

St. Paul Lutheran Church

777 South Summit Street; Smithville, Ohio 44677; 330-669-2111

Rev. Kristy Buyok, Pastor; 803-673-1727

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Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

***Third Sunday after Epiphany
In-Person Worship Service
January 22, 2023***

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: # 798 "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

**1 "Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?"**

**2 "Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?"**

**3 "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?"**

(Continued on next page.)

4 "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

****Greeting & Call to Worship:***

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

A: In the beginning was the Word,

C: and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

A: In the Word was life,

C: and the life was the light of all people.

A: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C: and we have seen his glory full of grace and truth.

****Prayer of the Day:***

A: Let us pray. Lord God,

**C: your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27:1,4-9

R: The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

**C: One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.**

R: For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

**C: Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

R: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

**C: "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, do I seek.**

R: Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been 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 can 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 proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

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

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

R: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.

****Gospel Acclamation:***

Alleluia. Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and cured every sickness among the people. Alleluia.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

****Gospel Reading:*** Matthew 4:12-23

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the
Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he 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 fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon: Pastor Kristy Buyok

Hymn of the Day: #817 "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"

**1. You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
but only asking for me to follow.**

**Refrain: Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you've called out my name...
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you, I will seek other seas.**

**2. You know full well what I have, Lord:
neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,
just these my fish nets and will for working. *Refrain***

**3. You need my hands, my exhaustion,
working love for the rest of the weary-
a love that's willing to go on loving. *Refrain***

**4. You who have fished other waters;
you, the longing of souls that are yearning:
O loving Friend, you have come to call me. *Refrain***

**The Apostles' Creed*

A: Together, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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 power of 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 (universal) Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

The Prayers

A: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences.

Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. We pray this day for these in need of care: for the Boorman Family, the Pearson Family, Mike, JoEtta, Debbie, Geraldine, Raymond, Karen, Tim and our St. Paul Families: Tracey, Chuck, Lucas, and Jillian. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering: Thank you to everyone who continues to support our ministries. You may place your offering in the plates as they pass. You may also sign up for automatic giving or make an offering by clicking the donate button on our website: www.stplcsmithville.org

Offertory:

“The Lord Is My Strength”

Choir

Words by Nan Allen, Music and Arrangement by Dennis Allen

**Offertory Prayer*

P: Let us pray. Liberating God,

**C: you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.**

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving

for all your works of merciful power,

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

We magnify and adore you, through Jesus our Savior,

Amen.

**The Great Thanksgiving:*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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 praise;

**C: Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution*

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...
now and forever.

C: Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer*

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**C: 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

P: Come receive the gift of God's love.

Holy Communion

(All baptized Christians are welcomed at God's holy meal.)

P: This is the body of Christ given for you.

(You may eat your wafer)

P: This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

(You may drink the wine from your cup)

C: Thanks be to God!

Communion Hymn: # 857 "Lord I Lift Your Name On High"

**Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life,
I'm so glad you came to save us.**

**You came from heaven to earth
to show the way,
from the earth to the cross,
my debt to pay,
from the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.**

Text: Rick Founds, b. 1954 Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin Music Services

Communion Hymn: #445 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825
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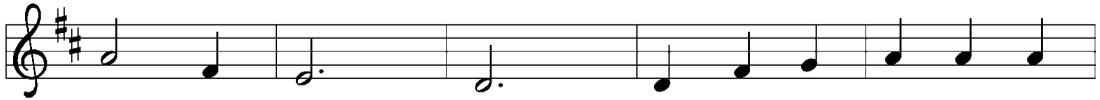
****Post Communion Blessing***

****Benediction***

**Sending Hymn: #815 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

****Dismissal (with enthusiasm)***

A: Go in peace, Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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Your Prayers Are Requested For:

***The Boorman Family, the Pearson family, Mike, JoEtta, Debbie,
Geraldine, Raymond, Tim, and Karen***

St. Paul Families:

Chuck, Tracey, Lucas, and Jillian Clark

***The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
by Deb Zimmerman***

Thank you to those serving this morning

Pastor Kristy Buyok

Cantor: Lesley Mast

Assisting Minister: Pam Root

Lector: Rochelle Renninger

Pianist: Joe Hennell

Communion Assistant: Lyn Miller

Altar Care: Rex & Beth Raff

Bread Bakers: Lesley Miller

Ushers/Greeters: Hans Kwee and David Svegel



Worship Services are streamed each Sunday at:

www.stpaullutheran.work

If you are unable to access via the internet,
DVD copies are available for delivery to your home.

Please contact Pastor Kristy: (803) 673-1727.

This Week

Sunday:	Parking Lot Worship Sanctuary Worship Sunday School	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Monday:	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	
Wednesday:	Confirmation Class Meal Choir	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Next Sunday:	Parking Lot Worship Sanctuary Worship	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming & Announcements

For many years, St. Paul's Women of the ELCA has sponsored a child through ChildFund International. The cost is \$21.00/mo. or \$ 252.00/year. For the past three years there has been enough money in the account to fund the yearly payments without asking for support from the congregation.

This year we are asking for donations to support this cause during the month of February. You can make checks payable to St. Paul and mark the check with ChildFund International.

The child we currently sponsor is a 10 yr. old boy; whose name is Joseph Juan Bria. His birthday is 5/30/2012 and is from Oeltua, Indonesia. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Souper Bowl – Remember to bring in your canned goods to help us collect for our local food banks. Drop off in the narthex by February 13.

People to People needs for the month are spaghetti sauce, saltines, and canned fruit.

Serving in January In-Person	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29
Lay Reader	Karen Marks	Lynn Moomaw	Mark Miller	Rochelle Renninger	Tim Preston
Assisting Minister	Hans Kwee	Lynn Moomaw	Aleena Mast	Pam Root	Hans Kwee
Greeters/Ushers	Nancy Percy Tim Preston	Nancy & Steve Carr	Barb & Dave Miller	Hans Kwee David Svegel	Kathy & Jerry Meitzler
Communion Assistant	Aleena Mast	Lynn Moomaw	Duane Eggeman	Lyn Miller	Nancy Carr
Altar Care	Steve & Nancy Carr	Duane Eggeman	Jerry & Kathy Meitzler	Rex & Bath Raff	Lyn Miller
Bread Baker	Lesley Mast	Lesley Mast	Lesley Miller	Lesley Miller	Extra

Serving in January Parking Lot	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29
Assisting Minister	Lyn Miller	Karen Marks	Aleena Mast	Pam Root	Lynn Moomaw
Greeters	Pat Badger and Bob Race				