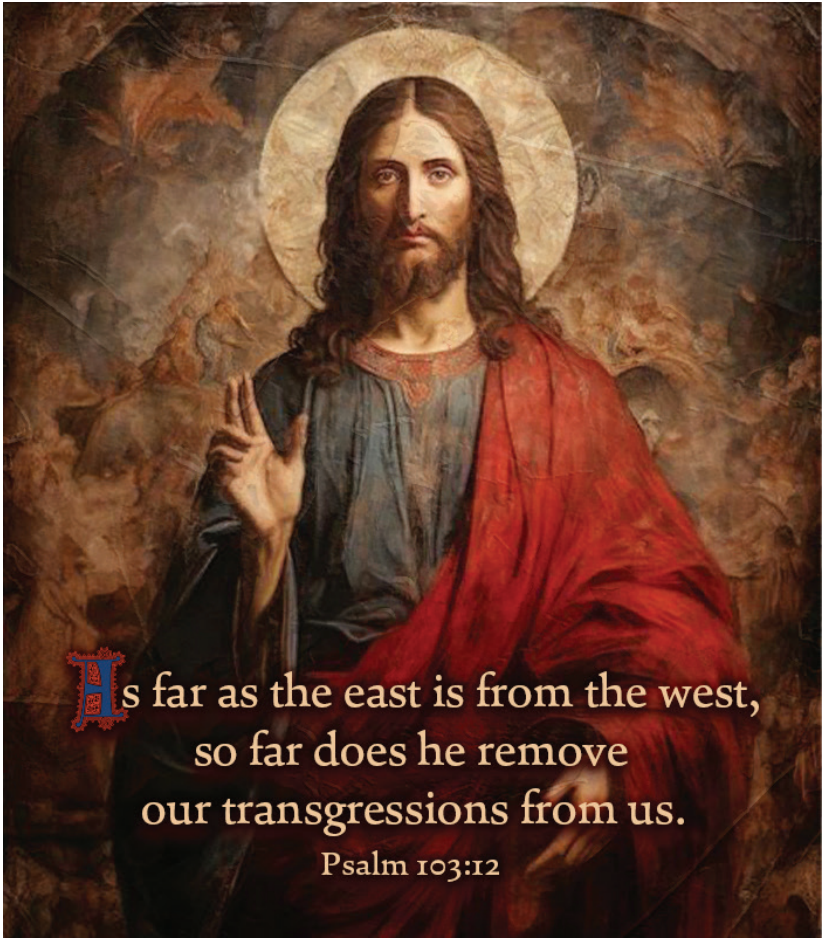




Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 23, 2025 • 10:30AM

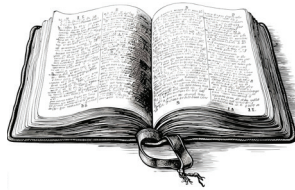
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Acolyte: Sutton Fisher • Crucifer: Sara Barringer
Cantor: John Brock • Lector: Alyssa McCraven
Communion Assistants: Bonnie Hinson & Susan Ryman

This Week's Memory Verse

You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind.
This is the great and first commandment.
And a second is like it:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
(Matthew 22:37-39)



Memory Verse Aid

YSLTLYG
WAYH
AWAYS
AWAYM.
TITGAFC.
AASIL:
YSLYNAY.
(M223739)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues”

Robert Hobby

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness *Stand*

56

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: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

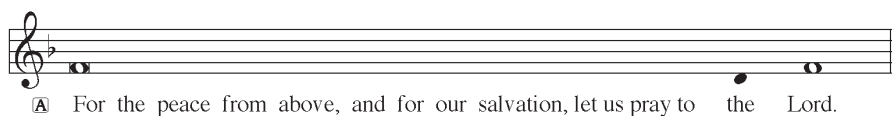
559

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.

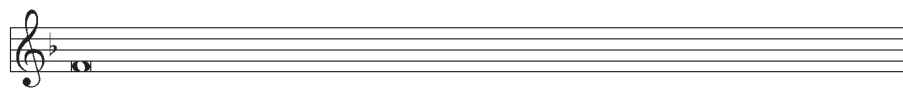
The Kyrie

57

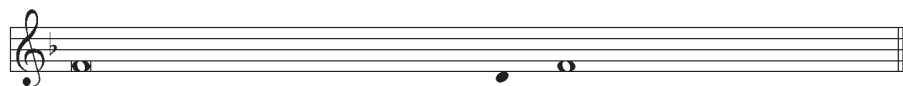




☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



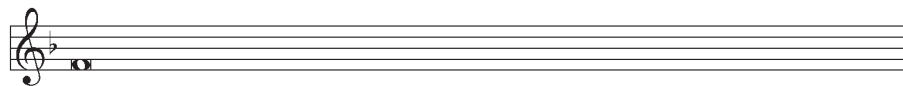
☐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



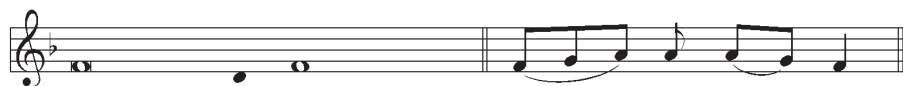
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.

☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



☐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. ☐ 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. ☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



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





Prayer of the Day



O God, you know our fears and lack of confidence. Forgive our willful ways, and defend our faith through the teaching of your Christ, through whom you gather saints to give you glory without end. Grant this, we pray, 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: Genesis 45:3-15

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. ⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

⁵And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

¹¹There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.'

¹²And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 103:1–13

¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all his benefits.**

³He forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your infirmities;

⁴**He redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and | lovingkindness;**

⁵He satisfies you | with good things,
and your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

⁶**The LORD ex- | ecutes righteousness
and judgment for all who | are oppressed.**

⁷He made his ways | known to Moses
and his works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

⁸**The LORD is full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and | of great kindness.**

⁹He will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will he keep his an- | ger forever.

¹⁰**He has not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor rewarded us according | to our wickedness.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so is his mercy great upon | those who fear him.

¹²**As far as the east is | from the west,
so far has he removed our | sins from us.**

¹³As a father cares | for his children,
so does the LORD care for | those who fear him.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

³⁰Why are we in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”

³³Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame. ³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

³⁹For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. ⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

The word of the Lord.



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

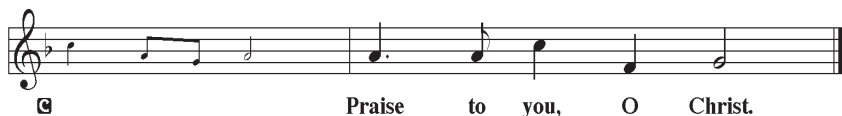
63



Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

²⁷[Jesus said,] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. ³¹And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. ³²If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.

³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. ³⁷Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon: "The Two Tables"

Hymn: "When Peace Like a River"

346

Confession of Faith

65

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

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

2 I 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.

**3 I 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

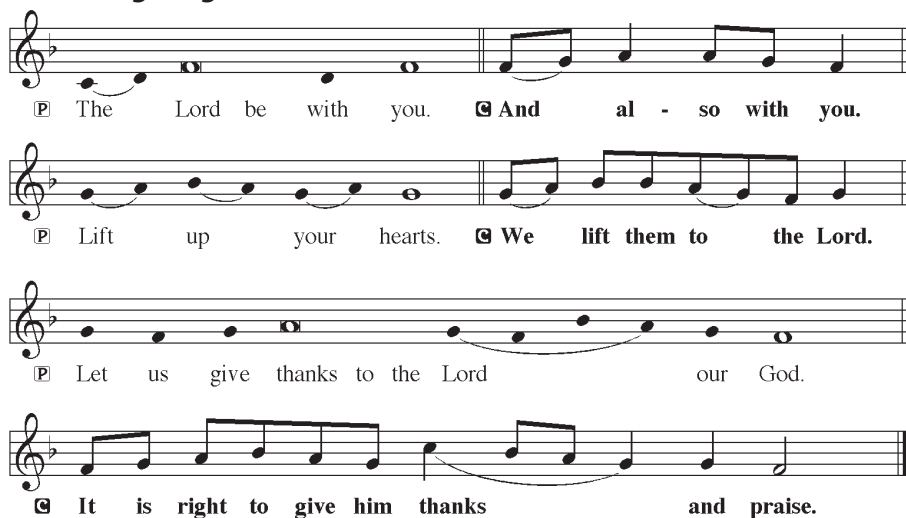
Offering

66

Anthem: “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” Susan Ryman

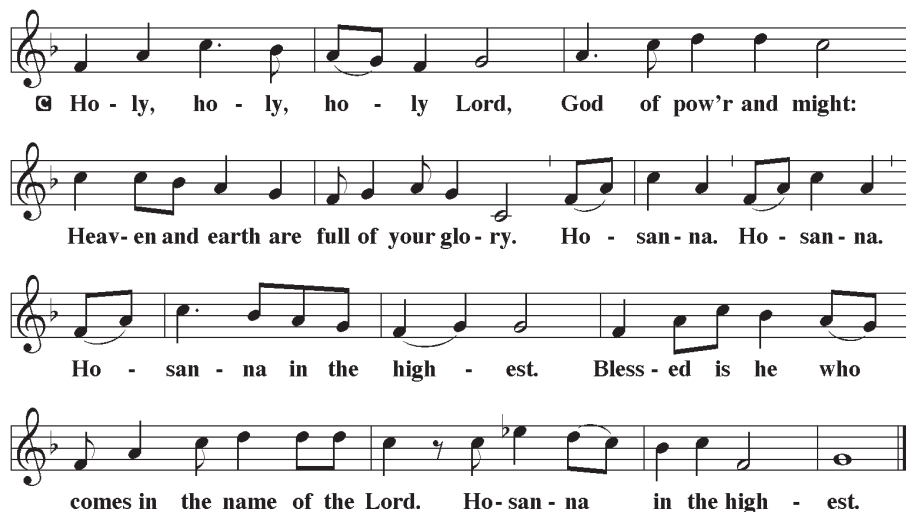
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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



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
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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,

¹**hallowed be thy name,**

²**thy kingdom come,**

³**thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴**Give us this day our daily bread;**

⁵**and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶**and lead us not into temptation,**

⁷**but 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

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

Postlude: “Westminster Abbey”

Paul Manz

*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



*We extend our love and sympathy
to the family of Andrea Lyerly,
who died on Thursday, February 13, 2025.
Please keep her husband, James,
and all the Lyerly family in your prayers.*

*We extend our love and sympathy
to the family of Barbara Whisnant,
who died on Monday, February 17, 2025.
Please keep her son Kenneth, and all
the Whisnant family in your prayers.*

New Member’s Class

As no one signed up for the New Members classes in February, we will offer the class again in March. If you are interested in joining St. Paul’s, **please call the church office** so we may prepare the necessary number of handouts.

Noon–12:45 pm
March 2nd, 9th, and 16th

Blood Drive Results

Thanks to the wonderful response of our members and to the tremendous support of Red Cross donors, our church blood drive collected a total of 44 units of blood. Twenty members of our church registered to donate and 22 Red Cross donors registered to donate.

Thanks to donors and church volunteers who helped make our first 2025 blood drive at St. Paul’s a tremendous success. The next blood drive is Monday, May 19th.



General Fund Offering (2/16)	\$7,033
Other Offering (2/16).....	\$29,371
Sunday School Attendance (2/16).....	70
Worship Attendance (2/16).....	150

Children’s Change Collection

Last Sunday: \$127.50 Total so far: \$895.00
During the first quarter of 2025, the children’s change collections will benefit Lutherans for Life.

Sunday, February 23

- Lyerly family visitation at Powles–Staton Funeral Home, 3–5pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers, 6pm

Monday, February 24

- Funeral service for Andrea Lyerly, St. Paul's sanctuary, 2pm
- Lutheran Men's meeting, 6:30pm

Tuesday, February 25

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

Wednesday, February 26

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation, 7pm

Thursday, February 27

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–12pm

Sunday, March 2

- Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am in the fellowship hall
- Girl Scout Sunday, 10:30am worship
- Membership class, Noon–12:45pm
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Youth & Family Committee meeting, 2pm
- College Ministry meeting with Pastor Lord, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers, 6pm

Clean Sweep Day for the Cemetery

St. Paul's Cemetery Committee will clean away **everything** from the cemetery on March 29th. This includes **all** flowers, ornaments, etc. If you have a flower in the cemetery that you wish to keep, you should remove it **before March 29th**, or it will be thrown away. You may return your flowers to the cemetery after the clean-up. Please spread the word.

Love Your Enemies

Find the 28 bold words from Luke 6:27-34 KJV.

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

But I say unto you which **hear**, **love your enemies**, do **good** to them which **hate** you, **bless** them that **curse** you, and **pray** for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that **smiteth** thee on the one **cheek offer** also the **other**; and him that taketh away thy **cloak forbid not** to take thy **coat** also. Give to every man that **asketh** of thee; and of him that **taketh** away thy **goods** ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them **likewise**. For if ye love them which **love** you, what **thank** have ye? for **sinners** also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye **lend** to them of whom ye **hope** to **receive**, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to **sinners**, to receive as much again.

Recent Prayer Needs

- Gina Barringer – recovering from surgery
- Edna Chapman – Pine Acres Center for Rehab, Lexington
- Karen Deal – recovering from surgery
- Barbara Deese – health concerns
- Mitch Drew, family of Jimmy and Mary Lee Earnhardt – health concerns
- Della Jenkins – Terra Bella Assisted Living
- Randy Johnson – recovering from surgery
- Shiela Barringer – health concerns
- Zack Lemmon, family of Jimmy and Mary Lee Earnhardt – health concerns
- Kay Moody – recovering from surgery
- Stan Parnell, family of Jimmy and Mary Lee Earnhardt – health concerns
- Rex Phelps – recovering from surgery
- Barbara Upright – Liberty Commons Rehab

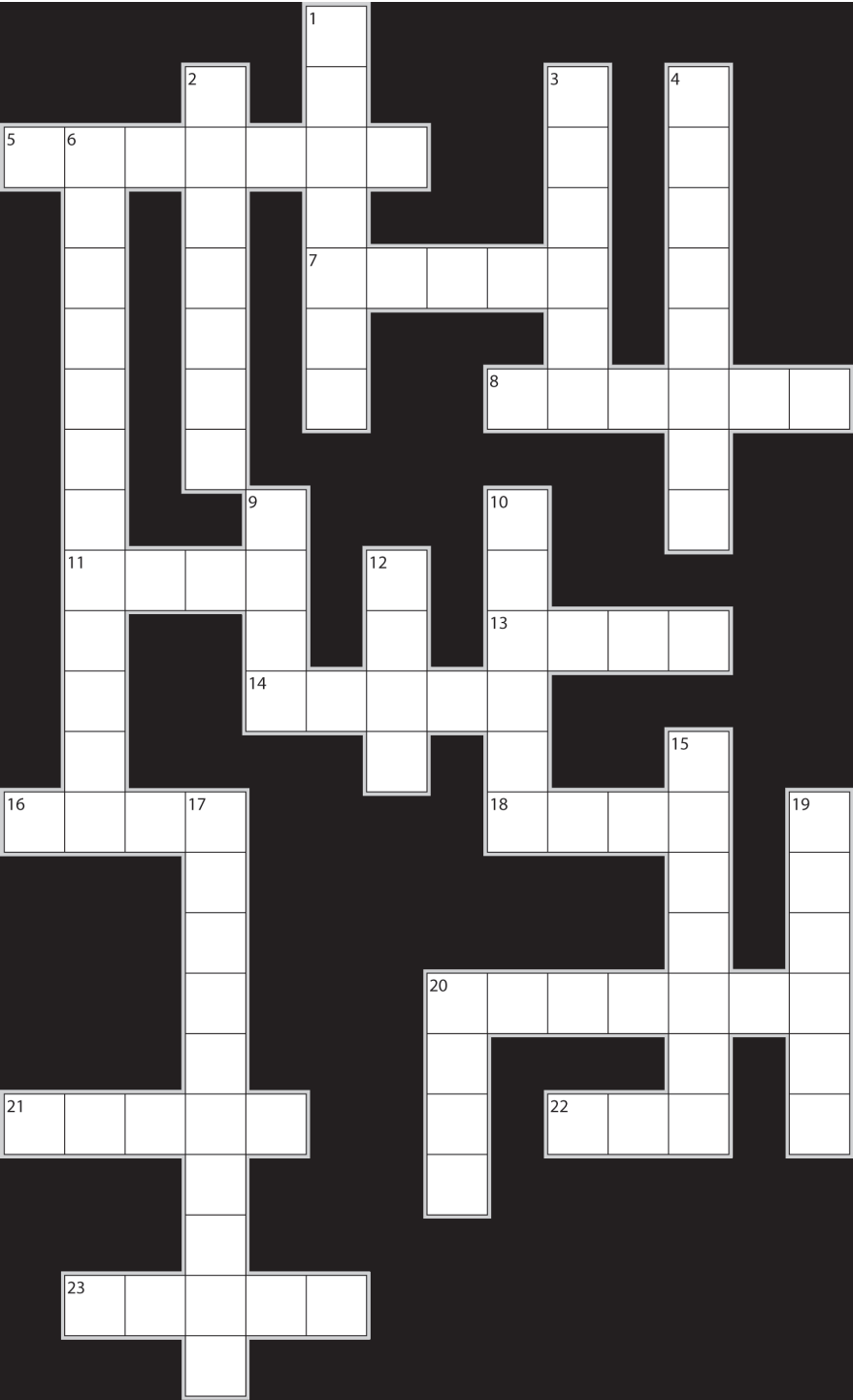
For a longer list of prayer needs, please consult The Monthly Epistle. This page in the bulletin is to make you aware of the most recent prayer needs. Typically, after one month on this list the name and request will have migrated to The Monthly Epistle.



Eagle Scout Project Fundraiser

Andrew Baker is working on his **Eagle Scout project** at Union Lutheran. He is planning to build and install a free little library, and cleaning up their playground. He is doing an all-you-can-eat spaghetti lunch at Union Lutheran Church as a fundraiser, and is **inviting the members of St. Paul's** to the lunch. The lunch will be **Sunday, March 2**, following worship in the Dutch Meeting Hall at Union Lutheran Church. Minor alternatives will be provided for any dietary concerns. Drinks will be provided.

All proceeds will go towards the Eagle Scout Project (Boy Scout Troop 315). A suggested donation of \$10 or any monetary amount of your choosing is greatly appreciated.



Epiphany 7C

Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from

Genesis 45:3-15; Psalm 103:1-13;

1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42; and Luke 6:27-38.

The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle.

ACROSS

5. Do not go on doing this.
7. Our youth is renewed like this bird.
8. In him all shall be made alive.
11. Do good to those who do this.
13. Bless the Lord with all of this.
14. The last enemy to be destroyed
16. Paul says sarcastically that if they are not raised then we may as well be hedonistic.
18. Bless the Lord's holy...
20. God made Joseph a father to him.
21. God made his ways known to this patriarch.
22. The Lord redeemed Joseph's, Jesus' and our lives from there.
23. If someone strikes you, offer him this.

DOWN

1. Even they love those who love them.
2. Love them.
3. He revealed himself to his dismayed brothers.
4. The Lord forgives all our...
6. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is...
9. Do this, expecting no return.
10. Joseph would have his family live there.
12. In him all die.
15. God sent Joseph to Egypt to preserve this.
17. Joseph told his brothers not to feel this way.
19. Joseph wondered if he was still alive.
20. Do this for them who abuse you.



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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Eric Barringer, Council President
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John Brock, Music Director
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Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
splcjwl63@gmail.com

Amy Barringer, Girl Scout Coordinator, abarringer@bellsouth.net

Next weeks lessons: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 99; Hebrews 3:1-6; Luke 9:28-36

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)