



January 2, 2022
Second Sunday after Christmas

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road • Salisbury, NC 28146
Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Lector: Wayne Taylor
Communion Assistants: Travis Alligood,
Karen Charles, Jan McCanless
Guest Organist: Laura Brock

Prelude: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

James Southbridge

Welcome and Announcements

You are invited to stand.

Hymn: “The First Noel”

56

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

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.

The Kyrie



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



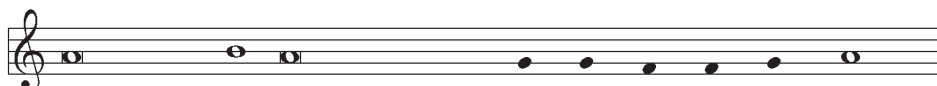
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

The Hymn of Praise



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



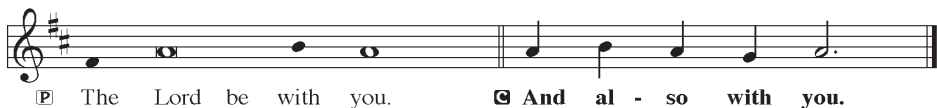
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.



Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son, we might be made to abound in good works. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Please be seated.

First Lesson: 1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, because that was the great high place; Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, “Ask what you wish Me to give you.”

⁶Then Solomon said, “You have shown great faithfulness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for him this great faithfulness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. ⁷And now, Lord my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am like a little boy; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, to discern between good and evil. For who is capable of judging this great people of Yours?”

¹⁰Now it was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself a long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, ¹²behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so

that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. ¹³I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days. ¹⁴And if you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days.”

¹⁵Then Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and made peace offerings, and held a feast for all his servants.

Here ends the lesson.

Psalm 119:97-104

⁹⁷Oh, how I | love your law!

all the day long it is | in my mind.

⁹⁸**Your commandment has made me wiser | than my enemies,
and it is | always with me.**

⁹⁹I have more understanding than | all my teachers,
for your decrees | are my study.

¹⁰⁰**I am wiser | than the elders,
because I observe | your commandments.**

¹⁰¹I restrain my feet from every | evil way,
that I may | keep your word.

¹⁰²**I do not shrink | from your judgments,
because you your- | self have taught me.**

¹⁰³How sweet are your words | to my taste!
they are sweeter than honey | to my mouth.

¹⁰⁴**Through your commandments I gain | understanding;
therefore I hate every | lying way.**

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

⁵He predestined us to adoption as sons and daughters through

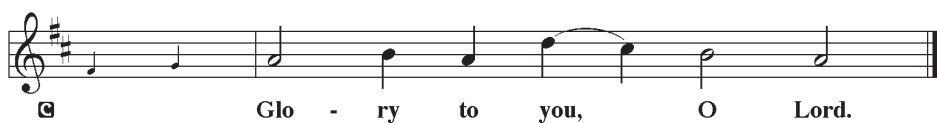
Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He favored us in the Beloved. ⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our wrongdoings, according to the riches of His grace ⁸which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight ⁹He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He set forth in Him, ¹⁰regarding His plan of the fullness of the times, to bring all things together in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. ¹¹In Him we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things in accordance with the plan of His will, ¹²to the end that we who were the first to hope in the Christ would be to the praise of His glory. ¹³In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of the promise, ¹⁴who is a first installment of our inheritance, in regard to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Here ends the lesson.

Please stand for the Gospel.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the second chapter.



Gospel: Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰Now the Child continued to grow and to become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him. ⁴¹His

parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

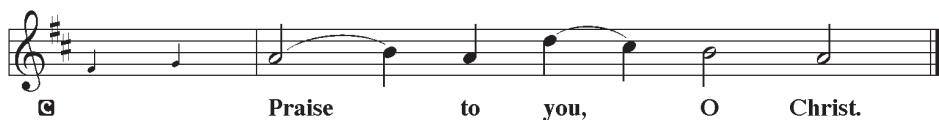
⁴²And when He was twelve years old, they went up there according to the custom of the feast; ⁴³and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days required, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but His parents were unaware of it.

⁴⁴Instead, they thought that He was somewhere in the caravan, and they went a day's journey; and then they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances. ⁴⁵And when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for Him.

⁴⁶Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. ⁴⁸When Joseph and Mary saw Him, they were bewildered; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You!" ⁴⁹And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?" ⁵⁰And yet they on their part did not understand the statement which He had made to them. ⁵¹And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued to be subject to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and people.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon:

Please stand as you are able

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Prayers of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people, according to their needs.

*Following each of 4 prayers: Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

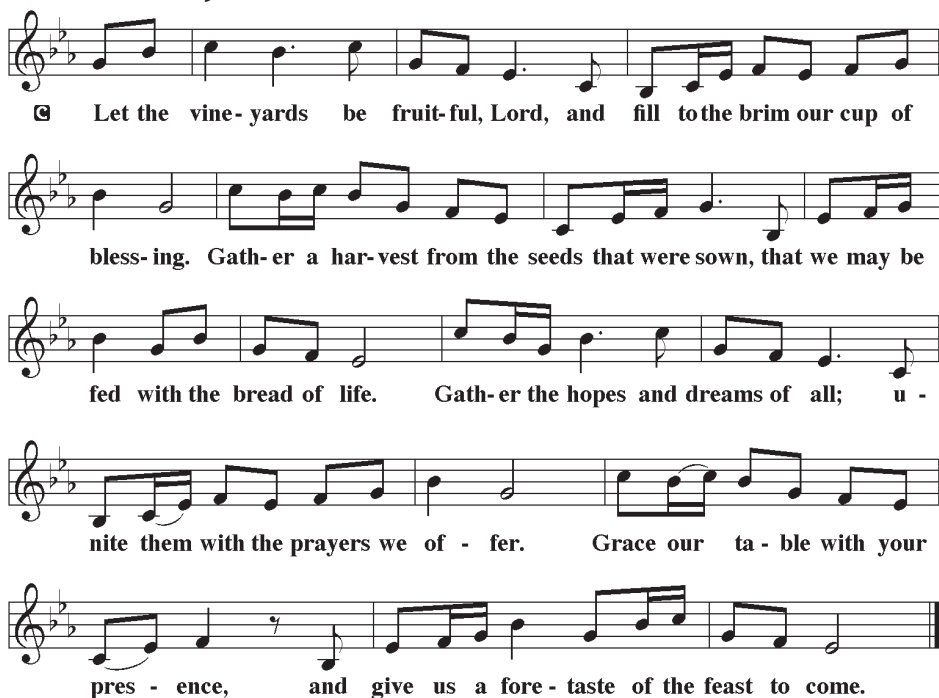
Please be seated.

Offering

Offertory: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”

Lani Smith

Please stand as you are able.

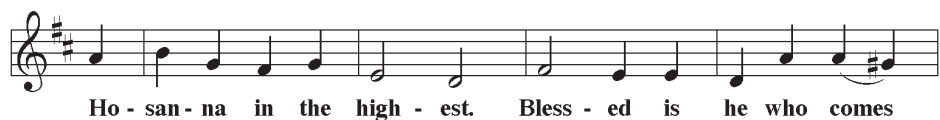


Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.”

The Lord’s Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

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

Please be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion



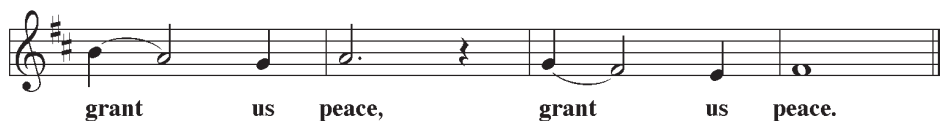
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



After the distribution, please stand.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

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The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Postlude: “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending” J. W. Kerr

Announcements

Our sympathy is extended to Judi Honbarger and family on the death of Judi's brother, Jackie Sherrill. Mr. Sherrill passed away on December 28, 2021.

Sound Tech Needed

An additional person is needed to operate the soundboard on a rotating basis (approximately once a month.) Training will be provided. If you are interested in helping with this important aspect of our ministry, please see Tim Deal.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 8 – Removal of Christmas decorations beginning at 9am

Handbell practice will resume on January 9th, at 4pm

Men's Choir practice will resume on January 9th, at 5pm

Girl Scouts –Tuesdays at 6:45pm

Adult Choir practice will resume on January 12th at 6:30pm

Confirmation Class will resume on Jan. 12th at 7:30pm

Thursday Bible Study will resume on Jan.13th at 10am and 6pm

Vespers at the Parsonage *each Sunday* – finger foods at 6pm,

Vespers at 6:30pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Men

St. Paul's Lutheran Men will kick off 2022 when they meet Monday evening, January 24th, at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. George Reese and Tim Deal will provide the meal, which will be a salad and baked potato bar, along with their world famous and highly acclaimed cherry dessert with ice cream.

Following the meal will be a really interesting program about Amish barn raisings, and life lessons that can be learned from that amazing process.

All men are invited and encouraged to attend and enjoy!

2022 Preparations

We are updating information for the 2022 yearbook, and preparing for a pictorial directory in the near future. If you have changes in your contact information, please call the church office.

Inclement Weather Procedures

If there is inclement weather during the week, we typically follow the judgment of the Rowan County School System on road conditions. Generally, if they close schools, then church activities and the church office will be closed.

Since Pastor Ryman is just across the street, he will always offer worship services as they are scheduled. If you are willing and able to come, please do. If you are unsure about driving or walking into the church, please do not put yourself at risk. Stay home.

In case of snow or ice, please keep in mind that the church parking lot and walkways may not be totally clear. Our Property Committee will work hard to make the walkways and parking lot safe.

Changes and notifications will be announced as soon as possible. We will post notices on our website, and update our listing on WBTV Charlotte, WSOCTV, WCCB Charlotte, and WCNC Charlotte if there are cancelations or delays.

In rare instances that we do have schedule changes, please help us by contacting those who may not have internet access.

2022 Offering Envelopes

2022 offering envelopes that were left in the narthex have been mailed. Please be sure to throw away your 2021 envelopes just in case your number has changed. We want to be sure you are credited properly for your gifts.

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (12/26).....	\$12,353
Other Offering (12/26)	\$2,397
Worship Attendance (12/24)	86
Worship Attendance (12/26)	133
General Fund YTD Receipts as of 12/26	\$394,609
General Fund YTD Budget as of 12/26	\$403,000

Special Prayers for members of St. Paul's:

Franklin and Ashley Bowles - loss of home

Grady Earnhardt - Health concerns

Sonya Eller - Health concerns

Terry Eller - Recovering at home

Bishop Goodman - Aplastic anemia

Peyton Holland - Blood disorder

Emerson Holder - Health concerns

Shirley Hoosier - Health concerns

Alan Lyerly - Recovering at home

James Lyerly - Recovering at home

Mike Morris - Health concerns

Teresa Peeler - Health concerns

Jane Wilhelm - Health concerns

Steve Yost - Health concerns

Please let us know if any corrections to this list of concerns are needed. In an effort to keep the list current, we will try to update/remove prayer requests on a monthly basis, with the exception of known, prolonged issues.

Homebound and Long-Term Care:

Autumn Care: Walter Smith

Citadel: Mary Sherrill

Elmcroft: Helen Howe

Trinity Oaks: Barbara Whisnant

Home: Ray Beattie, Judy Bernhardt, Iverson and Gayle Brendle, John and Louise Cornelison, Barbara Deese, Ruby Heilig, Chuck and Linda Hess, Shirley Hoosier, Susan Lyerly, Carrie Reavis, Dottie Stancil, Barbara Upright, Polly Webb

Friends of St. Paul's:

Catie Critchfield - Great-granddaughter of Ed and Betty Niedens, health concerns

Ashley Fink - granddaughter of Larry and Leilani Watson, health concerns

Linda Jaramillo - Mother of Julie Jaramillo, health concerns

Chad, Terri, Maddy and Ella McConnell - Son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren of Stan McConnell, health concerns

Elizabeth Tancordo - Niece of Bill and Linda Behrendt, health concerns

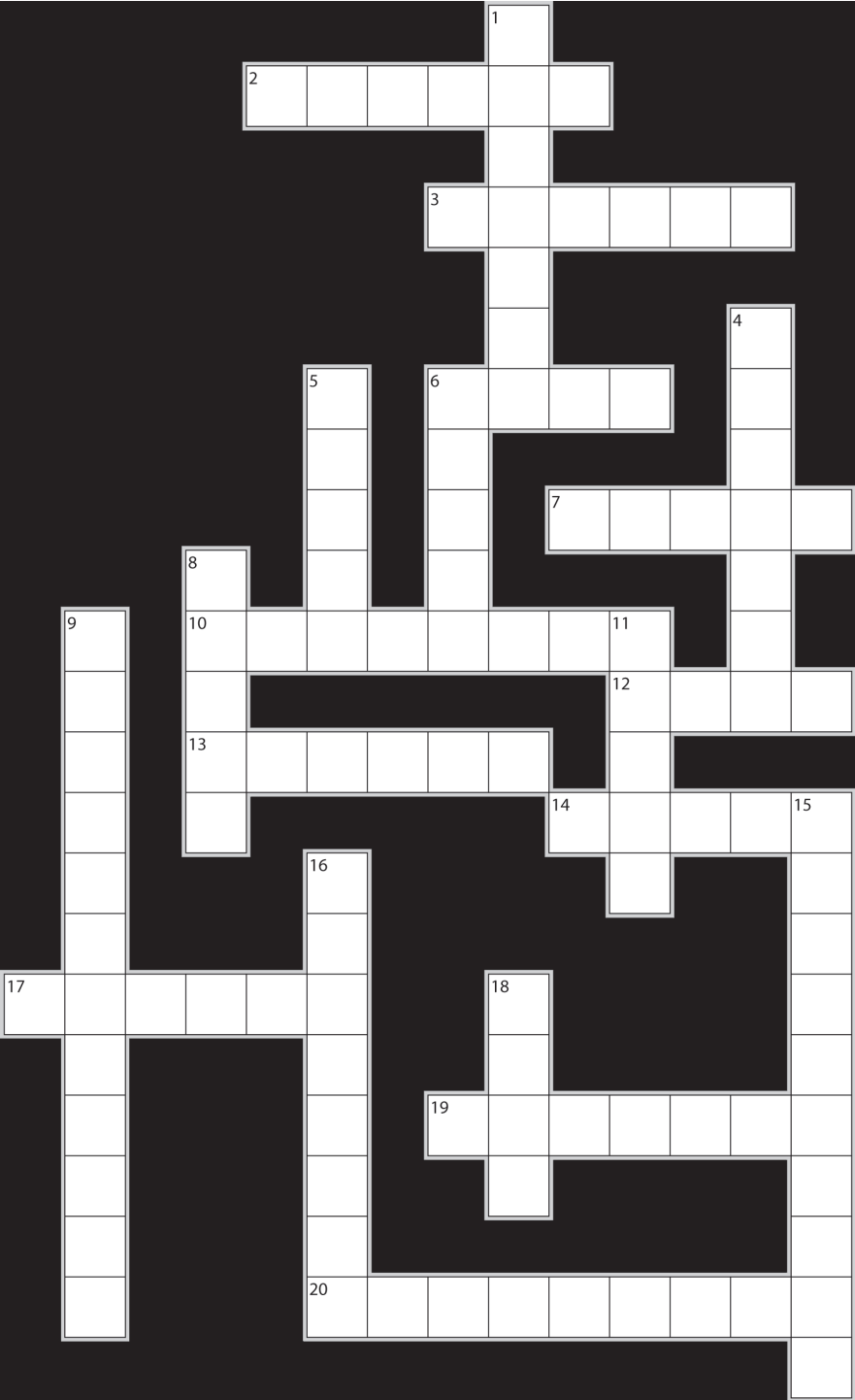
Leslie Ryman - Sister of Pastor Ryman, cancer

He Redeems Their Life

Find the 47 **bold** words from Psalm 72:8-15 (ESV)

G J N D X L Y I N V O K E D Z
D S R E V I L E D B P C C S A
G Y C T B V L S X O P V N B G
H T S U D E A E S E R V E R W
G I L B G S U V H S E H L D K
V P L I S D N A L T S A O C K
K T A R S H I S H R S M I Z B
W R C T T G T B N U I L V T L
E I M R I R N W O N O V H H O
A B A F E A O I I W N G E B O
K E T S T D C O S K I L N R D
I S E I M E N E P S P E F I L
N D O U R W R E D E E M S N O
G N Y P R A Y E R D D L O G N
S E B A B W U E Y S N M B I G

May he have **dominion** from sea to **sea**, and from the **River** to the **ends** of the **earth**! May **desert tribes** bow down before him, and his **enemies** lick the **dust**! May the **kings** of **Tarshish** and of the **coastlands** render him **tribute**; may the kings of **Sheba** and **Seba** bring **gifts**! May all kings fall down before him, all **nations** serve him! For he **delivers** the **needy** when he **calls**, the **poor** and him who has no **helper**. He has **pity** on the **weak** and the **needy**, and **saves** the **lives** of the needy. From **oppression** and **violence** he **redeems** their **life**, and **precious** is their **blood** in his **sight**. **Long** may he **live**; may **gold** of **Sheba** be given to him! May **prayer** be made for him **continually**, and **blessings** **invoked** for him all the day!



Two Year Daily Lectionary

Second Sunday after Christmas, Year B

Sunday – 1 Kings 3:5–14; Colossians 3:12–17; John 6:41–47

Monday – 1 Kings 19:9–18; Ephesians 4:17–32; John 6:15–27

Tuesday – Joshua 3:14–4:7; Ephesians 5:1–20; John 9:1–12, 35–38

Wednesday – Jonah 2:2–9; Ephesians 6:10–20; John 11:17–27, 38–44

Epiphany – Isaiah 49:1–7; Revelation 21:22–27; Matthew 12:14–21

Friday – Deuteronomy 8:1–3; Colossians 1:1–14; John 6:30–33, 48–51

Saturday – Exodus 17:1–7; Colossians 1:15–23; John 7:37–52

ACROSS

2. What is the “word of truth”? (Colossians 1:1–14)
3. Whoever believes in God will have this kind of water flowing from the heart. (John 7:37–52)
6. From where did the Lord call Isaiah? (Isaiah 49:1–7)
7. What is the bread which Jesus gives us? (John 6:41–47)
10. What is the gerund for the kind of food we should desire? (John 6:15–27)
12. In whose strength should we be strong? (Ephesians 6:10–20)
13. Who is the image of the invisible God? (Colossians 1:15–23)
14. Man doesn’t live on this only. (Deuteronomy 8:1–3)
17. The bread of God comes from here. (John 6:30–33, 48–51)
19. Who should arise from the dead? (Ephesians 5:1–20)
20. What belongs to the Lord in this reading? (Jonah 2:2–9)

DOWN

1. At what city did the people cross the Jordan? (Joshua 3:14–4:7)
4. How did God speak to Elijah? (1 Kings 19:9–18)
5. Whose light is Jesus? (John 9:1–12, 35–38)
6. What did the people want in this reading? (Exodus 17:1–7)
8. Let this rule in your hearts. (Colossians 3:12–17)
9. Jesus is this and the life. (John 11:17–27, 38–44)
11. What gives the city its light? (Revelation 21:22–27)
15. What kind of mind did the Lord give to Solomon? (1 Kings 3:5–14)
16. Who will hope in the name of God’s servant? (Matthew 12:14–21)
18. Put on this new thing. (Ephesians 4:17–32)



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922 ~ Fax: 704-636-1300

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: www.stpaulslutheran.church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

CHURCH STAFF

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Pamela Cottingham, Secretary

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jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Alison and Aaron Moore, Boy Scout Coordinators, 704-467-9191

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