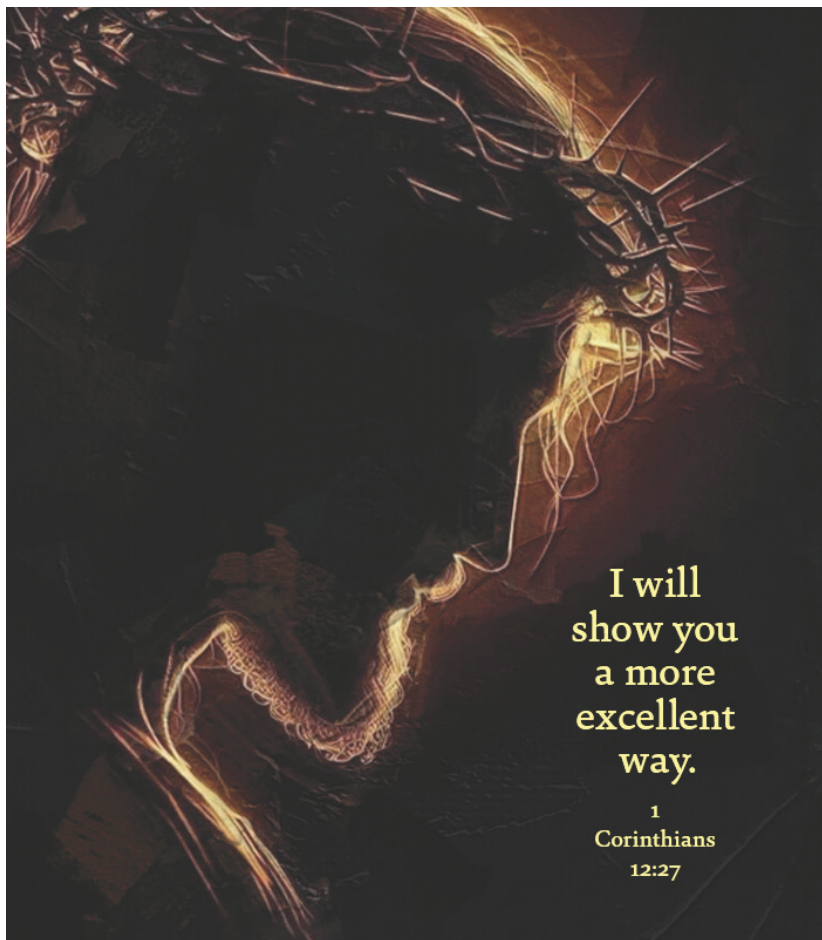




I will
show you
a more
excellent
way.

¹
Corinthians
12:27

Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 26, 2025 • 10:30AM

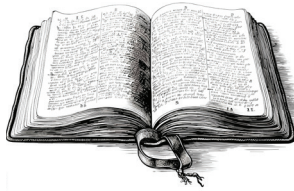
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Acolyte: Grace Walker • Crucifer: Sophie Hoffner
Cantor: Andrew Baker • Lector: Perry Bernhardt
Communion Assistants: Travis Alligood & Autumn Hill

This Week's Memory Verse

For 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.
(1 Corinthians 1:18)



Memory Verse Aid

FTWOTC
IFTTWAP,
BTUWABS
IITPOG.
(1C 1:18)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” C. Callahan

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness *Stand* 56

If 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.

Reflection and self-examination

¹You shall have no other gods before me.

**²You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

**³Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

**⁴Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵You shall not kill.

⁶You shall not commit adultery.

⁷You shall not steal.

**⁸You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

**⁹You shall not covet
your neighbor's house.**

**¹⁰You shall not covet your neighbor's wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor's.**

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. By Christ's authority alone, 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

Hymn: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

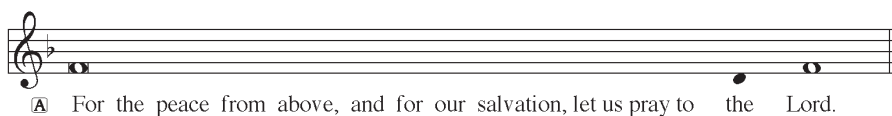
87

Greeting

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

57





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

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Musical notation for the vocal line of 'Amen'. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note Bb4. A double bar line follows. The melody continues with a quarter note C5, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. A slur covers the last four notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

[A] Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra- cious Lord. [C] A - men

Hymn of Praise

58

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. [1] Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.





Prayer of the Day



Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with his glory. We ask through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the

people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law.
¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our LORD. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 19:1–14

¹The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the firmament | shows his handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale | to another,
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**

³Although they have no | words or language,
and their voices | are not heard,

⁴**Their sound has gone out in- | to all lands,
and their message to the ends | of the world.**

⁵In the deep has he set a pavilion | for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of | it again;
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives
wisdom | to the innocent.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and
gives light | to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more
than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

**¹²Who can tell how often | he offends?
cleanse me from my | secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent
of a | great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable | in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12–31A

¹²Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

The word of the Lord.

Please stand for the Gospel.

62



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

63



Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

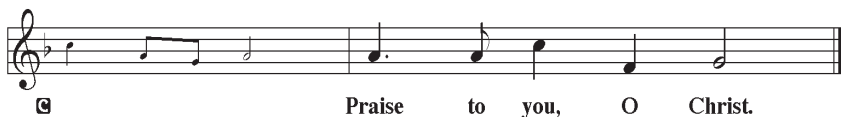
¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words

that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”²³ And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Physician, heal yourself.” What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.”

²⁴And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.

²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children’s Chat

Sermon: “The Word of the Lord”

Hymn: “Word of God, Speak”

Verse 1

I’m finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it’s okay
The last thing I need is to be heard
But to hear what you would say

Chorus

Word of God speak
Would you pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see your majesty
To be still and know
That you're in this place
Please let me stay and rest
In your holiness
(Word of God speak)

Verse 2

I'm finding myself in the midst of you
Beyond the music beyond the noise
All that I need is to be with you
And in the quiet hear your voice

Ending

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it's okay

Confession of Faith

65

Let us profess our faith in God using the
words of the Apostles Creed.

**¹I believe in God the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

²I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

³I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the Church

65

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

Following each prayer: 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

Offering

66

Anthem: "I Know Not What the Future Hath"

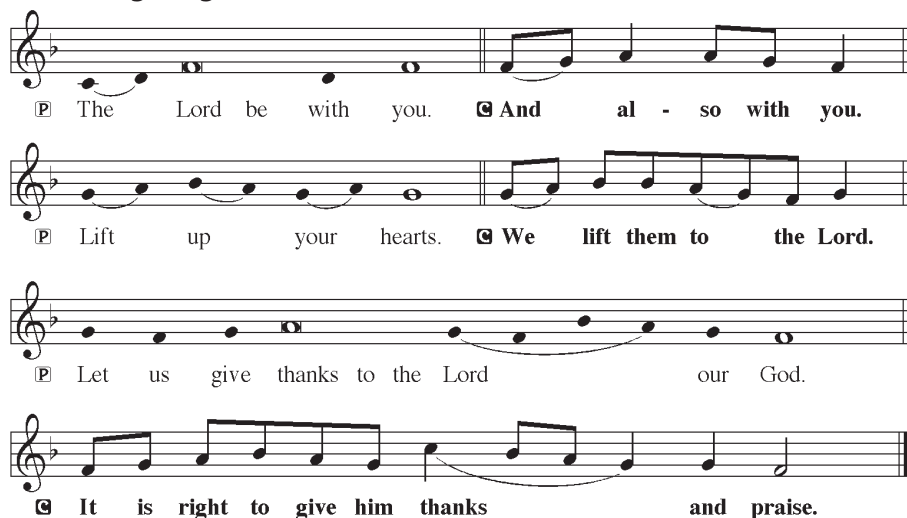
Adult Choir

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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. 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

Thanksgiving

68



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



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

71

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹hallowed be thy name,

²thy kingdom come,

³thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴Give us this day our daily bread;

⁵and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶and lead us not into temptation,

⁷but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

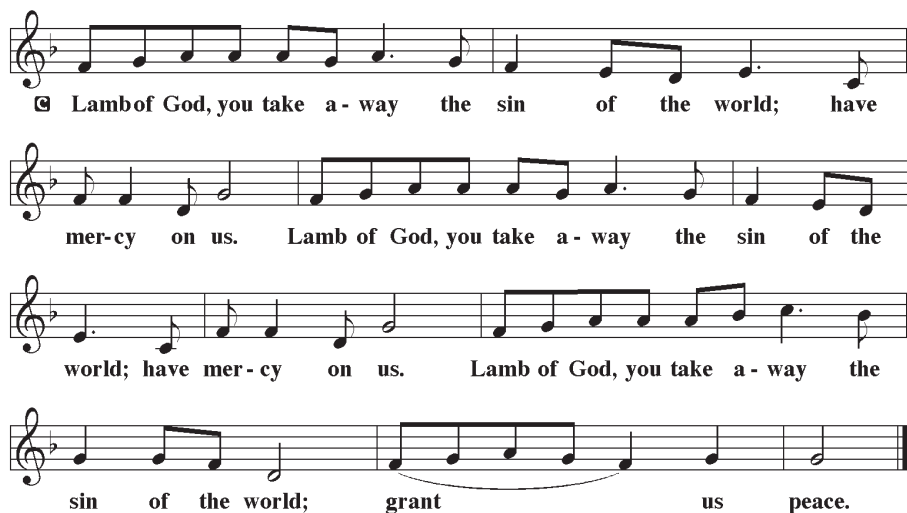
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Distribution of Holy Communion

71

If you need a gluten-free wafer or juice, please hold up your index finger in front of you as the server approaches you at the rail.



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; grant us peace.

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



Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.
 My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
 sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal you to the
 na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life—and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Postlude: “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” Arr. Mark Rippe

We remain seated, worshiping silently during the postlude, standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross, now at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Benediction

74

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

*The flower arrangement on the rail is given to the glory of God
and in honor of Betty Monroe’s 90th birthday
on January 27, by Brent, Lisa, and Chloe Monroe.*

Sweatpants and Leggings for Koontz Elementary

Lutheran Women are collecting sweatpants and leggings (new please) for Koontz Elementary School students. Sizes needed are Youth XS–2XL leggings or sweatpants for girls, and sweatpants for Youth boys small–2XL. Today is the last day we will collect these items.

Acolyte and Crucifer Training Today

Acolyte and Crucifer training will be held **today at 3 pm** in the sanctuary. This training is for any youth 4th grade or higher. Please contact Bethany Whisnant if your child plans to attend, or if you have any questions (704-640-2402).

New Member's Class

We appreciate all of our visitors, especially those who keep on coming. It's time to be a member.

A new members class will be taught by Pastor Ryman in the chapel for three consecutive Sundays. Please call the church office to let us know you will be in attendance so that the correct number of handouts will be available.

Noon–12:45 pm
February 9th, 16th, and 23rd

Outreach Committee Needs Photos

In preparation for our Beach/SOS Dinner on Saturday, February 15th, at 5:00, we would like to collect photos of church members. Maybe a photo of you dancing, a prom picture or any picture of you in high school. Gina Barringer is going to make a slide show for our dinner. After the meal we will have a guessing game with the photos. If you have a photo you want to **give to Gina** pass it on to her at church **or email the photo** ginabarringer@yahoo.com **by January 26th**. Please put your name on the picture so we will know who it is and so we may return it to you.

In preparation for our dinner Sandy and Tim Canup are offering Shag lessons on Thursday, February 6th and 13th. Come out for some fun and fellowship, and get a few steps in too.

Lutheran Men — January 27

The first 2025 meeting of St. Paul's Men will be on Monday, January 27th, at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting will include a program by well-known cyclist and runner, David Freeze. Rather than the always interesting programs about his cross-country bicycling trips, David will share about the serious farm accident he incurred in May of last year—one that threatened to end his bicycling and running careers.

We hope you'll join us as we kick off 2025 with this inspirational story of overcoming adversity, and the need for being prepared for unexpected twists and turns that life brings us.

Sunday, January 26

- Facility Accessibility Committee, 2pm
- Acolyte and Crucifer Training, 3pm
- Men’s Choir, 4pm
- Handbell Choir, 5pm
- Vespers, 6pm

Monday, January 27

- Lutheran Men’s meeting, 6:30pm
- Outreach Committee, 6:30pm

Tuesday, January 28

- Bible Study class, 10am and 6pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:30pm

Wednesday, January 29

- Autumn Care chapel service, 2pm
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation, 7pm

Thursday, January 30

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–12pm

Sunday, February 2

- Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Youth & Family Committee, 2pm
- Men’s Choir, 4pm
- Handbell Choir, 5pm
- No Vespers tonight

General Fund Offering (1/19).....	\$8,311
Other Offering (1/19)	\$7,693
Sunday School Attendance (1/19)	59
Worship Attendance (1/19)	159

Children’s Change Collection

Last Sunday: \$148 Total so far: \$297.50
During the first quarter of 2025,
the children’s change collections
will benefit Lutherans for Life.

Recent Prayer Needs

- Betty Camerlin – home
- Edna Chapman – High Point Regional hospital, room 628
- Nancy Crapster, friend of Sandy Corley – health concerns
- Terry Eller – recovering from surgery
- Matt Holland – health concerns
- Della Jenkins – Terra Bella Assisted Living
- Randy Johnson – health concerns
- Alan Lyerly – recovering from surgery
- Andrea Lyerly – health concerns
- Phyllis Lynch, mother of Sherry Barringer – health concerns
- Michelle Orbison – health concerns
- Jenn Stringham, friend of the Lord family – health concerns
- Barbara Upright – Liberty Commons Rehab
- Scott Watson, son of Larry & Leilani Watson – health concerns
- Rick Walker – health concerns
- Steve Yost – health concerns

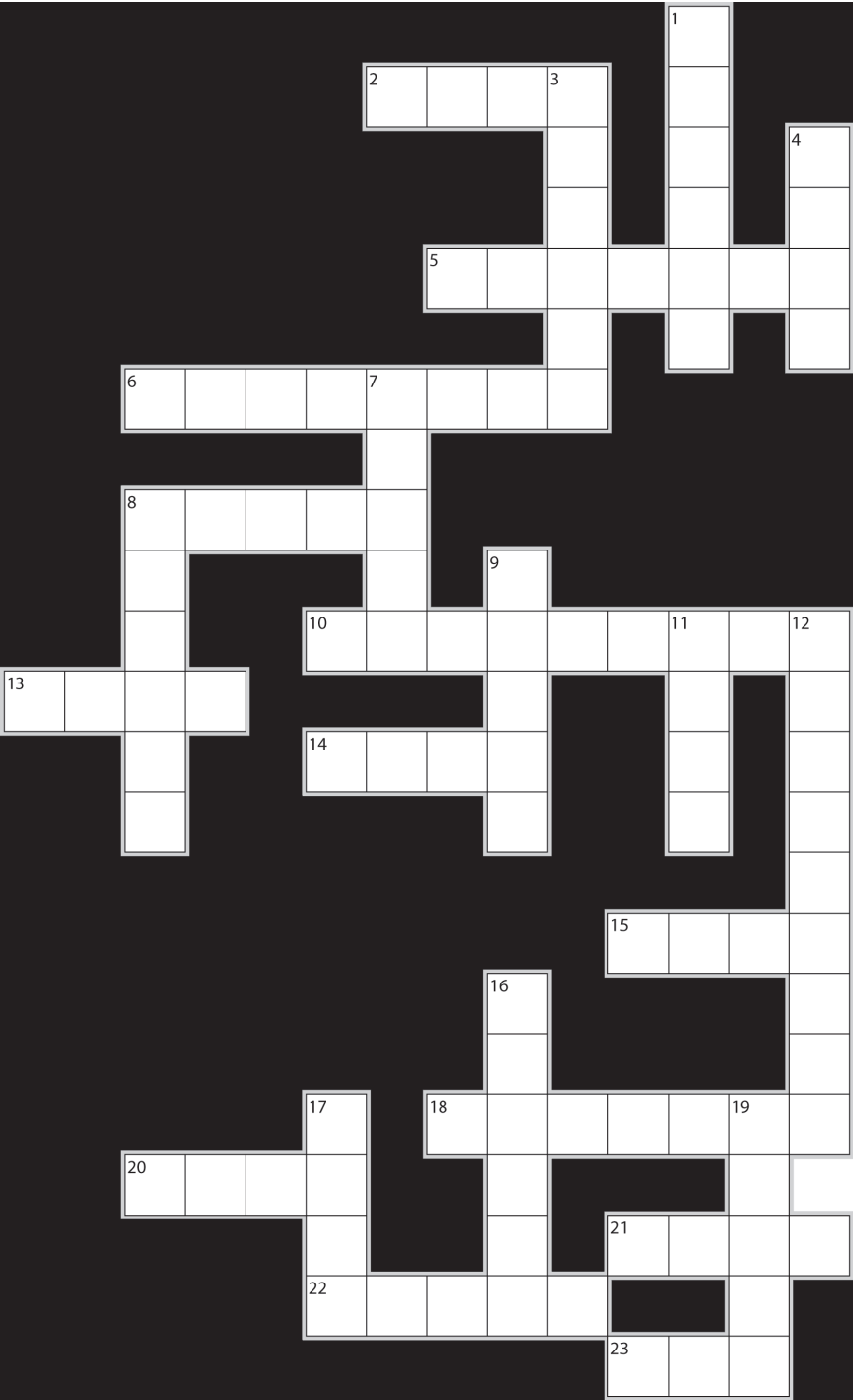
For a longer list of prayer needs, please consult The Monthly Epistle. This page in the bulletin is to make you aware of the most recent prayer needs. Typically, after one month on this list the name and request will have migrated to The Monthly Epistle.

2025 Cruise'n Barbecue Planning

The new year means it's time for the Cruise 'n Barbecue steering committee to begin planning for the big day on April 26th. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be distributed today. Thank you for making St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue one of the area's favorite and most enjoyable events!

Winter Weather Policy

Monday through Friday, if schools are closed, activities at St. Paul's are cancelled. For Sundays, consult the church website, WBTV, WCCB, WCNC, or WSOC.



Epiphany 3C

Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19:7-14;

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:16-30.

The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle.

ACROSS

2. What the people said after the priest blessed the Lord
5. The body is one but has many of these.
6. No prophet is acceptable there.
8. What the people did when the scroll was opened.
10. Where Jesus went on the Sabbath
13. The people told this scribe to bring a scroll (book).
14. The commandment of the Lord is...
15. The Law of the Lord revives this...
18. The Law of the Lord is...
20. We are baptized into one...
21. Slaves or...
22. The Levites helped the people understand by giving this about the Book of the Law.
23. In Nehemiah, all the people gathered as one...

DOWN

1. If one member of the body suffers, all...
3. The one leper who was cleansed
4. The testimony of the Lord makes the simple...
7. When the Scripture was fulfilled in the hearing of the people.
8. He anointed Jesus to preach.
9. The people gathered before this gate.
11. The rules of the Lord are more desirable than this.
12. Jesus has shown us this way.
16. Jews or...
17. These were fixed on Jesus.
19. The fear of the Lord is...



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

Wi-Fi: splcguest – pass: SavedbyGrace

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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wingman@stpaulslutheran.church

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jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
splcjwl63@gmail.com

Amy Barringer, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-633-6368

Next weeks lessons: Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19; Psalm 71:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13; Luke 4:31-44

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

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