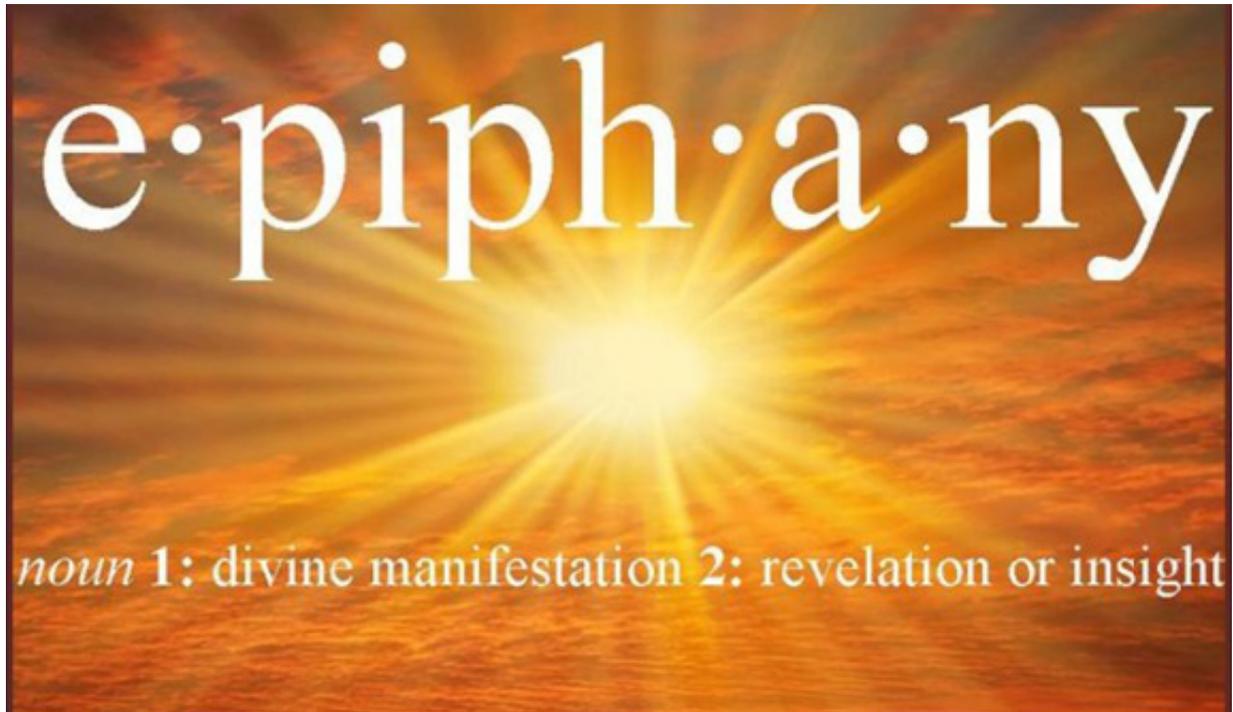


St. Paul's Lutheran Church
January 6, 2019



Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister
Mike Tessman, Assistant Minister
Rita Jordan, Organist
Mike Tessman, Lay Reader

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

Gathering

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

Epiphany means "manifestation." On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND GOOD NEWS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who shines in glory,
clothes us in compassion,
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

The assembly shall kneel or stand, as they are able.

God, wonderful counselor,
**we confess that we have turned from your gifts
and chosen our own way.
We have not made room for you
in our hearts or in our world.
We have lived in fear;
we have not welcomed the stranger;
we desire gifts that will not endure.
Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus
dwelling in and among us.
Amen.**

God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.

We are saved, not by anything we have done,
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.

In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

Through the Spirit living in you,
God give you faith to trust Jesus,
who is Love born for you, now and always.

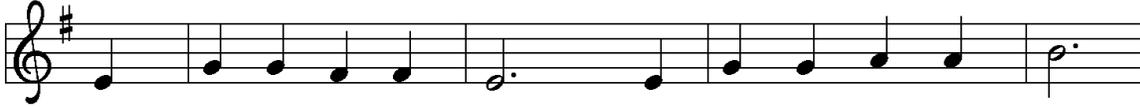
Amen.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The assembly is seated

Oremos. **Dios Todopoderoso y siempre viviente, revelas la encarnación de tu hijo por el brillante resplandor de una estrella. Ilumina la luz de tu justicia siempre en nuestros corazones y en todas las tierras, y acepta nuestras vidas como el tesoro que ofrecemos en tu alabanza y para tu servicio, a través de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y Señor, que vive y reina contigo y con el Espíritu Santo, un Dios, ahora y para siempre. Amén.**

Word

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her, because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

- ¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
- ²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
- ³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

R: *All kings shall bow down before him.*

¹Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously**

and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,

and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,**

rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. R

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,

from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,**

like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,**

and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts. R

¹¹May all kings bow down before him,

and all the nations do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,**

the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,

and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,**

and precious is their blood in his sight. R

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ^{4a} reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: Matthew 2:1-12

Glory to You, O Lord!

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(ELW p. 300)

The First Noel

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.* On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

The assembly shall kneel, as they are able

Drawn into the light of God, we pray for the proclamation of the grace of Jesus Christ. Give us courage and boldness to go forth into the world to tell the good news of what God has done. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drawn into the glory of creation, we pray for the earth. Sustain every living thing with abundant resources, clean water, and sustainable harvests. Help us to steward all that you have provided. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drawn into the brightness of God's presence, we pray for the nations of the world. Reveal your compassion and peace for the sake of all who live in the shadow of oppression, violence, and fear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drawn into the light of healing mercy, we pray for all who wait for healing and relief of suffering, especially for Mitch, Michelle, Laquita, Mary Louise, Helen, Francis, Lynda, Leroy, John, and Roxanna, as well as those that we name out loud or in our hearts... Give us hope in the promise of new life where pain and suffering will be no more. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drawn into the dawn of a new day, we pray for the ongoing reconciliation between people. Make us bold to name sin in our lives and unite us in the promise of forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As we sow Seeds of Hope, we pray for St. John Lutheran in Westhoff. Guide them to new opportunities and abilities to draw younger people into the congregation. We pray also for St.

Peter's in Elgin that they may have vision, direction, and that God would use them as an instrument of grace in their community. We pray for St. Paul's – Karnes City and St. Paul's – Nordheim as the congregations continue discussions of the St. Paul's Squared opportunity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With all churches in the Southwestern Texas Synod we pray for each other and also for ELCA member congregations such as those in the Grand Canyon Synod, Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Elgin, and Augsburg University. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drawn into the promise of everlasting light, we pray for those who mourn and give thanks for all the saints who now rest in the brightness of God's presence. Make us confident in our worship as we reflect the light of God with eternal praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

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

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.

OFFERING HYMN

(ELW p. 674)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God,
your beauty shines forth from the manger
and your love flows from the cross.
As you gather us around these signs
of your love come among us,
warm us to extend your care
among the hungry and all in need.
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Lasset uns beten. Heiliger Gott,
deine Schönheit strahlt aus der Krippe
und deine Liebe fließt vom Kreuz.
Wie Sie uns um diese Zeichen sammeln
von deiner Liebe kommen unter uns
wärme uns, um deine Fürsorge zu erweitern
unter den hungrigen und alle in Not.
Im Namen Jesu beten wir. **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;

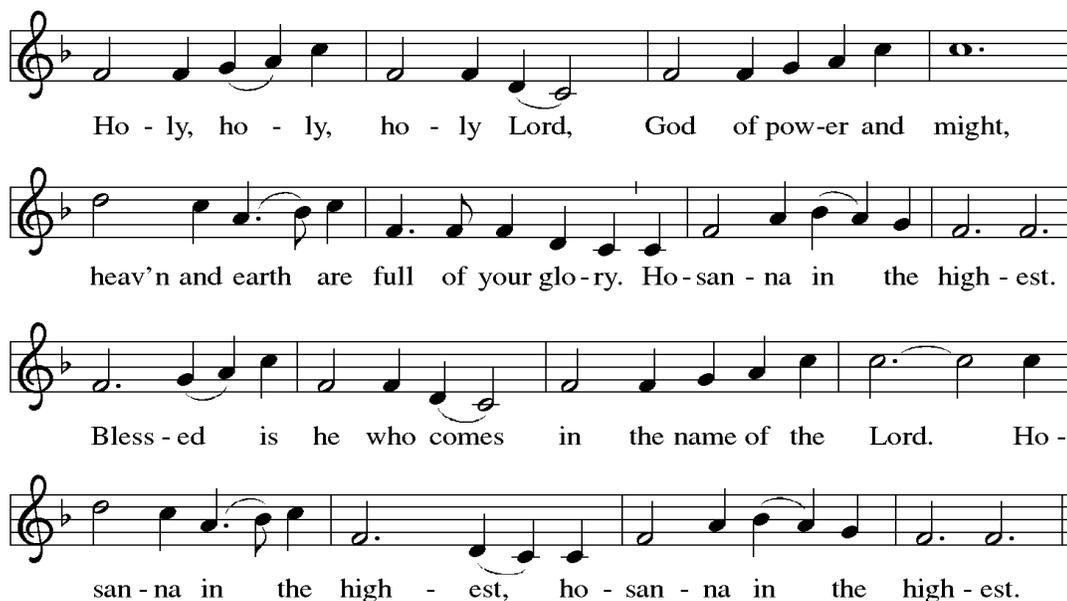
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;

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-er 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, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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

Come to the table where Christ meets you.
Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

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.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

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

BLESSING

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, ✝ bless you and keep you in hope and peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

(ELW p. 677)

This Little Light of Mine

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY

(ELW p. 884)

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

For Prayerful Consideration

Ill, Injured or Otherwise Struggling: Sadat Abrihim, David Anaba, Sharon Baumann, Mitch Dorn, Shane Edens, Michelle Easton, Norma Foreman, Laquita Gibbens, Helen Grimm, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Andy James, Raymond Jenkins, Mary Louise Jonas, Steve Kelly, Evalina, Francis Kempe, Lynda Lathrop, Ella Manka, Khloe Martinez, Moma Ndeh, the Ndeh family, Charles Pierce, Leroy Polderick, Carly Rosenboon, John Tackitt, Roxanna Tom, Yvonne Watkins, Kyle Worthy, Cody Zaiontz, and Norma Zamzow

For those in the military: Nick Adams, Anthony Alvarez, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Jon Wayne Schulz, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva

Birthdays & Anniversary: Lynette Jonas (Jan. 6), Dorothy Rippstein (Jan. 9), Philip & Stacey Mika (Jan. 12)

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

Coming Events

Let's join together and PARTICIPATE

Sunday, January 20, 2019 will be the Annual Meeting immediately following the worship service. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend. Agenda items and other matters of business will be discussed.

Anyone that would like to place their name on the **ballot for council member** contact a council member.

For those that would like for the church to record offerings to St. Paul's, the Council will offer that service beginning January 2019. Please contact a member of council for more information.

Tuesday, January 22, St. Paul's WELCA will sponsor the Senior Citizen Activity Day at the Karnes City Columbus Club beginning at 12:00. If you would like to donate bingo prizes (value \$1.00 - \$5.00), a monetary donation or homemade cookies, please contact Alva Jonas.



EQUIPPING THE **SAINTS** 2019



**Equipping the Saints – Saturday, February 2, 2019 hosted
by Christ the Victor Lutheran Church,
202 Stanly Street, Victoria
Sponsored by Bluebonnet Conference, ELCA**

WE ARE THE CHURCH TOGETHER

How can we be the Church in the world? How can our congregations better “make disciples”? Our God is calling us to love and serve all our diverse neighbors. It is important to engage our neighbors within our various communities. We are called to love one another, pray for one another, forgive one another, encourage one another, and put up with one another. Our work extends to persons within our congregations, but also to our communities and beyond.

Rural, suburban and urban congregations experience struggles to be sustainable and vital communities of faith. But our God who creates something out of nothing and who brings life from death is making all things new, and empowers our work together as the Church. We must be able to adapt to changing circumstances; develop more effective strategies in ministering to and connecting with our communities; increase the vitality and sustainability of congregations in rural, small town and metropolitan contexts; and identify ways we can cooperate and collaborate in doing Christ’s work.

Equipping the Saints with its many workshops provides important insights and Biblically-based practical tools to equip persons to do congregation and community ministry and mission. Workshop offerings also include opportunities for personal and spiritual growth, table fellowship (catered meal) with Christians of area congregations, child care for young children of attendees, and the experience of worship as the body of Christ.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 for all day event!
Contact information – Pr. Herb Beyer, ETS Coordinator 361-798-0155 or E-mail: beyerfam@hughes.net or Christ the Victor office 361-575-4363 or E-mail: christthevictor@suddenlinkmail.com or local ELCA churches for registration materials and information. All are welcome to attend. Register early!