



## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

<b>TODAY (Jan 15)</b> Sunday School.....	8:00 am
<b>WORSHIP (HC)</b> Adult Bible class follows.....	9:00 am
<b>MON (Jan 15)</b> Choir.....	6:00 pm
<b>WED (Jan 17)</b> Gr.6 Catechism.....	6:00 pm
<b>THURS (Jan 18)</b> Gr. 6 Bible History.....	4:45 am
<b>Teen Bible study</b> .....	7:00 pm
<b>SAT (Jan 20)</b> Saturday Evening Worship.....	5:00 pm
<b>SUNDAY (Jan 21)</b> Sunday School.....	8:00 am
<b>WORSHIP</b> Adult Bible class follows.....	9:00 am

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIRTHDAYS:** If you see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"—**Jan.14<sup>th</sup>**—Dorothy Luedtke; **Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>**—Denise Wichman, Brooklyn Gordee.

**QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETNG:** Our next voter's meeting is set for Tues, Jan 30<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm (*Annual Reports due previous week*).

**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY MOVED ONE WEEK BACK:** The WELS Apple Valley Food Pantry collection date is Sunday, January 28, 2018. As you're able please donate non-perishables and toiletries for the needy. Cash donations toward shopping gift cards are welcome too! Thank you very much!!

**THANK YOU:** We thank Warren Mueller for building a new communion table for use downstairs when the sacrament is offered at the Saturday evening service. The craftsmanship and design is really something! It was constructed from wood from an old church pew and is a wonderful enhancement to our worship space!



### A MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

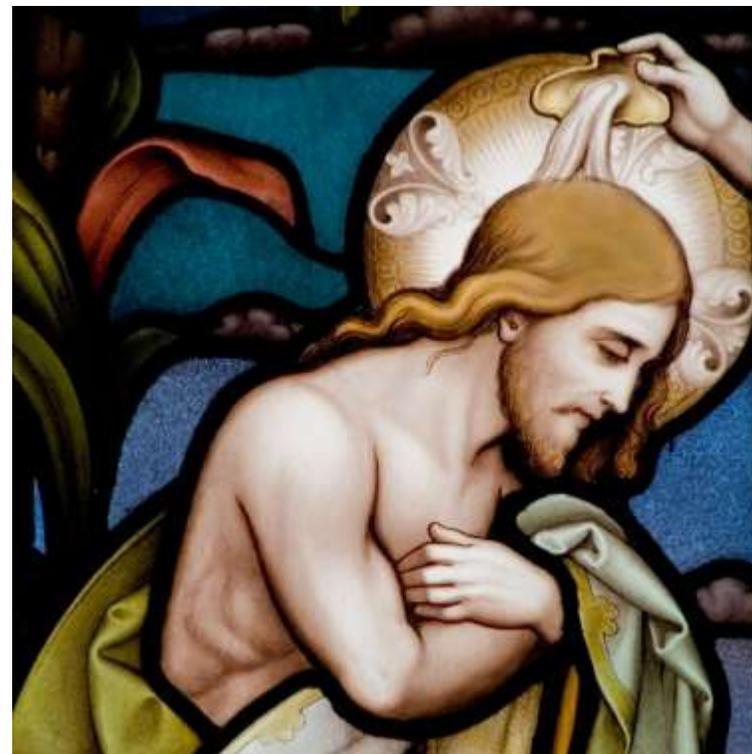
Jan 6 & 7 Plate Offerings: \$1761.00  
 Electronic Offerings: \$100.00  
 Thrivent Choice offerings: \$77.00  
 Total Offerings last week: \$1938.00



**IN WORSHIP**  
 Jan 6 = 8  
 Jan 7 = 59  
**Total = 67**

WEEKLY BUDGETARY NEEDS: \$2294.00  
 OFFERINGS RECEIVED YTD (1 wk) \$1,938.00  
 YTD NEEDED: \$2,294.00; YTD SHORTFALL: \$356.00

**Thank you members of St Paul for your support of the Lord's work! God has blessed us richly in Christ Jesus our Lord!**



**The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
 Sunday, January 14, 2018**

## The Baptism of Our Lord

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

N926 Dale Avenue † Dale, Wisconsin

Pastor William A. Finn





*Making Friends for Eternity*

# St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
DALE, WISCONSIN ● CHURCH PHONE (920) 779-6777 ● PASTOR WILLIAM FINN  
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## THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD January 14, 2018

### AS WE GATHER

This day in the Church marks the beginning of the season of Epiphany. The white paraments in Church today call to mind the purity of Christ whose Baptism we remember today. The rest of the Sundays in Epiphany the color will be green, focusing on the growth and new life the Church has through Christ. The readings in the Epiphany season will take us along as Jesus begins his earthly ministry that eventually takes us to Calvary. The next season in the church is Lent (*Ash Wednesday will be on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 - 6:30 pm*).

### *Dear Guests,*

If you have any needs or questions during your visit with us this morning, let us try to help. Ask an usher or the person next to you. If the Lord has given you children to raise for Him, we're glad you brought them to His house today! If at any point your little one gets overly restless and you need a moment or two alone with them, there is a nursery area and restrooms downstairs just past the fellowship hall.



*Did you know? If you do need to step out for any reason during worship, the entire service can be heard and seen on a television monitor downstairs in the foyer between the fellowship hall and the restrooms.*

**HYMN: #709** *"Christ, Your Footsteps Through the Desert"*

**THE MESSAGE TODAY:** *Based on the Gospel Lesson*

*"The Secret About Jesus"*

*After the sermon please rise to sing "Create in Me," found on page 20 in the hymnal.*

**THE OFFERING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER,** *Hymnal page 20 (traditional version)*

### THE SACRAMENT, p.21

#### STATEMENT ON "CLOSE" COMMUNION...

*"Close-Communion" refers to the Scriptural practice of partaking in the sacrament as members of a church united by a common confession of faith. In keeping with the Lord's own instructions in his Word, we ask that our guests today, who are not members of this congregation or another WELS or ELS church to please wait before communing with us until we have had an opportunity to establish our oneness of faith in Jesus Christ and his teachings through time together in Bible study. Please continue to pray with us, that, one day Jesus will restore unity to his Church on earth so that we can express it in this Sacrament.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN: #32** *"When Sinners See Their Lost Condition"*

**THANKSGIVING, PRAYER & BLESSING, p. 24-25**

**CLOSING HYMN: #79** *"How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"*

## THE WORD

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 49:1-6** *Even though few would recognize or see it's worth, the Messiah's work will be blessed by the Father.* "Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."

**VERSE OF THE DAY** "Alleluia. *"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."* Alleluia. (Mark 1:11)



**EPISTLE LESSON: Acts 16:25-34** - *Salvation is not a matter of doing, but believing in what Jesus, our Savior, came to do for us.* About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. <sup>27</sup>The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup>They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." <sup>32</sup>Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup>At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. <sup>34</sup>The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WELCOME BY PASTOR

**OPENING HYMN: #299** *"All Who Believe and are Baptized"*  
*Please rise*

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:4-11** ~ *Jesus is baptized by John, setting him apart on the world stage as our Substitute and Savior.* <sup>4</sup>And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>The whole Judean country-side and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup>John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup>At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

### BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE & CONFESSION

**P:** Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, by the power of the Word the Holy Spirit has led you to believe that new life is yours through in Christ Jesus our Lord. By your Baptism the Lord Jesus assures you of your salvation. As a public testimony of your faith, I now ask you: Do you believe that you were born in sin and therefore eternally lost?

**C: Yes, I believe.**

**P:** Do you believe in the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

**C:** Yes, I believe.

**P:** Do you believe that this Triune God planned and carried out your salvation, delivering you from the clutches of Satan and the power of your own sinful nature?

**C:** Yes, I believe.

**P:** Do you believe that God connects you to the saving work of Jesus and grants you forgiveness of sins, life and salvation in Holy Baptism?

**C:** Yes, I believe, and God's grace in my baptism leaves me eternally grateful and ready to thank him with a life devoted to him.

**P:** Receive the sign of the cross to mark you as a redeemed child of God. You have been baptized into Christ, you were born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God give you the strength to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life.

**SING: "GLORY BE TO GOD" ~ In joyful response we sing this ancient song inspired by the angels the night of Christ's birth!**

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.  
We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,  
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,  
God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je- sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the  
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
sin of the world; re- ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
you on- ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,  
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

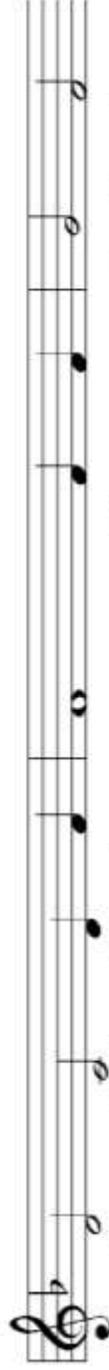
**Let us pray:** (*Spoken by the Pastor*) "Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: A - men.

## 709 Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert



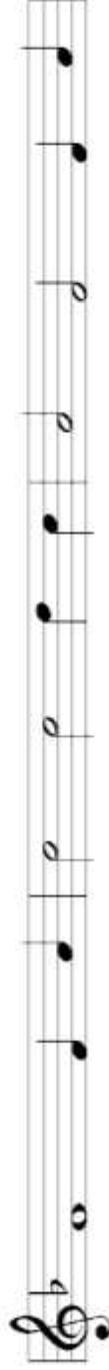
1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert Led to  
2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons As by  
3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan Led at  
4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us One with



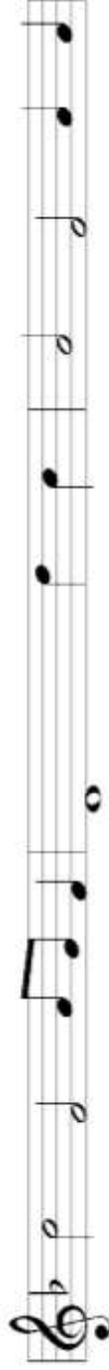
Jor - dan's flow - ing stream. There you heard the  
Jor - dan's bank you stood; Bathed, though sin - less,  
last to Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the  
Christ, our ris - en Lord; Freed us, claimed us,



her - ald cry - ing Is - rael's old pro - phet - ic  
with your peo - ple In the riv - er's cleans - ing  
cross for - sak - en, You ful - filled the Fa - ther's  
cleansed, for - giv - en Through the wa - ter and the



dream: "He is com - ing! He is com - ing! He will  
flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens o - pened; Came the  
will. Lamb of God, we see you dy - ing, Sin - less,  
Word. Help us hear your ur - gent sum - mons, Call - ing



cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners, plunge be - neath the  
Spir - it as a dove; Spoke a voice be - yond all  
yet for sin - ners slain. But where death rose up to  
us to serve you now. Send us forth, your sons and



wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!"  
hear - ing: "See my Son, the one I love!"  
tri - umph, You be - gan your glo - rious reign!  
daugh - ters, With the cross up - on our brow.

*This hymn not only underscores the significance of our Lord's baptism in his work of salvation but also demonstrates the intimate connection between his baptism and our own.*