

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 5, A+D 2023



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

The Righteousness of Christ

Jesus warns that “unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” (Matt. 5:13, 14). That’s because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, “but to fulfill them” (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God’s commandments, He is “called great in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His “demonstration of the Spirit and of power” in “Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:2-4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His “secret and hidden wisdom” (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is “to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free” (Is. 58:6) and “to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house” (Is. 58:7).

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

LSB 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Absolution

151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

*Psalm 119:9–16; antiphon: v. 12***P** Blessèd are you, O LORD;**C** **teach me your statutes!****P** How can a young man keep his way pure?**C** **By guarding it according to your word.****P** With my whole heart I seek you;**C** **let me not wander from your commandments!****P** I have stored up your word in my heart,**C** **that I might not sin against you.****P** Blessèd are you, O LORD;**C** **teach me your statutes!****P** With my lips I declare**C** **all the just decrees of your mouth.****P** In the way of your testimonies I delight**C** **as much as in all riches.****P** I will meditate on your precepts**C** **and fix my eyes on your ways.****P** I will delight in your statutes;**C** **I will not forget your word.****C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.****P** Blessèd are you, O LORD;**C** **teach me your statutes!**

Kyrie

152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.**C** Lord, have mer - cy.**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- 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.



C 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

154

- A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.
 For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3–9a

A The Old Testament Reading for The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany is from the fifty-eighth chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

A The Second Reading is from the second chapter of the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse*LSB 156*


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel*Matthew 5:13–20***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.


C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³[Jesus said:] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.


C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

578 Thy Strong Word

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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. 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.

Sit

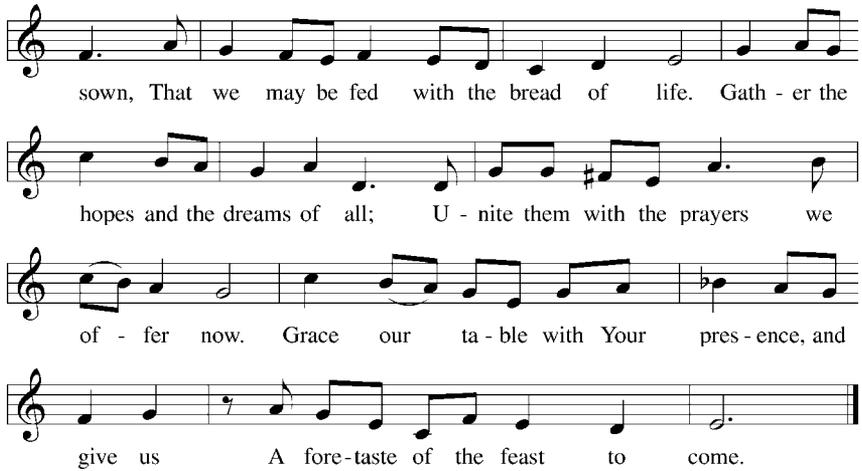
Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.

Stand

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

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Prayer of the Church

159

- P** ... Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

160

- P** The Lord be with you.



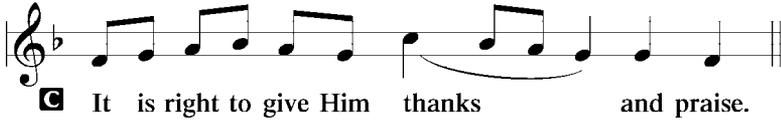
- C** And al - so with you.

- P** Lift up your hearts.



- C** We lift them to the Lord.

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



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.

Lord's Prayer

162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

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 † 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 † 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.



Agnus Dei

LSB 163

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.

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior*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

- 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.

**650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling**

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

February 5, 2023

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Nicholas & Dana Carr

John & Roberta Chiattello, Family Riley, Taeler, Danielle, Rikki

Judith DeCamp, Family Nicholas

Kathy Dejonowski, Family Dakota, Kaitlin

Barry & Karen Diekelman

BIRTHDAYS

Jenna Wiltjer, 2/8

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Alexis McGrath, 2/8

Tara Schassburger, 2/11

CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Debra Brandy, 2/8

SPECIAL CONCERNS

In Rehab this past week – Shirley Wahl at Symphony Crown Point.

Russ Budde at the Villa, South Holland.

Pray for Diane Akers, Janice Abel, Violet Andersen, 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

The need for food and the basic necessities of life continue throughout the year, and with your continued support, St. Paul's will continue to try and provide help to all whose needs have come to our attention. We continue to ask for your help and support in this New Year, please include your donations in with you offering and mark your envelope Social Ministry. Thank you for the continued support of this important ministry!

St. Paul's Lutheran School Open House & Kindergarten Screenings

— St. Paul's Lutheran School will host an Open House on Sat., Feb. 11, 9am —Noon and Sun. Feb. 26, 11:30am - 1:30 pm at 8601 Harrison Avenue, Munster. Kindergarten Screenings will be held on Fri. Mar. 3, from 2-4pm or 5-7 pm. St. Paul's provides a solid and affordable Christian education for Preschool through 8th grade, is Nationally and State accredited and is an approved Indiana Choice Scholarship school. Wondering if you can afford a private Lutheran education or want further information, please call (219) 836-6270 ext. 202, or visit www.stplmunster.com.



St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday February 15, to review *The Things We Do for Love* by Kristin Hannah. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. Book Club is now in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

Christ For You this week on KFUE.org: Dive into a curious theological topic on Cross Defense (2/11 at 11:00 a.m. CT), study John 6-7 on Sharper Iron's "The Word Made Flesh" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and finish the book and Esther and begin the book of 1 Timothy on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org, the KFUE Radio app, or wherever you get podcasts!

Unanswered Bible Questions... Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Facebook: [facebook.com/issuesetc](https://www.facebook.com/issuesetc), or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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. You can be healed.

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/worship>.

“How sad as we hear of the overturning of Roe vs. Wade by the Supreme Court that so many are acting like this is the worst thing that could happen in our world. Stop and think of what they are arguing about. They want the right to kill a baby in their womb. They want the right to do what they want with their body. It is such a selfish, sinful, and demented way of thinking. Yet, as you hear the arguments and as your kids go off to college, you often feel like you as a Christian are such an uncaring person. My friends, we are all sinners. Imagine what Jesus must think of this. He loves every soul!” Pastor Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota (6-26-22) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

This is also a blessed and useful habit and very effective against the devil. He is ever around us and lies in wait to bring us into sin and shame, disaster and trouble [2 Timothy 2:26]. But he hates to hear God's name and cannot remain long where it is spoken and called upon from the heart. Indeed, many terrible and shocking disasters would fall upon us if God did not preserve us by our calling upon His name. I have tried it myself. I learned by experience that often sudden great suffering was immediately averted and removed by calling on God. To confuse the devil, I say, we should always have this holy name in our mouth, so that the devil may not be able to injure us as he wishes.

—Large Catechism I 70-74

GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



January 29th Attendance 17, 12 Communed, 15 Online

Basket	\$100.00	Social Ministry	\$25.00
Envelopes	446.25		
Budgeted Total	546.25	Non-budgeted Total	\$25.00
Offering Needed	1,233.00		
Short	\$-686.75		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
	10:00 am	Sunday School
Monday		
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee & Pancakes and Sausage
	10:00 am	Sunday School

SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Feb 5, 8:45 AM	Sun, Feb 12, 8:45 AM
Pastor	Pastor Dobberstein	Pastor Fluechtling
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
		Norma Allen
Lay Reader	Nikki Golembeck	Tracy Middleton

DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND