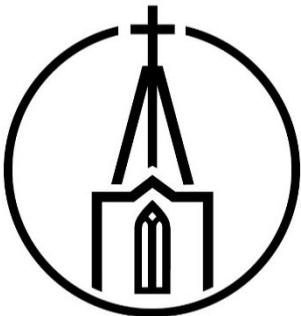


Saturday & Sunday, January 16 & 17, 2021  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1100 Georgia Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska

Office & Website:  
(402)371-1233 [www.stpls.com](http://www.stpls.com)

## **We welcome all worshiping God in this service!**

We're so happy that you're joining us for worship today! If you need any help, please don't hesitate asking one of the ushers. Restrooms and a cry-room are located across from the west drive-up entrance.

It's a joy to serve and worship with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor Hirsch.

### ***Before the Lord's Supper...***

*Scripture tells us that we are to examine and prepare ourselves before we receive this sacrament so that we don't take it in an "unworthy manner" (I Corinthians 11:27-29). This means that we understand what is happening in communion, repent of all our sins, and then work on eliminating all those sins from our lives.*

*The word "communion" comes from the two words... "common – union." This word points out a united confession of faith for those receiving the supper and the important command Jesus gives us to share this special meal only with those who share a complete Christian faith. We prepare our hearts by confessing our sins and trusting that this sacrament is indeed one of the Means of Grace which forgives sins and creates and strengthens saving faith. The Bible also very clearly teaches that in a completely miraculous way we also eat and drink Jesus' very same body and blood as we eat and drink the bread and wine.*

*Because we do not want anyone to receive this sacrament in an "unworthy manner" and without judging anyone's heart, we humbly ask that all those who are not members of our congregation, or of the WELS, to please wait to receive the Lord's Supper until after you speak with one of the pastors and share your understanding of the Lord's Supper with him. Thanks for your patience and understanding!!*

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### **A Personal Prayer Before Worship:**

*Gracious Lord, may the thoughts of my heart be pure and focused on Your salvation as I am a guest here in Your house. May the words of my mouth be sincere as I sing Your praises. May the actions of my life follow Your will and commands, flowing from a heart filled with repentance and love for You and all those around me. Bless our worship service, and guard and direct me all this week as I live my life for You. Amen.*

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**Hymn** #368 "O Savior, Precious Savior"



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, Whom, yet un -  
2 O Bring - er of sal - va - tion, Who won - drous -  
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, All grace and -  
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion Of this our



seen, we love, O name of might and fa - vor, All  
ly hast wrought, Thy - self the rev - e - la - tion Of  
pow'r di - vine; The glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O  
song a - bove In end - less ad - o - ra - tion And



oth - er names a - bove, We wor - ship thee; we bless thee;  
love be - yond our thought, We wor - ship thee; we bless thee;  
Son of God, is thine. We wor - ship thee; we bless thee;  
ev - er - last - ing love! Then shall we praise and bless thee



To thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise thee  
To thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise thee  
To thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise thee  
Where per - fect prais - es ring And ev - er -



and con - fess thee, Our ho - ly Lord and King.  
and con - fess thee, Our gra - cious Lord and King.  
and con - fess thee, Our glo - rious Lord and King.  
more con - fess thee, Our Sav - ior and our King.

**The Order of Worship** "Service of Word & Sacrament" (CW p. 26)

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

**C: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

*P: God invites us to come into His presence and worship Him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask Him to forgive us.*

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE -- LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

*P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all Your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.*



**C: Lord, have mer - cy.**

*P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from Your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.*



**C: Christ, have mer - cy.**

*P: For the well-being of Your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.*



**C: Lord, have mer - cy.**

*P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by Your power and keep us in Your tender care:*



C: A - men.

*P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.*



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in  
all the earth. Al - mighty God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,  
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;  
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.  
O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;  
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the  
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,  
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

**The Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, You gave Your one and only Son to be the Light of the world. Allow me, Your child through faith, to let my life shine with the brilliance of Christ's glory! Allow Your Word and sacraments to build up my trust and faith in Jesus, so that I may be a missionary, and that He may be known, worshiped, and believed in our community and all over the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

**The Old Testament Lesson** I Samuel 3:1-10

*Throughout OT history God revealed himself to others through the prophets. God again reveals himself at an important turning point in Israel's history and calls Samuel to be His prophet.*

<sup>1</sup> The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

<sup>2</sup> One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. <sup>3</sup>The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and

Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, “Here I am.” <sup>5</sup> And he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.”

But Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.” So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup> Again the LORD called, “Samuel!” And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.”

“My son,” Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.”

<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup> A third time the LORD called, “Samuel!” And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.”

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup> So Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel!”

Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

**The Psalm**    Psalm 67    *Let's sing the Psalm together!*

*Refrain*



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

*Psalm tone*



May God be gracious to us and bless us\*  
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be known on earth,\*  
your salvation among all nations.

*Refrain*



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

*Psalm tone*



May the nations be glad and sing for joy,\*  
for you rule the peoples justly  
and guide the nations of the earth.

**REFRAIN**

Then the land will yield its harvest,\*  
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,\*  
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

**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.**

**REFRAIN**

**The Epistle Lesson** I Corinthians 6:12-20

*Paul warns Christians about distorting Christian liberty into sexual immorality. We use our bodies to show that we belong to Christ and to show others that the Holy Spirit lives in us.*

<sup>12</sup>“I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything. <sup>13</sup>You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and

the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup> By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. <sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” <sup>17</sup> But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

<sup>18</sup> Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. <sup>19</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

**The Verses of the Day**      *Spoken by Pastor Lindke.*

*P: Alleluia!* “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *Alleluia!* (John 8:12)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**The Gospel Lesson**      John 2:1-11

*The Gospel Lesson also serves as the sermon meditation text.*

<sup>1</sup> On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, <sup>2</sup> and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”

<sup>4</sup>“Woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My hour has not yet come.”

<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

<sup>6</sup> Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim.

<sup>8</sup> Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.”

They did so, <sup>9</sup> and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside <sup>10</sup> and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.”

<sup>11</sup> What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**Hymn:** “Why This Miracle, O Jesus” (*melody = CW 573*)

Why this miracle, O Jesus, When you first revealed your power?  
Open up its meaning to us. What was special in that hour?  
To our eyes it seems so needless, Unimportant, frivolous.  
Of what truth are we so heedless? What deep message do we miss?

What a miracle, O Jesus, That you did at your own time!  
When they filled those empty vases You changed water into wine!  
To your own you showed your glory And they put their faith in you.  
Thus began your mighty story. There was naught you could not do.

By your miracles, O Jesus, You revealed yourself as Lord.  
From our blindness you release us So we trust your saving Word.  
Show your glory and so win us From whate’er would lead astray.  
Do your miracle within us: Give us faith in you each day!

## **The Sermon Meditation:**

John 2:1-11

### **WHY THIS MIRACLE?**

- 1) It seems so inconsequential
- 2) Its effect was so significant

## **Nicene Creed**

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 fully 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.

## **Offering**

*If you haven't already, please place your thank-offering in the plate located in the back of church. Scanning this QR code works too!*



## **Prayers & Lord's Prayer**

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

*P: The Lord be with you.*



**C: And al - so 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: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past He spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, who is the radiance of His glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ. To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.*



**C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.**



**The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.**



**You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.**

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -  
 va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.  
 The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

### Words of Institution

*P: 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."*

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

C: A - men.

### O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; grant us your peace. A - - men.

### The Distribution

*For the distribution, please follow the direction of the ushers to file forward single file. If you're sitting together as a family unit or couple in the pew, come forward in that single file, but feel free to join together as that same family unit or couple to receive the bread and then the wine together.*

### Communion Blessing

Thank the Lord    *All sing!*

C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.  
 He re - news 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!

*P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



**The Blessing**

*P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.*

*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.*



**Closing Hymn** #735 "Speak, O Lord" Found on pp. 16&17





fill in us All your pur - pos-es for your  
 nev - er fail, Let their truth pre-vail o - ver  
 Church is built And you fill the earth with your



glo - ry.  
 un - be-lief.  
 glo - ry.



## Serving the Lord

**Worship Leader:** Pastor Allen Lindke

**Organist:** Mrs. Karen Pufahl

**Radio Broadcaster(s):** Joel Wiedeman & Kathy Wiedeman

**Television Broadcast Technician:** Chad Moyer

	<b>On Duty This Week:</b>	<b>On Duty Next Week:</b>
<b>Elder:</b>	Joel Wiedeman	Dave Nelson
<b>Greeters:</b>		
<b>Ushers:</b>	Curt Dinkel & Randy Anderson	Leon Sweigard & Zach Kruse
<b>Technology:</b>	Sam Myers & Ashlee Plisek	Kaylee Little & Katy Nichols

## Worshipping the Lord

Last Week's Attendance: Sat. 6:30 PM – 60; Sun. 9:00 AM – 71; **Total = 131**  
Sunday Bible Class – 35; Women's Bible Class - 8; Wednesday Bible Class – 14

## Some Announcements

- 1) **Flowers on the Altar** are in honor of Richard Huber's birthday, given by his family. Cindy Jo is Richard's wife and a relatively "new" member here at St. Paul's in the last year. She's snow-birding in Texas. Richard went home to heaven this past July.
- 2) **Annual Report Articles** are due!! Each St. Paul's Group is asked to submit an article for the Annual Report. Please get them turned in to Jeanette. You can email them to [stpls.office@gmail.com](mailto:stpls.office@gmail.com) or drop them off at the School Office.
- 3) Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 6:00 PM. Any and all members are welcome to attend to hear and share information at this meeting. When it's time for any final decisions to be made, the voters of the congregation will take up that responsibility.
- 4) **Preschool Enrollment** is now open for the 2021-2022 school year! You can access the application by going to our website and clicking on "Enroll today for PreK" then following the directions on that page. If you have any questions, please speak to Mr. Markgraf or Mrs. Mullen.
- 5) A **special Sunday evening Communion "services"** will be held tonight, Sunday, January 17.
- 6) **Women's Bible Study:** Will meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 PM. Questions? Call Miss Lindemann - (920) 663-1892.
- 7) Jenni Nichols has been admitted to the Heritage of BelAir Nursing Home (1203 N. 13th St.) not too long ago for some extra care. Might we send some encouraging cards and notes her way?! It's been tough.
- 8) The January/new editions of **Forward In Christ** are by the Communication Center.

## An important advancement for Martin Luther College's campaign

The Martin Luther College (MLC) administration and governing board are excited to announce a significant advancement in the Equipping Christian Witnesses (ECW) campaign pillar designated to campus facilities. **Thanks to the gift of two generous donors, the new athletic center is fully funded.**



After extensive interviews, analysis, and research, MLC's comprehensive campus site plan identified two priorities: residence space and indoor athletic space for sports teams, physical education training, and student life. For that reason, an athletic center and a residence hall were included in the facility improvement pillar of the ECW campaign.

MLC is thankful for the gifts received from many individuals, congregations, and schools throughout the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. MLC is also thankful for the support it has received from the New Ulm community. Those gifts provided a generous financial foundation for facilities, and now, God has moved the heart of two very generous donors to provide a transformational gift to the athletic center that will allow construction to commence.

The athletic center, named the Betty Kohn Fieldhouse, will be located at the MLC Athletic Field Complex west of the main campus, near the soccer and baseball fields. This 36,000-square-foot indoor turfed facility will feature large practice areas, baseball/softball batting cages, golf simulators, and locker rooms. In April, the MLC campus family will celebrate the groundbreaking of the fieldhouse, with student use anticipated by the beginning of 2022.

MLC President Rich Gurgel commented on this milestone of the Equipping Christian Witnesses campaign: "We are thankful to God for the generosity of so many people. The Betty Kohn Fieldhouse will serve our student body well. It is also a significant beginning to our long-range plans for making our campus even more attractive to prospective students. And we look forward to exploring how the fieldhouse can serve the recreation needs of the New Ulm community as well."

Serving together with you in Christ,  
WELS President Mark Schroeder

## **SOME CHURCH FUNCTIONS THIS WEEK:**

**Sunday, 1/17** = Worship Service w/ Communion, 9:00 AM  
Bible Study, 10:15 AM  
Special Communion Service, 6:00 PM

**Monday, 1/18** = Women's Bible Class, 6:30 PM

**Tuesday, 1/19** = Executive Council, 6:00 PM

**Wednesday, 1/20** = Worship Service Broadcast on Local Cable 12, 9:00 AM  
Bible Class (Schlieve), 10:00 AM  
Public School Confirmation Class, 2:15 PM

**Thursday, 1/21** = Worship Committee, 4:00 PM

**Saturday, 1/23** = Worship Service, 6:30 PM    *Organist: Mrs. Shannon Spreeman*

**Sunday, 1/24** = Worship Service, 9:00 AM  
Congregational Meeting, 10:15 AM  
Fellowship Group, 6:00 PM    Hosts & Hostess:

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### **Church Cleaning Teams:**

**Jan. 17** – Team 4 (Pat Jamison, Leonard Janovec,  
John & Jan Schlomer, Debbie Webb, Marlin & JoAnn Winter)

**Jan. 24 & Jan. 31** – Team 5 (Gary & Sue Bretschneider, Joan Ellenberger,  
Shannon Spreeman, Rick & Diane Ellenberger)

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### **St. Paul's Contact Information**

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[stpls.office@gmail.com](mailto:stpls.office@gmail.com)

St. Paul's Website: [www.stpls.com](http://www.stpls.com)  
WELS Website: [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)