



*Star of Bethlehem by Waldemar Flaig*

**The Epiphany of Our Lord  
The Baptism of Our Lord  
King of the Jews...and Gentiles, Too  
January 8, A+D 2023**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

## AS WE GATHER

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord and His Baptism. In making Jesus known to the Magi, God reveals His Son as Savior of all the nations of the earth. It is therefore right and good that all peoples bring to Jesus their most precious gifts to honor Him. In His Baptism in the Jordan River, this marks the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. God the Father's voice proclaimed Him His beloved Son and the Spirit, like a dove, descended upon Him. We also recall our own Baptisms, where God called us His precious sons and daughters, and the Spirit entered our hearts and lives.

*Ringing of the Bells*

*Welcome*

## 397 As with Gladness Men of Old

*Stand*

# Invocation and Call to Worship

*(From Isaiah 60 Today's Old Testament Reading)*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

- P** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
- C** **See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you.**
- P** Nations will come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your dawn.
- C** **Lift up Your eyes and look about You: All assemble and come to You; Your sons come from afar, and Your daughters are carried on the arm.**
- P** Then You will look and be radiant, Your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to You, to You the riches of the nations will come.
- C** **Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.**

## Confession and Absolution

- P** In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. *Ephesians 3:12*
- C** **Praise be to His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory.** *Psalms 72:19*
- P** In repentant faith, we come before our Lord in confession. Almighty God, King of all,
- C** **we confess to You that we are sinful by nature. We have lived in darkness rather than light. Our selfish thoughts, harmful words, and faithless actions reveal our sinfulness. But for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who became flesh for us, we pray, forgive us our sins. Amen.**
- P** God's grace is revealed in the birth, baptism, life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He has brought light to this world darkened by sin. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I announce to you the full forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

## 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

### Prayer for the Day

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **O God, by the leading of a star You once made known Your only-begotten Son to all nations; lead us now, who know You as yet only by faith, one day to know fully Your divine goodness in heaven. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen..**

*Sit*

## + The Word of God +

### Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1–12*

**A** The Second Reading is from the third chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he

has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord,<sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,<sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Renewal of Our Baptism

- P** Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

### 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**
- P** do you renounce the devil?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce him.**
- P** Do you renounce all his works?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce him.**
- P** Do you renounce all his ways?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce him.**

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

**P** Do you 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?

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray.  
Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted us the new birth in Holy Baptism and made us members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as we are Your children, You would keep us in our baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure we may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Peace ☩ be with you.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

### Sermon

### Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

#### 370 What Child Is This

*sts. 1, 3*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!



- P** "On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh." Although we are not kings, nor do we journey far to offer our worship, yet we, too, bring our gifts to the Christ child.

### Prayer of the Church

159

- P** Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** **Christ, have mercy on us.**
- P** Lord, have mercy on us. O Christ, hear us.
- C** **O Christ, graciously hear us.**
- P** O God the Father in heaven; O God the Son, Redeemer of the world; O God the Holy Spirit, Giver of light and life,
- C** **have mercy upon all people.**
- P** O blessed Savior, by Your holy incarnation; by Your ministry of love; by Your life of toil and suffering; by Your cross and precious death;
- C** **have compassion upon all people.**
- P** By Your glorious resurrection; by Your ascension and perpetual intercession,
- C** **have compassion upon all people.**
- P** That it may please You, O Lord, to grant the outpouring of Your Spirit on the Church throughout the world that it may teach and make disciples of all nations, and that all Christians may be made one in holy purpose,
- C** **we humbly pray for these, O Lord.**
- P** We pray, O Lord, for an increase of missionary zeal; for a larger number of men and women fitted for missionary work; for our colleges and seminaries that train missionaries; for our missionary societies and associations; for those who settle in distant lands; for isolated Christians; for all volunteer missionary workers; for all unbelievers and doubters; for all unrepentant sinners; for adults newly baptized; for those preparing for Baptism; for hearers drawn to Christian influence,
- C** **we humbly pray for these, O Lord.**

**P** We pray You, O Lord, grant to all who are engaged in missionary work the ability to teach and preach among the non-Christians of this world. Abundantly bless them in ministering among the faithful. We pray that they may be preserved from temptations to despondency and impatience, from worldliness or neglect of duty, and from forgetfulness of their high calling.

**C** **we humbly pray for these, O Lord.**

**P** We pray, deliver all your people from famine and diseases; from floods and draughts; from tornadoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes; from slander and false accusations; from open violence and secret hatred; from bloodshed and death.

**C** **we humbly pray for these, O Lord.**

**P** We pray, sustain all your people in bodily suffering, in loneliness and weariness, in disappointment and persecution, in the time of trial, and in the hour of death. Most merciful Father, we beseech You to send on Your servants who preach the Gospel Your heavenly blessing, that they may be clothed with righteousness and that Your Word may not be spoken in vain.

**P** Give them the spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind; strengthen them to endure hardships; and grant that both by their life and faith they may set forth Your glory and reveal Your salvation to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **we humbly pray for these, O Lord.**

**P** Give to all people the comfort of Your presence, healing according to Your will, relief of suffering, and an end to the terrors of mind and heart. Sustain the weary with Your Word, the wounded with hope and the dying with peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** May Your light shine on us and bring forth the fruits of repentance in our daily lives. Give us confidence in Your Word, that we would embrace Your holy will without fear. Hear and answer us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

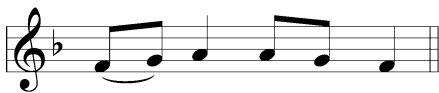
**C** **Amen.**

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface (Full)

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 161*


**C** 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.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 161*

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

### The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you

for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### Pax Domini

LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 163



**C** 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.

Sit

### Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

*Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.*

*Silent Prayer Before Communing: Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for*

*You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

*Silent Prayer After Communing: Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

### 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

### 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

*Stand*

#### The Communion Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

#### Thank the Lord

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Benediction

166

**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

## 388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Silent Prayer*

*Announcements*

## Acknowledgments

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# The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

January 8, 2023

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Steven Altmann  
Violet Andersen  
Joyce Arsenault  
Andrew Bahm  
Christopher Baker, Family Chelsea, Layla

### BIRTHDAYS

Oliver Gribbin, 1/8  
Donna Pfeifer, 1/8  
Diane Akers, 1/14

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Coral Middleton, 1/13

### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Diane Akers, Janice Abel, Violet Andersen, Russ Budde, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Judy Diekleman, Sandy Ovalle, Violet Rich, Lois Struven, Dolly Tagenhorst, Dorothy Van Mynen, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer and the Farris Family.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, David Capodagli, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

**Serving as First Responders** – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

## NEWS UPDATE

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Thank you to the Thornton Lions Club for the wonderful donation to the Holiday Food Baskets.

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St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday January 11, to review *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. We also order lunch for after the meeting. Book Club is now in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

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**Christ For You this week on KFUE.org:** Begin the Gospel of John on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), also begin a series on the English Reformation on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), and study Exodus 33-36 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfue.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

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**Educating A New Generation Of Lutherans...** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: Biblical Archeology's Top Discoveries of 2022, The Secularization of the West, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus Calls the First Disciples and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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Word of Hope offers free and confidential counseling to women and men struggling with an abortion experience. If you would like more information on how Word of Hope can help you or someone you love, visit our website at [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org). You can be healed.

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We'd love to see you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 8:45 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at <https://www.facebook.com/splcms/videos>. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at <https://www.splcms.org/index.php/worship>.

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“When an abortion is performed, we proclaim that we know better than God. We disregard His wisdom, for He taught us that we should never kill innocent human beings. We proclaim that we do not want or need a gift from God. And in doing so, we seek to make ourselves more powerful than

God. We seek to make ourselves God.” Archbishop Samuel Aquila – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

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## The Visit of the Magi

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The puzzle is based on Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV).

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

PRIESTS  
GOD  
STAR  
WORSHIPED

MYRRH  
CHILD  
MAGI  
EAST

BETHLEHEM  
HOUSE  
TEACHERS  
SEARCH

KING  
INCENSE  
WORSHIP  
BORN

CHRIST  
MARY  
MOTHER  
HEROD

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



January 8<sup>th</sup> Attendance 15, 14 Communed, 4 Online

Envelopes	\$1,305.00	Weekly Missions	\$45.00
Christmas Eve	25.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint.	20.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>1,330.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,640.00		
<b>Short</b>	<b>\$-310.00</b>		



### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Council Meeting
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	10:00 am	Book Club
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Bible Discussion

### SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Jan 8, 8:45 AM	Sun, Jan 15, 8:45 AM
Pastor	Pastor Fluechtling	Pastor Dobberstein
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
		Norma Allen
Lay Reader	Norma Allen	

### DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND