

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church*  
*Second Sunday after Epiphany*  
*January 14, 2018*



*Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister*  
*Rita Jordan, Organist*  
*Stacey Mika, Lay Reader*

*408 S. Davidson Street | Karnes City, TX 78118*  
*Office (830) 780-2251    Pastor Dorn (602) 565-9793*  
*[www.StPaulsLutheranKC.or](http://www.StPaulsLutheranKC.or)*  
*[www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranKarnesCity](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranKarnesCity)*

# Gathering

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

*All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just the clergy but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to the story of the vision of Jacob, who called the place of his vision "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The assembly stands.*

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

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who stretches out the heavens,  
who sends light to the nations,  
who gives breath to us all.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

Loving God,

**we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times**

**we have spoken or acted too quickly;**

**we have not spoken or acted at all;**

**we have hurt those closest to us;**

**we have hurt those we have yet to know;**

**we have thought more about ourselves than others;**

**we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.**

**Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,**

**so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.

Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.

God's love never runs out.

God never tires of calling us beloved children.

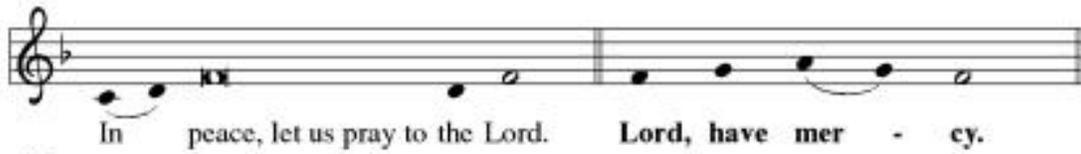
Hear God say to you now:

Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of + Jesus Christ our Savior.

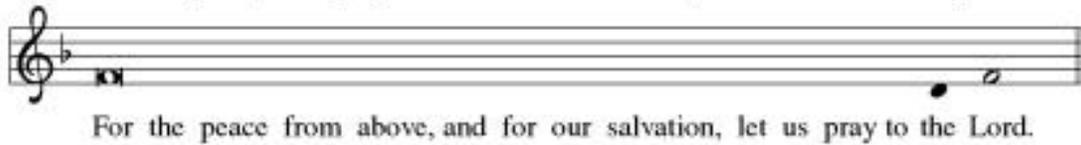
**Amen.**

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.**



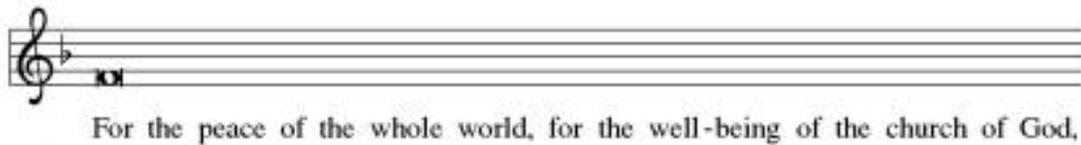
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



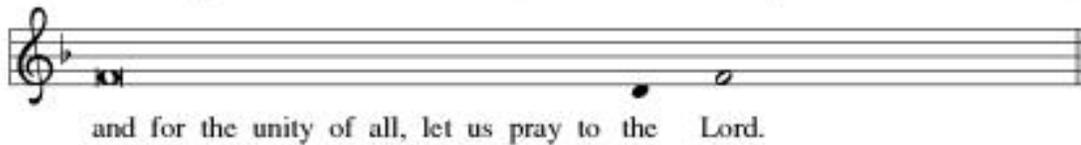
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



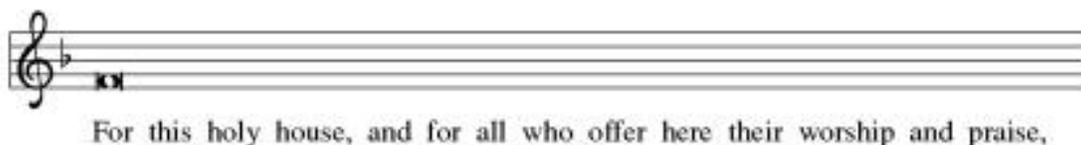
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



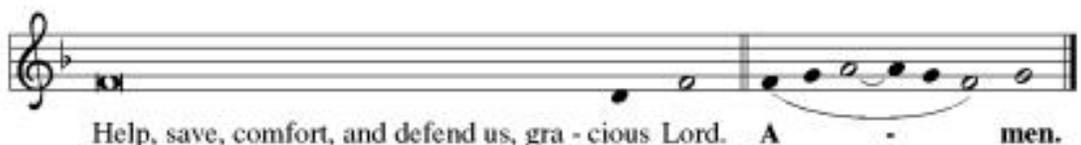
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Gracias a ti, Señor Jesucristo, Redentor misericordioso, por las innumerables bendiciones y beneficios que das. Que te conozcamos más claramente, que te amemos más caro, y te sigamos más cerca, día a día alabando te, con el padre y el Espíritu Santo, un Dios, ahora y para siempre. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## Word

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

### FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

*At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the Lord comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. <sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup>Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [<sup>11</sup>Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." <sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." <sup>18</sup>So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." <sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.]

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSIVE READING: 139:1-6, 13-18

*You have searched me out and known me.*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have | searched me out;

O Lord, you | have known me.

<sup>2</sup>**You know my sitting down and my | rising up;**

**you discern my thoughts | from afar.**

<sup>3</sup>You trace my journeys and my | resting-places

and are acquainted with | all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>**Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,**

**but you, O Lord, know it | altogether. R**

<sup>5</sup>You encompass me, behind | and before,

and lay your | hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>**Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;**

**it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.**

<sup>13</sup>For you yourself created my | inmost parts;

you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>**I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;**

**your works are wonderful, and I | know it well. R**

<sup>15</sup>My body was not hid- | den from you,

while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written | in your book;**

**my days were fashioned before they | came to be.**

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!

How great is the | sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;

to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours. **R**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

*Paul is helping the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.*

<sup>12</sup>"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*



## THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: John 1:43-51

### Glory to You, O Lord!

*In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."*

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ!

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

Rev. Arden Dorn

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**(ELW p. 574)**

***Here I Am, Lord***

## 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and for all called to its various ministries, that the Holy Spirit invite us and others to "come and see," let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the well being of creation, for plants that provide nourishment, for animals that tend their young, that your goodness will be revealed through all creation, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations and all in authority, for advocates, for those who work for racial justice, and for our community, that all people may thrive together in harmony and order, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all who are oppressed; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit especially for Elvira, Lorain, Pauline, Shane, Linda, Norma, Ann, Helen, Linda, Jack, Matilda, Steve, Evalena, Francis, Ella, Charles, Eli, Steve, Marlane, Yvonne, Mary Ruth, Kyle, Cody, and Norma; for caregivers and families; for those who grieve and cannot sleep, that comfort will come to those in any distress, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For travelers and those unable to attend worship today, for members of our community celebrating special events, and for those who request prayers, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for those who followed Christ and now rest from their labors especially Martin Luther King Jr., that their witness provide a model of prophetic leadership and tireless justice-making, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*With an awareness of cold and flu season, we will not shake hands among the assembly.*

## Meal

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

**OFFERING** An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERING WORDS** (ELW p. 692) ***We are an Offering***

### OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,  
receive the gifts we bring,  
our selves, our time, and our possessions.  
Through this meal unite us as your body,  
shining with the light of your justice and mercy;  
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Barmherziger Gott,  
empfangen die Gaben, die wir bringen,  
uns selbst, unsere Zeit und unsere Besitztümer.  
Durch diese Mahlzeit uns vereinen als ihr  
Körper, scheint mit das Licht deiner  
Gerechtigkeit und Barmherzigkeit;  
für ihn, der sich selbst für uns gegeben hat,  
Jesus Christus, unseren Herrn. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

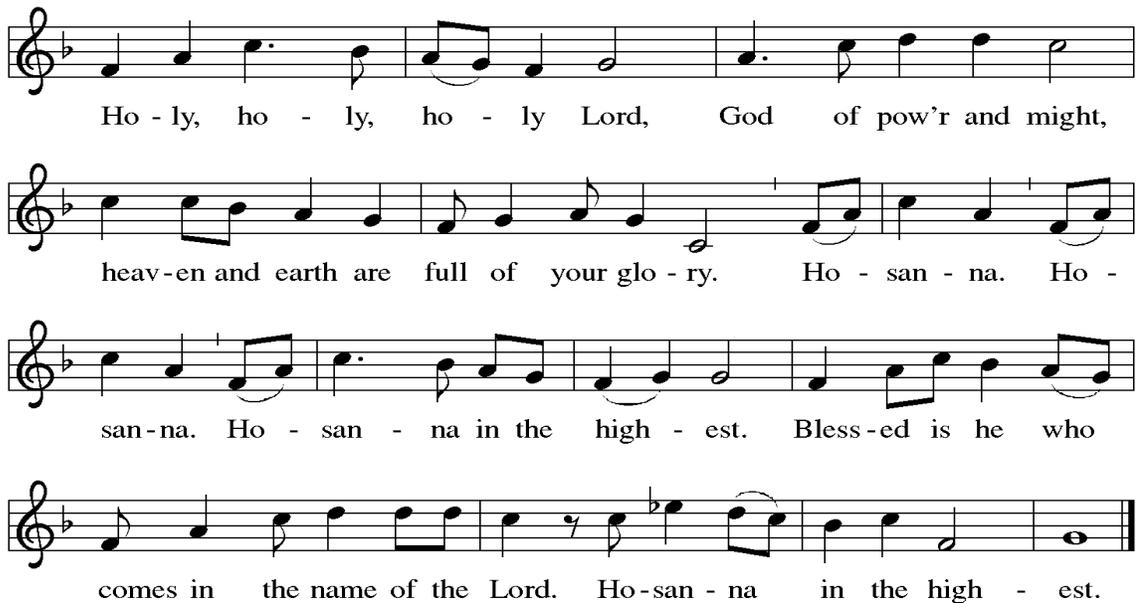
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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 One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

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.  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

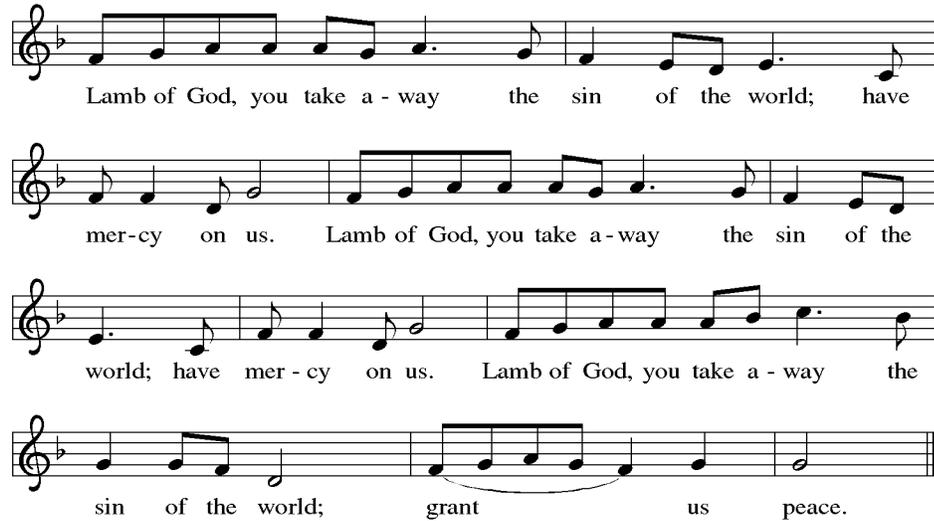
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## DISTRIBUTION – All are WELCOME at the table of the Lord.

*This meal gives you strength for your journey of faith & life. Go forward as the body of Christ in your family, community and the world. Children or anyone choosing not to commune, but wishing to be blessed, may indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion where you are seated.*



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.

*Following Communion, the assembly stands.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

*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 (ELW p. 841) *Lift Every Voice and Sing***

## DISMISSAL

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

**DOXOLOGY (ELW p. 884) Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

## Welcome!

We have all come to St. Paul's by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul's. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us. **A Nursery** is located at the rear of the sanctuary in the overflow area.

**If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance,** please signal an usher.

## For Prayerful Consideration

### ***Ill or Injured***

Elvira Boehm, Lorain Chandler, Pauline Davidson, Shane Edens, Linda Franke, Norma Foreman, Ann Gary, Helen Grimm, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Matilda Isaacks, Steve Kelly, Evalina, Francis Kempe, Ella Manka, Peyton Montemayor, Charles Pierce, Eli Rios, Steve Scotten, Marlane Smith, Yvonne Watkins, Mary Ruth Witte, Kyle Worthy, Cody Zaiontz, and Norma Zamzow.

### ***For those in the military***

Nick Adams, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Michael Rosales, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva.

### ***Birthdays and Anniversary***

Joni Huwe, Lillie Jonas (Jan. 15), Patsy Yanta (Jan. 20); Allen & Orliis Jonas (Jan. 19)

**Members requiring a written record of 2017 charitable contributions to St. Paul's,** please contact Rita or Stacey before January 31, 2018.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21: ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING** immediately following worship.  
***BUSINESS ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED:***

### **CURRENT: ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

The regular congregation meeting shall be held annually on the third Sunday of January. The time and place convening shall be announced in two services immediately preceding the meeting.

### **PROPOSED: ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

The regular congregation meeting shall be held annually any Sunday of January. The time and place convening shall be announced in two services immediately preceding the meeting.

**Council positions are available.** If you'd like to participate on the Nomination Committee, as a Council Person, or would like to nominate someone for Council, please contact Ronnie Retzloff.

**Two voting delegates are needed to attend the Synod Assembly Conference, May 4-6 at the Embassy Suites, San Marcos.** The 2018 theme will be *Seeds of Hope Beyond All Imagination*.

## TLU performing arts center to open Jan. 26

The Caroline M. Weston Center for the Performing Arts at Texas Lutheran University will have its grand opening from 2–3:30 p.m. on Jan. 26. All are invited to participate in this historic occasion. Thanks to many of the university's generous alumni and friends, this is the most ambitious construction project in TLU history with highlights including:

- a 32,000-square-foot School of Music

Building featuring band, choir and ensemble rehearsal halls, studio and classroom space, student practice rooms, and faculty offices;

- a separate black box studio theatre with theatre and video production space and additional dressing room and green room space; and
- the renovation of the Jackson Auditorium lobby and restrooms.

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY: Congregation-based Community Organizing**

Congregations involved in community-based organizing have discovered the power of the values and visions they hold in common and are working to transform themselves, their institutions and their communities for the sake of God's justice in the world.

Many ELCA congregations today find themselves challenged with decreasing membership and dwindling budgets, confronting a culture of individualism, and tending to the effects of a consumer-driven, market economy. While many in religious organizations believe all they can do is address the individual's pain, provide charitable assistance, and tend to their own institutional survival, some 3,500 faith communities across the United States – including hundreds of ELCA congregations – have ventured beyond their walls through congregation-based community organizing to address the larger causes of the pressures they and their communities face each day. This can be a witness to the fact that we are a church that believes Jesus is God's "Yes" to us. Our lives can be a "Yes" to others.

ELCA congregations involved in this work employ the principles and tools of community organizing, combined with a commitment to the prophetic traditions of Scripture. Using these tools and traditions builds vitality in congregations and puts faith values into action in neighborhoods, communities and the broader world. At the heart of organizing are leadership development and empowerment, along with an emphasis on relationship-building and a fostering of the "Beloved Community" that Martin Luther King Jr. advocated. Interfaith collaboration is also a characteristic of the movement, as is working together with other institutions and organizations to build more equitable access, influence and effectiveness.