

Welcome Friends & Neighbors:

Please sign our guest book in the church entry area before you leave. Be sure to include your phone numbers and e-mail. St. Paul's welcomes all who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Eucharistic bread and wine to receive communion. The pastor will give a special blessing to children who come to the altar but do not receive communion. Those who need to receive the elements in their seat should speak to an usher.

TODAY IS THE FINAL SERVICE AS ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH. Representing Bishop Herz-Lane is Linda Chinnia. At the close of the service she will receive the records and assets of the congregation and pass them on to the new church.

NEXT SUNDAY THE NEW CONGREGATION WILL BEGIN WORSHIP AT 10:30 A.M. AT THIS LOCATION. The new pastors, Jarrett Hansen and Laura Ingersol, will lead worship and inaugurate the ministry of the consolidated congregation. You will want to say "I was there", so come, worship, and bring friends and neighbors.

JANUARY PRAYER REQUEST FORM

Please remember _____

Submitted by _____

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

January 8, 2012



The Rev. Robert Moore, Interim Pastor
The Rev. Donald A. Haas, Pastor Emeritus
7902 Liberty Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21244
410-655-5250 FAX 410-655-8303
stpauls@closecall.com



Epiphany Sunday

Final Sunday as St. Paul's Church

ORGAN PRELUDE Now Thank we all our God

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism,
we are gathered in the name of the Father,
and the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Merciful God,
**we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and are not
worthy to be called your children. Have mercy on us and turn us
from our sinful ways. Bring us back to you as those who once were
dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin,
and resurrection from the dead. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins
are forgiven. Live in newness of life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 504

A mighty Fortress

A CELEBRATION OF ST. PAUL'S MINISTRY.

Members and friends of the congregation are
invited to a celebration of the long ministry of our
congregation on January 14, from 11 am to 3 pm
at Snyder's Restaurant, 841 N. Hammonds Ferry
Rd, Linthicum, MD 21090. Lunch is free but
reservations are required. Deadline is January 10.
Use the form on the table in the narthex or call the
church office.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR THE NEW YEAR:

Since there were only two Sundays left as St. Paul's congregation
(Jan. 1 and 8) we have not ordered offering envelopes for the new
year. Please use pew envelopes or one of your own. Include your
name and offering envelope number.

LOOK FOR THE BLUE RECYCLE CONTAINER.

St. Paul's has finally joined the country recycling program. So,
today, recycle bulletins, plastic drink containers, glass and metal
items by placing them in the blue container. It is placed in the
fellowship room near the waste basket. Our thanks to Fred and
Bernie Lambden for providing the container and collecting the
contents.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 840

Now thank we all our God

Following the hymn the congregation sits for a moment of reflection.

DISMISSAL

A. Let us go forth in peace,

In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE Grand Procession

Serving Today

The Rev. Robert Moore, Interim Pastor

Perry Palmer, Organist

Assisting Ministers: Werner Preibisch, Della Gamble

Greeter: Lynn Greenwalt

Lector: Dave Walker

Crucifer: Isabel Dowdy

Altar Guild: Eva Archer, Jo Bell

Prayer List: Throughout the week, you are asked to pray for the healing and well being of the following individuals:

Ted Pokorny
Paula Ehmann
Ed Kraft

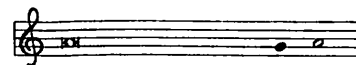
Betty Barrett
Chrissy Hennick

GREETING

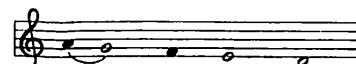
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

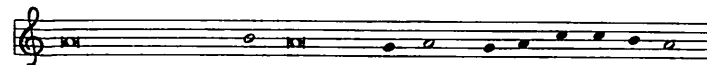
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



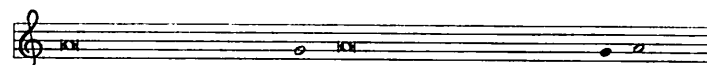
Lord, have mer - cy.



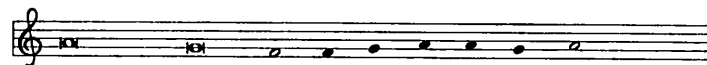
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



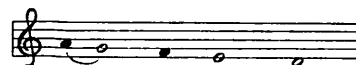
Lord, have mer - cy.



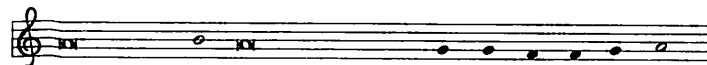
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



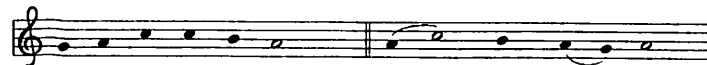
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



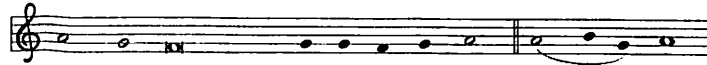
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and

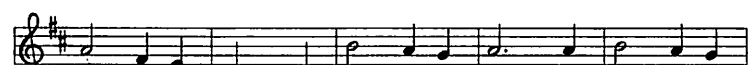


strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

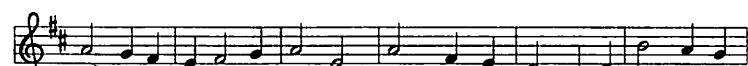
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

P. This is the feast of victory for our God! Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Receiving Communion

At St. Paul's we welcome all who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine to receive communion. The pastor will give a blessing to children who come to the altar but do not receive communion. Come forward by the side aisles as directed by the ushers.

COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P. The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's peace.

Gracious God, at your table you strengthen us for service wherever you will send us. As we leave this place that has been a home for worship and mission, help us to gather in *our new setting* that will provide further opportunities for our life and ministry. Welcome us forever into your embrace, until that day when all your people throughout the world worship together around the throne of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

Werner Preibisch: In remembrance and with thanksgiving, we hand over the documented history and official records that symbolize the joys and sorrows of the people of God in this place. Receive and preserve them so that the ministry of this congregation may be remembered.

Linda Chinia: With thanks to God for the work accomplished in this place, I declare this congregation St. Paul's to be closed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May the witness of the people who have ministered in the name of Jesus Christ through St. Paul's be undiminished and continue as they leave this place.

Amen.

BLESSING

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

C: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever . Amen.

Continue by saying the 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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you

C. And also with you

P: Let us pray...

C: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

PSALM 72

Give the king your jus- ¹tice, O God,

and your righteousness to ¹the king's son;

²that he may rule your ¹people righteously
and the ¹poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity ¹to the people,

and the ¹hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy a- ¹mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush ¹the oppressor. R

⁵May he live as long as the sun and ¹moon endure,
from one generation ¹to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon ¹the mown field,
like showers that wa- ¹ter the earth.

⁷In his time may the ¹righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall ¹be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the ¹isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba ¹offer gifts. R

¹¹May all kings bow ¹down before him,
and all the nations ¹do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out ¹in distress,
the oppressed, and those who ¹have no helper.

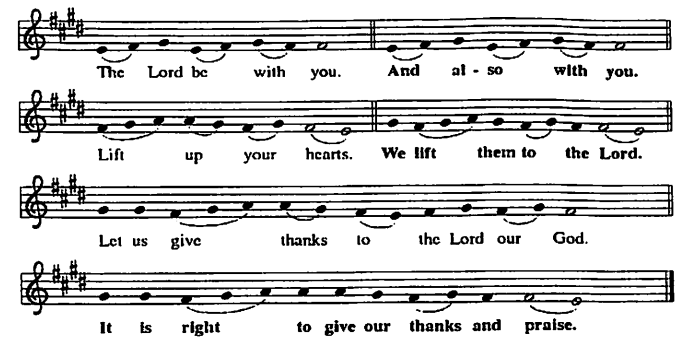
¹³He has compassion on the low- ¹ly and poor,
and preserves the lives ¹of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he re- ¹deems their lives,
and precious is their blood ¹in his sight

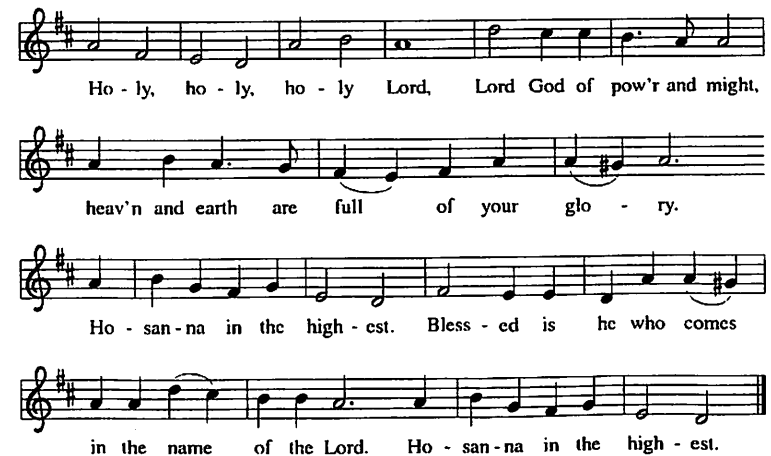
SECOND READING *Ephesians 3:1-12*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



challenges, those who have moved away, and all who have died and now rest in you, we give you thanks, rejoicing that we are joined together in one eternal communion. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the glory of the Lord revealed to the world, we offer these and all our prayers to you, O God of our salvation. **Amen.**

PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.

The congregation greets one another.

THE MEAL

OFFERING Choir

OFFERTORY HYMN 686

We give thee but thine own, what e're the gifts may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee

P: Let us pray...

C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL *Matthew 6:25-34*

P: The holy gospel according to...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith?

³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his

righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Church's One Foundation

THE 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 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

The Presiding Minister will invite your prayer. An assisting minister will guide the assembly in the intercessory prayers and the congregation responds as indicated in bold print.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic church in all times and places,

of which this congregation and its building have been a part, we give our thanks and praise. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the men and women who founded this congregation, who made personal sacrifices in order for it to grow and flourish, and who used their talents and skills in building up a community of faith, we give our thanks and praise. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For this congregation's ministries throughout its life, its gatherings for praise and prayer, its faithful use of the means of grace, and its study of the scriptures, we give our thanks and praise. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For this building that has sheltered St. Paul's for 56 years, that the memory of this place will continue to inspire devotion to the God who makes all things possible. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who hold special attachments to this congregation [and to this building]; for those who have been baptized, nurtured in faith, confirmed, or married in this place; that the Holy Spirit's gifts continue to sustain them even as this congregation's outward expression *takes on a new form*. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the members of this congregation, who will continue gathering as a people of God in *a new community of faith*, that today will mark not only the end of an era but also the beginning of new opportunities for worship and service. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the Del-MD *synod*, its present and past bishops, staff, and other leaders who have helped this congregation throughout the years, especially as they have led us to be faithful in our proclamation of the gospel. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have been a part of the ministry of this congregation throughout its life, those who have remained constant in the face of