



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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6th Sunday after Epiphany February 12, 2023

Worship 11:00 A.M.

Minister: Rev. Diana Edis Worship Leader: Herman Seidemann Musician: Sheila Seidemann
Videographer: George Edis Reader: Tom Kertes

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/>.
You do not need a Facebook account to access worship.

Welcome to Worship with St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

Weekly Prayer Petitions

Local: Native Revival Pentecostal – Pastor Charlie Carlick

Synod Parishes: Hope Lutheran, Nanaimo; For our church institutions that care for the elderly

ACC: Bishop, people, and clergy of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

ELCIC: The dean, council and congregations of the Central Toronto Area and Greater Toronto Areas East and West of the Eastern Synod.

Discipleship Opportunities

1. The Pastor is Public, Javadotcup Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30AM.

2. Church Council meets Tuesday, Feb 21 at 7:00 PM both in-person and by Zoom. The Zoom link is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85848024707?pwd=UWZJcFRZSmJVb1jiVEJISE02MDBKQT09>

Meeting ID: 858 4802 4707

Passcode: 271456

3. Pastor Diana is in Smithers this weekend leading worship and attending the AGM with Mount Zion Lutheran Church. In an emergency you may reach her by cell, otherwise she will be back in the office on Wednesday. We thank Herman Seidemann for leading worship today. If anyone would be interested in assisting with worship leadership in the future you may let the office or Deacons, Lori Wilson and Pat Cristiano, know of your availability.

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* Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF license number SB157842.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

No. 582

1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er dwell-ing in the ho-liest realms of light;
2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er liv-ing as the church's ver-y life;
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er work-ing through the church's min-is-try;

Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er striv-ing through us in a cease-less strife;
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab-solv-ing, set-ting cap-tive sin-ners free;

Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er rais-ing those of earth to thrones on high;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul

liv-ing, life-im-part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag-ni-fy.
you we praise with end-less wor-ship for your gifts and fruits un-priced.
in com-mu-nion nev-er end-ing, you we wor-ship and ex-tol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt.
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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.

Kyrie

Pg. 184

Refrain



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Last time




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the
 2 That we may live out your im -
 3 For peace in our hearts, for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
 passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Text and music: Larry Olson
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Let us pray together our Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Our first reading is from Deuteronomy, beginning at the 30th chapter

30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God,

obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: The word of the Lord,
C: **Thanks be to God**

We read Psalm 119:1-8 responsively: (*leader reads the light print, congregation reads the bold*)

Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,
who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Our second reading is from 1 Corinthians beginning at the 3rd chapter

3:1-9

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

L: The word of the Lord,
C: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

page 179

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, beginning at the 5th chapter

5:21-37

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the

council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Preached by Herman Seidemann

Hymn of the Day

Spirit, Open My Heart

No. 1043 ACS

Refrain

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
 liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
 and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953
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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed. We confess:

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 power of 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: (petition end: Merciful God,)
(petition response: **Receive our prayer.**)

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Offerings may be mailed to the church, placed in our mailbox, sent by e-transfer to offering2stpauls@citywest.ca.. or give through CanadaHelps to St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert.

Offering Prayer

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

L: Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

No. 544



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
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Blessing

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

Sending

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.