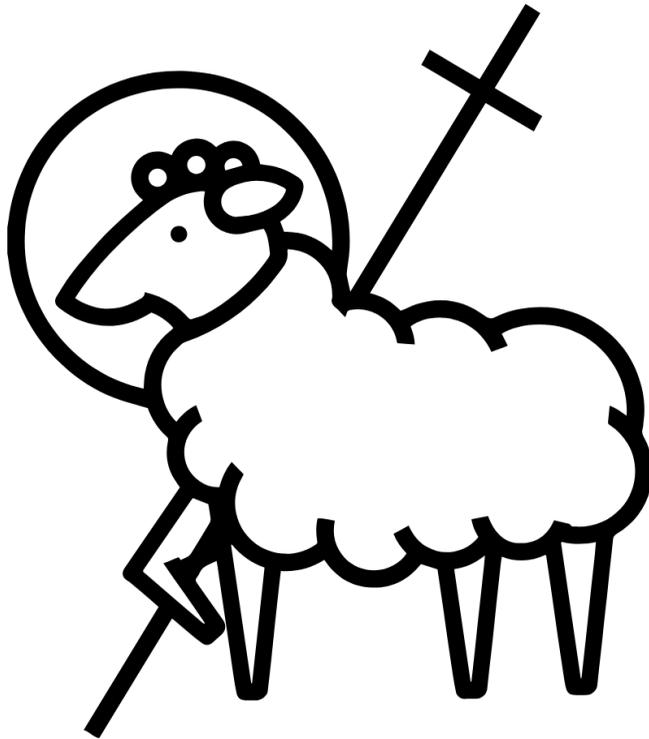


St. Paul Lutheran
Smithville



Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 18, 2026

Prelude

Welcome

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: Our God is holy, merciful, and slow to anger.

We are told that we can turn from the things that lead us away from God and receive forgiveness and a new start.

Let's prepare ourselves to be in God's presence by asking for forgiveness and resting in God's mercy.

C: Amen.

P: God you call us to do justice and to treat others the way that we, ourselves, wish to be treated. We have not lived up to that expectation and have caused unnecessary pain and division.

C: Forgive us

P: You tell us to follow the example of humility and love that Jesus modeled for us, yet, we have raised ourselves up in an effort to get ahead of others.

C: Forgive us.

P: You have given us rules to guide us that we might have the good life that you intended for us but we have mistrusted you or ignored you completely, trusting instead in our own understanding.

C: Forgive us.

P: You have provided this world with enough that all may have what they need, but we have hoarded and taken more than our share while others have gone without. We have glorified the wealthy and judged the needy.

C: Forgive us.

P: Scripture says that if we will confess our sin and turn away from it, we will receive forgiveness and mercy. Hear these words of promise and receive the mercy of God. May the Spirit of the living God wash over you and cleanse you from the sin that you acknowledge and the times when our minds and hearts have wandered away from God's intention for our lives even when we were not aware of it.

C: Amen.

**Gathering Hymn: # 314 "Arise, Your Light Has Come!"*



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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****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.

C: God you are our strength. Fill our minds with your praise and use our lives to serve you, worship you, and lead others to your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

² He 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.

³ And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD
and my reward with my God.”

⁵ And now the LORD says,
who formed me in 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 sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶ he says,
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

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

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:1-11

R: I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**C: He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.**

R: He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.

**C: Happy are those who make
the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.**

R: You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.

**C: Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.**

R: Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

**C: I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart.”**

R: I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O Lord.

**C: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your
faithfulness from the great congregation.**

R: Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the book of John, the first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

**Gospel Reading:* John 1:29-42

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.”³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).

⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon: Pastor Kristy Buyok

Hymn of the Day: "Making Their Way"



1 Mak-ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have
2 Mak-ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble
3 Mak-ing our way sea - son by sea-son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,
on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,
till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath-ered for wor-ship, of - fer-ing thanks,
learn-ing to walk in Je-sus' way. Mem-bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,
car - ing for strang-er as for friend, till in the joy of long-ing ful-filled,



the great-est with the least have come to share this feast.
they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.
to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626

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The Apostle's Creed

A: Together, let us confess the belief that we share in this family of 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 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 words “catholic” and “apostolic” do not reference a particular denomination but mean “one universal church” and “the same faith that was handed down from Jesus to the Apostles”)

The Prayers

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, our shared community, and the well-being of the earth.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Gracious God, gather the church in unity. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Jesus. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Allow life on this planet to thrive. Protect what is fragile and come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to hatred. Raise up bold leaders to advocate for peace and kindness. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, you lift up those who face trouble, oppression, or illness. Offer your special care to those on our prayer list: Ann, Lynne, Phobe, Cassidy, Zach, Jim, Titus, Shannon, and Ken. Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community. Give us a passionate desire to help one another. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude those who have died and who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

**Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory:

"Til the Storm Passes By"

Choir

Words and Music: Mosie Lister
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**Offertory Prayer*

P: Let us pray. Lord God,

C: you are more magnificent than we can even imagine. Meet us here at your table of mercy and allow us to see glimpses of your eternal kingdom. Take what we have shared today and use it to further your mission in this place. Amen.

****The Great Thanksgiving:***

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them 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;
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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 are you, our Savior and Lord!**

****Words of Institution***

P: In the night in which he was betrayed...

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**The Lord's Prayer*

**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: God is with us, here at the table of salvation.
Come receive the promises of our God.

Holy Communion

*(All baptized Christians are welcomed at God's holy meal or you
may come forward for a blessing.)*

Communion Hymn: # 336 "Lamb of God"



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Communion Hymn: # 465 "As the Grains of Wheat"



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,

2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

**Post Communion Blessing*

**Benediction*

***Sending Hymn: # 866 “We are Marching in the Light of God”**



We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



we are march-ing in the light of God.



We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



we are march-ing in the light of God.



We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...
 We are praying ...
 We are singing ...

****Dismissal***

A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Your Prayers Are Requested For:

***Ann, Lynne, Phoebe, Cassidy, Zach, Jim, Titus, Shannon, Ken, and
Jaime***

Thank you to those serving this morning

Pastor: Rev. Kristy Buyok

Cantor: Lesley Mast

Assisting Minister: Lynn Moomaw

Lector: Hans Kwee

Pianist: Joe Hennell

Communion Assistant: Duane Eggeman

Altar Care: Lyn Miller

Ushers/Greeters: Bob Race and Pat Badger

Bread Baker: Lesley Mast



Worship Services are streamed each Sunday at:

www.stplcsmithville.org/services

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.

stplcsmithville.org

This Week

Sunday:	Worship	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
	Staff Meet & Greet	4:00 p.m.
Monday:	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	
	<i>Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday:	Quilting	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday:	Meal	5:30 p.m.
	Choir	6:00 p.m.
	Handbells	6:45 p.m.
Thursday:	Healthy Life Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Next Sunday:	Worship	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday School	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming & Announcements

Healthy Life Series: Starting on Thursday, January 15, meet up for a 6-week series with Pastor Kristy and find out what she is doing to feel healthy. Open to all. *This is a NO JUDGEMENT ZONE!

Women of the Church: Save the date on Saturday, February 7, for a special Women's Event.

Men of the Church: Save the date on Saturday, February 21 for a special Men's Event.

Canned food: If you have extra that you can share, consider bringing canned food to place in the food box located in the church drive. If the food box is full you may place your food on the back table in the small fellowship hall. We will use this food to refill the box throughout the week. Thank you for your generosity.

People to People: Needed items: instant mashed potatoes, cereal, canned fruit, 5 oz. can chicken, Chef Boyardee ravioli or beefaroni, and body wash The toy dept. needs Mr. Clean liquid cleaner, magic erasers (with foam soap), and paper towels.

The Christmas Toy Project went very well. We served 171 families, including 401 children. The 6 to 11 year old group had the most kids at 150, teens made up 137. Preschoolers were counted at 85 and babies made up 29. When and if you purchase toys for next year, preferably buy for ages 6 thru 18. Checks can be made out to People to People Ministries and given to Lyn Miller. Thank you so much for all your donations throughout 2025. Let's continue in 2026!



Scan the QR code to view our website or to donate thru Paypal.

Wednesday Night Meals

January 21 – Kitchen Committee casserole, salad and dessert

January 28 - Sloppy Jo's, French fries, pasta salad and dessert

Serving in January In-Person	1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25
Lay Reader	Brad Stumpp	Kathy Smith	Hans Kwee	Bob Race
Assisting Minister	Hans Kwee	Pam Root	Lynn Moomaw	Adrienne Karlen
Greeters/ Ushers	Larry Allen Ernie Buyok	Steve & Nancy Carr	Bob Race Pat Badger	Jason Mast Zach Mast
Communion Assistant	Rex Raff	Ernie Buyok	Duane Eggeman	Lynn Moomaw
Altar Care	Duane & Robin Eggeman	Tim Preston Zach Mast	Lyn Miller	Larry & Sandy Allen
Bread Baker	Lesley Mast	Lesley Mast	Lesley Mast	Lesley Mast

Act of Kindness for the Week: Help someone carry their things

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

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