

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ~ JANUARY 18, 2026



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325

**"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Let us pray.....Mighty God, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

**"Arise, Your Light Has Come!"**

#314

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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*please be seated*

## First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” <sup>4</sup> 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.” <sup>5</sup> 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— <sup>6</sup> 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.” <sup>7</sup> 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.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsive Reading

## Psalm 40:1-11

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

<sup>8</sup> **'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

Children's Sermon

Paul Fuelling

*please stand in body or spirit*

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

page 142

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’<sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”<sup>32</sup> And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.<sup>33</sup> 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.’<sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,<sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”<sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup> 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?”<sup>39</sup> 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.<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.<sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).<sup>42</sup> 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).

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Hymn of the Day

“Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult”

#696

Apostle's Creed

**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 church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Give  Online

#184

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught 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*

## HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

## Communion Hymns

“Here I Am, Lord”

#574

“Christ, Be Our Light”

#715

*please stand in body or spirit*

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Blessing

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

#665

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

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# “GOD, IN FLESH, WITH US”



**Welcome:** A warm welcome to all on this cold winter morning! May you know the fire of God's love as we worship in the name of Jesus, who showed us how to love.

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Dennis & Claudia Moellman, Gene Beckman, Robert Tatum, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Ron Eickhoff, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Mary Ann Oelrichs (grandmother of Nicholas Dieckman), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Debra Eichler, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eckhoff, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



**Nursing Home:** Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash and Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *Anew*. Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten & Arlene Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *EW Thompson*

**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



Congratulations to Josh & Katie Jackson on the birth of a son, Cade Elliott. He was born on January 6th. Cade is the brother of Creed and Clay.

**Annual Meeting:** It is time to regroup and find out where we have been in 2025 and where we want to be 2026. Come and spend time with us **today**. After worship we will enjoy a soup and chili lunch together, stretch our legs and then gather at 12:15pm in the Sanctuary for the annual meeting.



**Circle:** Esther Circle will be on Monday, **January 19th** at 7:00pm at the home of Rhonda Schlesselman.

**Newsletter:** The Sunbeam committee will meet on Wednesday, **January 28nd** at 3:00pm.



**Chili Cookoff Results:** Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Luther League Annual Chili Cookoff last Sunday. Thank you to those who helped by eating, voting, making chili, and serving. The Luther League appreciated all your support. Susan Goosen claimed both the best chili and most creative chili categories. On her heels for best chili were Jason Nash and Luke Goosen. Luke Goosen was also right behind her for most creative chili. Emily Kullman completely swept the spiciest chili category-did you try it with lime and sour cream? Delish! Congratulations to all our winners. We hope everyone can join the Luther League for our upcoming Pancake Breakfast on **February 15th!**

**Envelopes:** The 2026 offering envelopes are available in the Link. If there isn't a box for you and you would like 2026 offering envelopes, please contact Russell Oelrichs or the church office to request a box.





## ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2025 giving statements are available for pick up in the Link. If you have questions about them or believe that you should have received one and can't find it, please speak with Russel Oelrichs.

**Souper Bowl:** The Cole Camp Food Pantry once again invites local churches and organizations to participate in the annual Souper Bowl of Caring collection. The church or organization with the most items donated by the day of the other "big game" on **February 8th** will win the coveted traveling trophy. Donations can be any non-perishable food item. Join us for this friendly competition as we fight hunger in our community one item of food at a time!



**Planning:** Worship & Music committee will meet on Wednesday, **January 21st** at 3:30pm.



## SOUPER BOWL

**Health Care:** The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **January 15th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



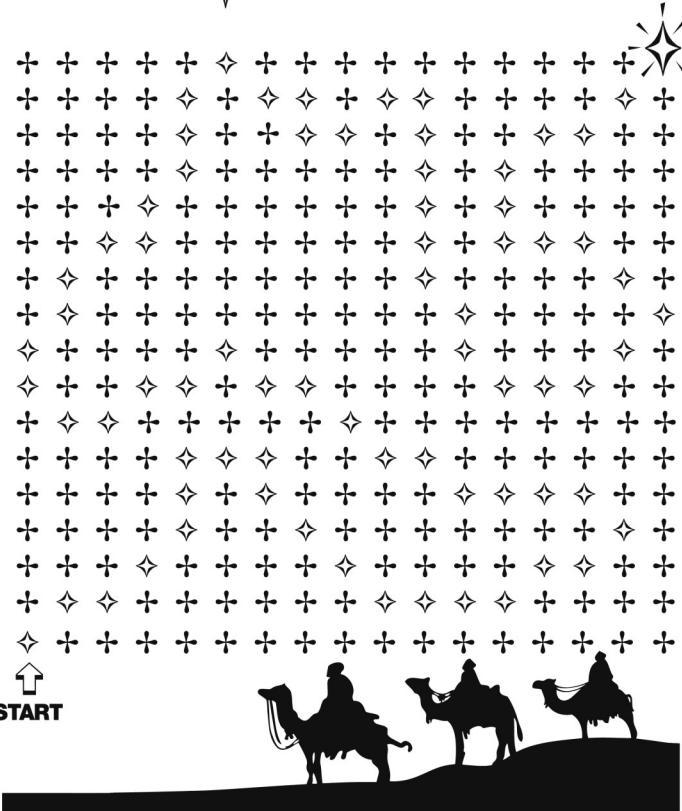
Worship Team



**Mark your calendars:** Lent comes early this year. Ash Wednesday is on **February 18th**.

# Puzz]e!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the ✶ path that leads to baby Jesus.



Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

L D O G      N C A K N R I E N F S E      R Y H M R

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, January 18:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
	AW	Soup & Chili Lunch
	12:15pm	Annual Meeting
Monday, January 19:	7:00pm	Esther Circle
Wednesday, January 21:	3:00pm	Worship & Music Meeting
Thursday, January 22:	8:00am	BCHD
Saturday, January 24:	5:30pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, January 25:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations



### **~ \* ~ Coming Events ~ \* ~**

January 18.....	Annual Meeting
January 19.....	Esther Circle
January 21.....	Worship & Music Meeting
January 28.....	Sunbeam
February 8.....	SOUPer Bowl Challenge Ends
February 15.....	Luther League Pancake Breakfast
February 18.....	Ash Wednesday

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

<b>Ministers</b>	The Whole Congregation
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Stephen Zeller
<b>Organist</b>	Sandy Schlesselman
<b>Pianist</b>	Jeannette VonHolten
<b>AV Technicians</b>	Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Janice Gerken & Rhonda Schlesselman
<b>Ushers</b>	Melinda Strathman, Head Usher Chad Schlesselman, Randy Schlesselman & Steve Triplett



## Second Sunday after Epiphany ~ January 18, 2026

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Janice Gerken
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Luther League
<b>Reader</b>	Tiffinay Nash
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	Paul Fuelling
<b>Acolytes</b>	Lexi Goyette & Gannon Elliott
<b>Flowers</b>	Shirley Logan



## Third Sunday after Epiphany ~ January 25, 2026

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Oelrichs
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Erin Oelrichs & Greg Bredehoeft
<b>Reader</b>	Brian Randall
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	Joyce Schlesselman
<b>Acolytes</b>	Lauren Jackson & Kale Kruep
<b>Flowers</b>	Diann Holsten

# EPIPHANY

