



THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 25, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

The Epiphany season begins and ends with two festivals that announce who Jesus is: the Baptism of Our Lord and the Transfiguration of Our Lord. At both of these events, God the Father's voice is heard, announcing that Jesus is God's beloved Son. During the weeks of Epiphany, as we see who Jesus is, we see the kind of people Jesus makes us to be. *This is Part 3 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

☩ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 688 "Come, Follow Me, 'the Savior Spake"

CONFession OF SINS & FORGIVENESS *Psalm 124:8; 32:5*

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT | Entrance *Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22*

P I will tell of your name to my brothers;
C in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
P All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
C and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
P For kingship belongs to the LORD,
C and he rules over the nations.
P All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
C before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.
P Posterity shall serve him;
C it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
P they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
C that he has done it.

GLORIA PATRI | Glory to the Father *For text and tune, see page 186.*

C (sung) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

KYRIE | Lord, Have Mercy *Mark 10:47*

For text and tune, see page 186.

C (sung) Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | Glory to God in the Highest *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

For text and tune, see pages 187–189.

P (sung) Glory be to God on high:
C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'ly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

For text and tune, see page 189.

P (sung) The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *Zephaniah 3:17*

C The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 49:1–7*

The Lord's servant has been called before birth for a special task: enlightening all nations with the good news of God's salvation.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” ⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.” ⁵And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel

might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1:10–18

Saint Paul urges the people in the congregation in Corinth to be united in the Gospel. Rather than following human teachers and leaders, they are to follow Jesus Christ.

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank

God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name.

¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE For text with music, see page 190.

C (sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 4:18–25

Jesus calls Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, [Jesus] saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father,

mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those

oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them.²⁵ And great crowds followed him from Galilee

and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 856 “*O Christ, Who Called the Twelve*”

SERMON *Who We Are: “Fishers of Men”*

OFFERTORY *Psalm 51:10–12; for text and tune, see page 192.*

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering (10:30 am):

ANTHEM “*Thanksgiving Canon*” by Anna Laura Page
(Students from SPLS; Lindsay McKeage, Flute)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The 8:00 am service concludes with the Lord's Prayer, Benediction, and Closing Hymn 653, "In Christ There Is No East or West."



We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

The 10:30 am service continues with the Preface on page 194 in the hymnal.

We believe that in the Lord's Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord's Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

HYMN 849 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

HYMN 826 “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying”

HYMN 395 “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

HYMN 803 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” (You may remain seated for v. 3.)



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

The service concludes with the Nunc Dimitis, Thanksgiving, Salutation and Bendicamus, and Benediction on pages 199–202.

CLOSING HYMN 653 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: "Follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). You don't need a fishing pole or net. You have God's Word, the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the Good News of the Savior Jesus.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Liturgist*

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Rachel Martens, *SPLS Choir Director*

Kiersten Beerman, Jade Brandt, Titus Drefs, Kahlan Haase,

Bella Hagen-Mills, Oliva Harrington, Lindsay McKeage, Adalynn Nelson,

Annika Pottschmidt, Wyatt Sherman, *Instrumentalists*

Konner McKnight, Evan Rankin, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Gracie Brackman, Lindsay McKeage, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Deb Robinson, *Greeter (8:00 am)*

Mary Schlueter, *Greeter (10:30 am)*

Tim Bauer, Mark Heins, Russ Kruse, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor "on call" number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Wilmer Bredehoeft, Raymond Becker, Nicole Maxwell, Richard Cordes, Tom Burrow, Melba Poese, Bridget Kageman, Addison Wehrle, Alan Luebbert, Diane Stumpenhaus, Lisa Arnett, Ricky Flandermyer, Ron Roepe, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos, Susan Reeves, Les Bruns

Ongoing: Chad Nuelle, Barbie Cowherd, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Nolan Kirby, Jon Spells, Hudson Kloos, Joe Connell, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Donnie Fiene, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerdts, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Dannie Griffit, Lari Huntze, Johnny Cowherd, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Nation and World: the people of Seychelles

Partners in Mission: Grace Lutheran Church; DeSoto, MO; Lutherans For Life; National Lutheran Schools Week

Birthdays: (1/25) Julie Boehmer, Hannah Hoeppner, Carol Mueller; (1/26) Kaden Kruse, April Montrey, Rebecca Schnackenberg, Tim Wulser; (1/28) Deb Demel, Tyler Frerking, Paul Tebbenkamp, Stephen Wienberg; (1/29) Rick Heimsoth, Kenneth Hemme, Alicia Kueck, Rebecca Lemmert, Christian Matisko, Tammy Schlueter; (1/30) Rev. Gary Muehler, Jessy Otero, Carol Wilckens; Jerry Werneke, Amy Woods

FAMILY FOOTNOTES

Gina Martens, Family Life Director

Live Uncommon. That is what we are called to do. We are called to live differently than the world around us. The world hustles us along, pressuring us to be one thing or another. We look at our snaps, our reels, our feeds, a DM here, and a hashtag there. It is so easy to get caught up in worldly things and forget that we are set apart. Jesus calls us to proclaim Him in all that we do. It's not just what we do, but how we live. My prayer is that we would keep our focus on Jesus so that we can live uncommon in a world that so often sucks us into being part of the crowd, that we would exhibit something different that people notice and want to be a part of, and that we would always proclaim Jesus. Jesus is our peace in the midst of chaos, and He has created each of us to do incredible things to proclaim His glory according to His will, no matter if we are a son/daughter, mother/father, student, a slightly anxious parent cheering from the sidelines, or a daily worker in the field going through the day to day duties that life requires. Romans 12:2 says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Micah 6:1–8; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31; Matthew 5:1–12

Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 904, 932, 683, 851, 782, 409



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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