

4th of Epiphany — February 1, 2026

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Absolution

Pg 94-95

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C Amen.**

L 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. **C Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are captive 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.

L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

People: Amen.

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn

Give Me Jesus

ELW 770

Apostolic Greeting

ELW Pg. 147

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all. C And also with you.

Glory to God

ELW Pg. 148

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

People: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

L The Lord be with you

C And also with you

L Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

¹ Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God? Holy Wisdom, Holy Word C Thanks be to God!

Psalm 15 spoken

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise

by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are,²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God.³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” Holy wisdom, holy word. **C** **Thanks be to God**

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

ELW Pg. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel according to Matthew in the 5th Chapter. C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Blest Are They

ELW 728

Apostles 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.**

Installation of Council of the Congregation

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

Vinni Carey— President	Julie Brewster
Diane Boscarino—Vice President	Beth Brower
Pamela Little— Treasurer	Dana O'Brien
Judy Ludwig— Secretary	Robin Potwora
	Jeanette Richard

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

People: We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as officers / council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.



Prayers of the Church

L: Let us pray for a faith that can embrace God's wisdom for us: justice, mercy, humility, meekness, peace and love. **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

L: For those on our prayer list this healing Sunday...*AM and L read first names off the prayer list.*

AM: in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

AM: For a church that hears the cries, comforts and protects the weeping ones, challenges the harmful ones, and never turns away, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

AM: For a church that hears the lies, tells the truth, challenges the falsehoods, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

AM: For a church that sees the greed, lifts up the poor, and advocates for fair access to the necessities of life, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

AM: For a church that witnesses brutality, defends the brutalized, and teaches gentleness as holy, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

AM: For a church that feels the divisiveness, welcomes those who are scorned, and sees in all people the handiwork of God, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer.**

L: For all this, and all else we need, in your mercy, **People: Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace.

The offering is received

Anthem: We Will Rejoice and Be Glad Words & Music: Mark Peterson

This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad! Let us give thanks, let us exalt him, let us rejoice in the things he has done. This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice, rejoice and be glad. This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad. We will rejoice and sing to the Lord, the Lord of creation. Lift up your praises to heaven above. This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice, rejoice and be glad! Sing Hallelujah to the Lord. Praise him with every voice. Come give him praise, come give him glory, sing Hallelujah forevermore! Sing Hallelujah to the Lord. Sing to the Lord, come sing and rejoice. This is the day, this is the day. We will rejoice and be glad, we will rejoice!

Offertory Hymn

ELW 184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving – page 152

L The Lord be with you. C And also with you.
L Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.
L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Proper Preface is chanted.

L It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus Pg. 152

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Great Thanksgiving

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen

Agnus Dei Pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion is distributed.

Communion Music

Post Communion Prayer

Benediction

L The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace C Amen.

Closing Hymn

We Are Called

ELW 720

Dismissal

AM Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord and your neighbors.
C Thanks be to God

Postlude

Thank you for coming.

May God's peace be yours today.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a listing of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below.

Ben, Sheryl & Nik Ahrens	Jason Lashbrook	Sigrid Smitley	Jason R
Connie Aparo	Gail Lavoie	Paul Smith	Diane L.
Phil Bascetta	Edwin Leifert	John Sproat	Holly L.
Charlie Blakeslee	John Lewis	Jennifer Stella	Al & Mary
Kathleen Bowler	David Little	Deb & Jon Sterling	Isaac
Cherie Brown	Rebecca Little	Tom Sterling Sr.	Friends and Family of Dana Steele
Sharon Cable	Amy & Dave Louen	RuthAnn Stone	Our Nursing Home Members
Kathy Ann Campbell	Kari Machowski	Patricia Switzer	Dee Gammon
Angelo & Nicole Capasso	Mary Ellen Mackinnon	Gloria Thibault	Midge Rosenbeck
Carol Cianciolo	Jerry MacManus	Andy Thomas	Judy Schaller
Ann Combs	Irene Madore	Julia Thompson Carroll	Ernest Marquard
Leif Dallaire	Audrey Marquard	Susan Tycienski	Mae Fay
Emily Decker	Abigail Marine	Lucille Videtto	Francine Ahrens
Linda Dellano	Richard Marine	Carol Vrlik	Betty Hilton
Carla Derrickson	Janis Martin	Evelyn Walters	Walter Joray
Winifried Diorio	Gil & Marilyn Martin	Steve Warner	Our Military Friends
Irene Douglas	Gladys Medina	Sue Watkins	Lord Jesus, Savior of the
J.J. Eby	Michael Meyers	Kim Weissman	World and King of Peace,
Judy Elliott	Kate Merrow	Bruce Yauney	watch over our sons and
Diane Engle	Colin Moore	Clayton Young	daughters in the service of
Walt Esker	Brigitte Mueller	Clarence & Priscilla	their Country. Protect them
Jan Eucalitto	Bob Murphy	Ed	from the physical and moral
Jennifer Ezzo	Barbara Nalette	Jen O.	dangers. Keep them close to
Weston Faith	Karen Ness	Jaiden	you and help them live the
Bruce & Liz Falls	Tom O'Brien	Steve	commandments. Lord, Jesus
Tommy Fitzpatrick	Lea Orriola & family	Lou W.	give them courage to serve
Bob Frantz	Karen Pagano	Steve	their country with honor and
Ashley Friday	Russell Palmer	Todd	dignity. Be with them when
John Fox	Maria Payne	Robert K.	they are in danger; strengthen
Joan Gerard	Lisa & Dennis Polzun	Terry	them when they face hardship.
Danise Hall	Caroline Quintal	Joe	Above all Lord, grant that
Jack & Barbara Heintz	Leisa Radzins	Carol G.	when their service is finished
Brayden Herzberg	Ed & Susan Regner	Kristen & Jared	that they may return to us,
Renate Higgins	Gordon Richard	Vinny	sound in mind, body and soul.
Charles Hilton	Jonathan Richard	Hagbard	Amen.
Kathleen Hilton	Louise Roche	Carolina	Tyler Quinn
Shannon Hilton	Baerbel Roehl	Robert P.	Eric Beyus
Jake Hoadley	Patricia & Richard	Peanut	Major Zachary Fulton
Sven Holmgren	Sawitzke	Colleen	Brandan Holbrook
Erma Horn	Holly Schaff	Ken	Jonathan Connell
Eunice Jones	Rosemary & Otto Schibi	Kathy	Tom Gregg, Jr.
Rusty Judd	Denae Seelye	Jaxson	Eric Bremer
Colin Keeley	Sara Seelye	Gail	Peter Hutchinson
Marilyn Killingbeck	Matt Simpson	F.C.H.	SPC Dominic Boscarino
	Lori Sola	Stephan	PVT Noah Braatz
	Dana Steele		PVT 2 Christian Braatz
			Aiden Avenia USCG
			2nd Lt. Ben Speaker
			Pvt. Noah Roy

Around the Church

Event	Date	Time
Finance	2/4	6:00 pm
Blood Drive	2/5	1-6
Grinder Sale pick up	2/7	Noon-1 pm
Council	2/9	7 pm
TAFA Prom	2/13	6 pm
Breakfast	2/18	8:30 am
Individual Ashes	2/18	7 to 8 am 12 to 1 pm
Ash Wednesday Service	2/18	7 pm

Bible Study

Tuesday via Zoom 6:00 pm

In person Bible Study Wednesdays
10:00 am

Wednesdays

Tai Chi 11:00 am
Quilting Group 1:00 pm

Grinder Sale forms available in the Narthex

Offerings Summary: Coming soon!

Minimalist bulletin

Prelude
Announcements
Confession & Forgiveness
Children's Sermon
Opening Hymn
Apostolic Greeting
Glory or Kyrie Pg 147
Prayer of the Day
First Reading
Psalm
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Gospel Acclamation Pg. 151
Reading of the Holy Gospel
Sermon
Hymn of the Day
Creed
Installation of Council Members
Prayers of the People
Peace
A Capella Choir Anthem
The Offering is received
Offertory Hymn ELW 184
Offertory Prayer
Great Thanksgiving
Sanctus pg. 153
Lord's Prayer
Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) pg. 154
Communion is Distributed
Post-communion prayer
Benediction
Closing Hymn
Dismissal
Postlude

In other news...

Please fill out commitment sheets if you have not done so already.

If you can share food for those in need, we would be grateful. The food will be distributed between the social service agencies in our area.

Sunday helper rotation for 2026- Anyone who would like to do any of the roles - Asst Min, Comm Asst, usher, slides, healer - should contact Pastor via email, text, or sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Those interested in becoming official members please fill out a form found in the Narthex. We will find a convenient date early next year to welcome you during worship.

Our new website is up. Please check it out. It should help you stay informed. If you have suggestions for any improvements, please let us know. We are working on adding a calendar with all the meeting dates of committees, groups and other events that are happening. www.stpaulstorington.com

Bulletins - The full text bulletin is intended for those who have trouble following the service with only the monitors. The abbreviated bulletin is sufficient for most members. Also, there is a milk crate under the table near the right choir loft stairs. Please recycle bulletins there, unless you are taking it to someone who would like it. The prayer list, for example, is on both the full and abbreviated bulletin.

Don't forget Name Tags are in the Narthex!

