

ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
N926 Dale Ave. Dale, WI 54931

ST PETER'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
8630 County Rd. MM Larsen, WI 54947

Member Congregations of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
Rev. Paul Ibisch, Pastor St Paul Office Phone 920-779-6777
Pastor Ibisch Cell Phone 920-878-3001
Amy Danke, Organist (St. Paul) Amy Swapp, Organist (St. Peter's)

4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

BELLS AND WELCOME

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Based on The Service Setting One (blue hymnal) with Holy Communion as printed here.

OPENING HYMN #380 JESUS SHALL REIGN WHERE'ER THE SUN

sts. 1–2, 5

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To him shall endless prayer be made
and endless praises crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
worship and honor to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Stand

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
C: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
C: **Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

ABSOLUTION

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, keep your family continually in true faith, so that those who rely only on the hope of your heavenly grace may be protected by your mighty power; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:27–31

²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob?
Why do you say, Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.
²⁹He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.
³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
³¹but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

IN PLACE OF THE PSALM, WE WILL SING HYMN 375 - ARISE AND SHINE IN SPLENDOR

- 1 Arise and shine in splendor;
let night to day surrender.
Your light is drawing near.
Above, the day is beaming,
in matchless beauty gleaming;
the glory of the Lord is here.
- 2 See earth in darkness lying,
the heathen nations dying
in hopeless gloom and night.
To you the Lord of heaven—
your life, your hope—has given
great glory, honor, and delight.
- 3 Lift up your eyes in wonder—
see, nations gather yonder
from sin to be set free.
The world has heard your story;
her sons come to your glory,
her daughters haste your light to see.
- 4 Your heart will leap for gladness
when from the realms of sadness
they come from near and far.
Your eyes will wake from slumber
as people without number
rejoice to see the Morning Star.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 5:6–11

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

C:Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Spoken by Pastor)

Isaiah 40:31

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Congregation sings "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia" response

GOSPEL

Mark 1:29–39

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

³⁵Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY #383 - THE ONLY SON FROM HEAVEN

- 1 The only Son from heaven,
 foretold by ancient seers,
by God the Father given,
 in human form appears.
No sphere his light confining,
no star so brightly shining
 as he, our Morning Star.
- 2 O time of God appointed,
 O bright and holy morn!
He comes, the King anointed,
 the Christ, the virgin-born,
grim death to conquer for us,
to open heav'n before us
 and bring us life again.
- 3 O Lord, our hearts awaken
 to know and love you more,
in faith to stand unshaken,
 in spirit to adore,
that we, through this world moving,
each glimpse of heaven proving,
 may reap its fullness there.
- 4 O Father, here before you
 with God the Holy Ghost
and Jesus, we adore you,
 O Pride of angel host.
Before you mortals lowly
cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
 O blessèd Trinity!"

SERMON - "JESUS IS THE STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN."

SERMON TEXT

John 1:43–51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”

⁴⁴Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked.

“Come and see,” said Philip.

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”

⁴⁸“How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.”

⁴⁹Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

⁵⁰Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” ⁵¹He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

Stand

NICENE CREED – (Spoken by Pastor & Congregation)

**We Believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.)

P: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

P: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

P: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

P: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

P: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

P: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

C: Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

P: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER – (Spoken by Pastor & Congregation)

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 SACRAMENT

Stand

Preface (Spoken)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Congregation sings)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Pastor speaks)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Congregation sings)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:

Take and eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, poured out for the forgiveness of your sins.

As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go in peace.
Amen.

After the distribution, the service continues-

Stand

THANKSGIVING

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

PRAYER

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #370 HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR

sts. 1, 3

- 1 How lovely shines the Morning Star!
The nations see and hail afar
the light in Judah shining.
O David's son of Jacob's race,
my Bridegroom and my King of grace,
for you my heart is pining.
Lowly, holy,
great and glorious,

O victorious
Prince of graces,
filling all the heav'nly places.

- 3 O mighty Father, in your Son
you loved me ere you had begun
this ancient world's foundation.
Your Son has made a friend of me,
and when in spirit him I see,
I joy in tribulation.
What bliss is this!
He is living,
to me giving
life forever;
nothing me from him can sever.

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL & ST PETER'S
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TODAY (Jan 28) **WORSHIP**

Dale (Sunday School) 8:30 am

Larsen (Sunday School (Voter's meeting after service) 10:00 am

MON (Jan 29)

St. Paul Choir 6:00 pm

NEXT SUN (Feb 4) **WORSHIP**

Dale (Sunday School) 8:30 am

Larsen- (Sunday School)..... 10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: *If you happen to see the following member(s) this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"*

Feb 2 – Anna Schuelke

THANK YOU – to Pastor Philip Birner (retired missionary to Africa) for leading the worship services this morning.

COMING EVENTS – Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Women's Fellowship is planning a casserole/salad/dessert meal for the meal preceding the service with serving starting at 5:00, worship at 6 PM. They would like to have the congregation provide the food for this meal. There is a sign up sheet available if you would like to provide a casserole, salad or dessert for the meal.

Women's Fellowship is also planning a game day for Sunday, February 18, 1:00 - 4:30 - Bring your favorite board game, card game, etc.

Invite your family and friends. Sandwich supper will be provided.

FOOD PANTRY - The collection for the pantry will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024. The following is a list of items that are currently in need: adult cereals, pork & beans/baked beans, pancake mix and syrup, canned pasta, potato side dishes (bagged and boxed), cookies, all crackers, shampoo, conditioner, and men's and women's body washes. The pantry cannot accept used, open or expired items.

FVL - Reserve your seat today for our spring musical, *Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins*. Performances are March 1 & 2 at 6:30 PM and March 3 at 2 PM. Purchase tickets at fvlhs.org/mary-poppins.

FVL Musicfest 2024 will be held Sunday, 2/4 from 1:00-4:30 PM. Admission is free for all. Join us to enjoy music, socializing, and homemade desserts. Event donations will go to support the FVL Music Department. Find out more at fvlhs.org/musicfest.

PRAISE HIM CONCERT - We would love to have you join us as we sing Praises to our Lord

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
225 E. Harris St.
Appleton, WI 54911
located downtown Appleton, Wisconsin
on the Corner of North Morrison and East Franklin
Saturday, February 3rd, 2024 Starting at 1:00 pm

2024 MOHW CONFERENCE: The 15th annual Men of His Word Conference (Theme: Built to Serve based off of Galatians 5:13) will be held at the Oshkosh Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Early Registration for the WELS Men of His Word Conference in Oshkosh on February 17, 2024 ends this Sunday (midnight of Jan 28). On Monday the cost increases from \$65 to \$80. Once we have 475 men, registration will close. Space is limited due to remodeling of the conference center. Please go online at www.menofhisword.org to register and get details about schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost, etc. Please join us for a day of worship, praise and fellowship in God's Word!

St. Paul - 2023 Offering statements are available for pickup in the box on the counter.

St. Paul – The February edition of Forward in Christ is available on the counter for the subscribers.