fred Kuzel

USHER

John Kostelny

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel

## **PRAYER LIST**

*Members of the Congregation:* Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, Beverly Podzamsky, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

*Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:* Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Bill Holmes, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Julie Patron, Patricia Pfeiffer, Pat Pileggi, Alice Puglise, Gail Purcell, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Peter Spilotro, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel and Mike Yavorski.

**Today is Mission and Meal Sunday  
and the  
Annual Meeting of the Congregation...**

...beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the dining hall  
following worship.

*Pizza will be provided!*



**Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering**  
**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2023:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,196.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,329.00

**UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS**

*Presentation of Our Lord*  
*Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>*

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

*Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865*  
*Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>*

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.

**The Walter E. "Wally" Kessler Memorial Mardi Gras...**



...on Saturday Evening, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
book it in your calendars today!

*Food by Portillo's, compliments of the Kessler Memorial Fund,  
entertainment, raffles, costume parade and more.*