St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
January 19, 2020
Second Sunday after Epiphany

BE Still,
RECEIVE
Grace AND
Peace

Vicar Mary Anne Parker
Mike Tessman, Worship Assistant
Mary Maddox, Lay Reader
Rita Jordan, Organist

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
We gather as the people of God
to offer our repentance and praise,
to pray for the unity of the church
and the renewal of our common life.
Trusting in God’s mercy and compassion,
let us ask for the forgiveness of our sins.

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us
to one another and to the Father:
Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds
of pride and intolerance.
Christ, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord Jesus, you pardon the sinner
and welcome the repentant.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
May almighty God grant us pardon and peace,
strengthen us in faith,
and make us witnesses to Christ’s love.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  ELW 815

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray together,  God our Father, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers
might be one. Make all Christians one with him as he is one with you, so that in
peace and concord we may carry to the world the message of your love, through
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  Amen.
READING
Isaiah 2:2-4

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn’t love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL
John 17:15-23

Glory to You, O, Lord.

13-19 Now I’m returning to you. I’m saying these things in the world’s hearing
So my people can experience
My joy completed in them.
I gave them your word;
The godless world hated them because of it,
Because they didn’t join the world’s ways,
Just as I didn’t join the world’s ways.
I’m not asking that you take them out of the world
But that you guard them from the Evil One.
They are no more defined by the world
Than I am defined by the world.
Make them holy—consecrated—with the truth;
Your word is consecrating truth.
In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world,
I give them a mission in the world.
I’m consecrating myself for their sakes
So they’ll be truth-consecrated in their mission.

20-23 I’m praying not only for them
But also for those who will believe in me
Because of them and their witness about me.
The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind—
Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you,
So they might be one heart and mind with us.
Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me.
The same glory you gave me, I gave them,
So they’ll be as unified and together as we are—
I in them and you in me.
Then they’ll be mature in this oneness,
And give the godless world evidence
That you’ve sent me and loved them
In the same way you’ve loved me.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY
Here I Am, Lord  ELW 574

CONFESSION OF FAITH

United in Christ, let us confess the faith we hold in common.
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

Called together through water and the Word, we boldly pray for the church, the world, and all who long to hear God’s voice.

Faithful God, thank you for the testimony of disciples throughout the generations and for opportunities to proclaim your mercy. Reveal your truth and glory to all who ponder your word of life. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Creating God, we marvel at the abundance of the world you have made. Give us confidence in our calling to be stewards of the earth so that our lives are in fellowship with all creation. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we are thankful for all who have marched for justice and advocated for peace. Entrust our elected leaders with strength, wisdom, and a discerning spirit, so that both our words and our actions serve you. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of hope, thank you for your constant presence as you walk with your children through challenges of joblessness, homelessness, grief, and sickness. Gather your community around all who need your healing power; that they find strength in you, especially Bobby, Patricia, Suzanne, Diane, Shane, Norma, Robert, Linda, Jack, Raymond, Steve, Khloe, Elfren, Jimmy, Carly, Meredene, Jerry, Enedina, Cody, Norma, as well as those that we name out loud or in our hearts…. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of persistence, we glory in the gifts of our church leaders. Bless and strengthen our council members, staff, pastors, worship leaders, and all those who offer their gifts to this community, that our work together would serve your mission. With all churches in the Southwestern Texas Synod we pray for each other and also for the South Carolina Synod, as well as Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Austin. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for the whole communion of saints, each called in their own time to serve you. Inspire our lives with their testimony. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We place our prayers before you, God, united in your Spirit; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

The Lord Jesus prayed for the unity of his disciples. We look for the day when the church will shine forth in unity at his holy supper. 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 SONG
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ   ELW 674

OFFERING PRAYER
God of wonder,
you formed us in our mother’s womb,
and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.
We place them on your table,
together with our lives and all that you have made.
Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.
We wait for your mercy;
we long for your peace;
we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,
our banquet of life.
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:
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
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.

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.

The assembly is seated.
COMMUNION SONG

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.

Communion will be by Intinction. After receiving the bread, receive the wine by dipping the bread into the chalice that is offered by the communion assistant.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God, and the source of our life together, keep you united in mind and purpose. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✡ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

We Are Marching in the Light  ELW 866

DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow  ELW 884

OPENING PRAYER FOR 2020 ANNUAL MEETING
For Prayerful Consideration

**Ill, Injured or Otherwise Struggling:** Bobby Adams, Patricia Coffee, Suzanne Dietzel, Diane Dziuk, Shane Edens, Norma Foreman, Robert Fudge, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Evelyn Hoffman, Raymond Jenkins, Steve Kelly, Frances Kempe, Khloe Martinez, Elfren Moczygemba, Jimmy Moore, Pick Pierce, Carly Rosenboon, Meredene Shockome, Jerry Vajdos, Enedina Vasquez, Cody Zaiontz, Robert Fudge, 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:** Patsy Yanta (Jan. 20), Robert Jonas (Jan. 24), Rita Jordan (Jan. 28)

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**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.

**Announcements**

Opportunities to Learn, Worship, Pray, and Serve

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**The Annual Meeting** is today immediately following the worship service.

**St. Paul's will sponsor the KC Senior Activity Day,** Tuesday January 28, at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Donations for bingo prizes can be dropped off at St. Paul's fellowship hall.
Register Now! Don’t Miss Out.

Equipping the Saints 2020

Saturday, February 1

Best Practices for Faith & Life Today
(and in anticipation of our Future as Church)

Sponsored by
Bluebonnet Conference
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Hosted by
St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Cuero
Located at 400 N. Esplanade (across from McDonalds)

Workshops for Laity & Clergy to Equip for Ministry and Personal and Spiritual Growth, Worship, Catered Luncheon and Staffed Nursery. All welcome to attend.

For registration material, speak with the pastor or staff of any Lutheran congregation in the Bluebonnet Conference of ELCA Congregations or

For information contact:
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Pastor Herb Beyer, ETS Chair at 361-798-0155, cell or E-mail: beyerfam@hughes.net