

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



St. Paul Lutheran Church
February 7 & 8, 2026

Welcome to St. Paul

We are **broken** and **blessed** followers of Christ providing a **home** for all who wander the weary road.

We invite you to sign a guest card in the pew rack, noting your attendance and place it in the offering plate as the offering is taken or you may sign the attendance book in the Fellowship Hall.

Holy Communion

To Our Guests: We're glad you're here! Lutherans believe this sacrament is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine. Here he gives himself and all that he promises. Receiving the sacrament is also an expression of full unity in faith with those with whom you are communing. Based on this theological principle, if you are a member of a congregation that shares the confession of faith of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have been instructed concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to commune with us today. We continue to pray for the day when all divisions in the body of Christ will cease. Anyone who wishes may receive a pastoral blessing by kneeling at the altar rail with your arms folded across your chest. If you desire to commune at St. Paul and would like to learn more about the Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor.

To Those Communing Today: God's Word instructs those who come to the Lord's Table to first examine themselves. You may use the "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on p.329-330 in the hymnal to guide you in self-examination.

The pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by an usher with a tray of individual cups. The pastor will then follow with the Chalice.

Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the pastor or an usher before the service.

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Two (LSB page 167)

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand as you are able and face the baptismal font

“Repentance, therefore, is nothing else than a return and approach to baptism, to resume and practice what has earlier been begun but abandoned” (Large Catechism)

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love
through Humble Service”

LSB 848



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



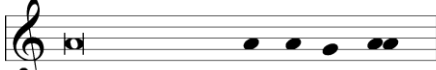
crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt. Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia
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Stand as you are able

KYRIE

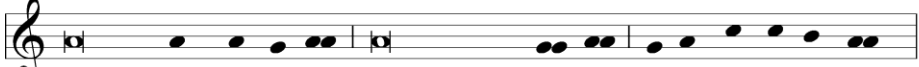
Lord Have Mercy



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



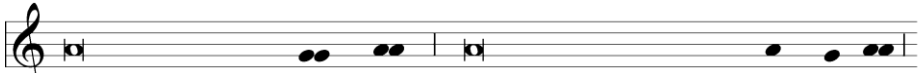
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



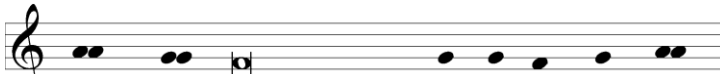
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God in the Highest



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - migh - ty God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the



Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:3-9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?” Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

After the reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112:1-9

A Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
who greatly delights in his commandments!

C His offspring will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

A Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.

C Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

A It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.

C For the righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever.

A He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.

C His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.

A He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness
endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—
¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit

searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

After the reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

ALLELUIA and VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. ¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to

abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

After the reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” **LSB 411**

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. refrain
- ref In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. refrain
- 3 I’m looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

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Stand as you are able

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-- our selves, our time, our income, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

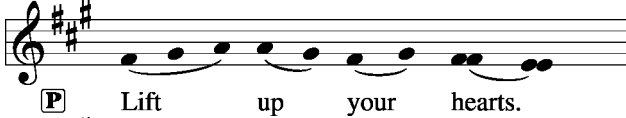
PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



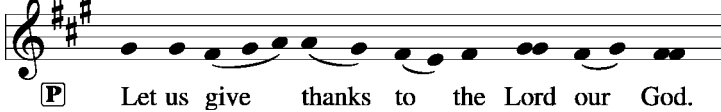
C And al-so with you.



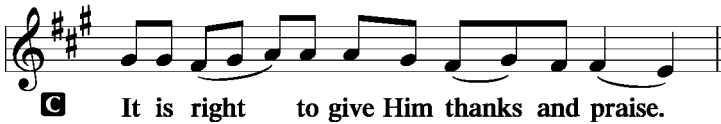
P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them 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, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to His Supper. *John 1:29; Revelation 19:9*

C Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed. *Matthew 8:8*

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

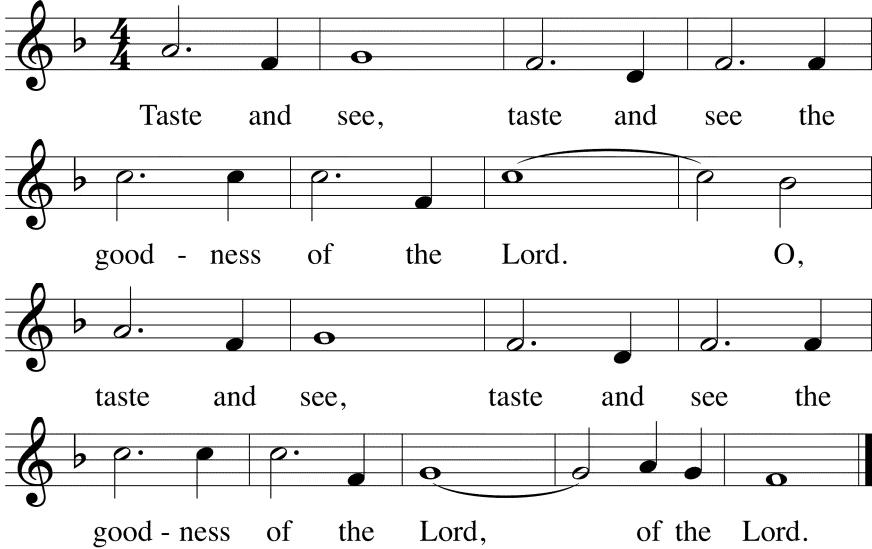


What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Taste and See”



Taste and see, taste and see the
good - ness of the Lord. O,
taste and see, taste and see the
good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

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Stand as you are able

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Nunc Dimittis



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-ises
and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

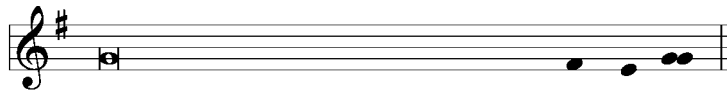
P Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer

We give thanks to You, almighty God.....one God, now and forever.

C Amen

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

A TIME FOR PRAYER

Following the service today, the pastor and other prayer partners will be available to pray for you for any needs or concerns you may have. You are also welcome to stay in the sanctuary and pray individually.

POSTLUDE

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. Cover Photo by Jason Tuinstra, used with permission.



Flowers On The Altar

Sue & Cindy Hass
in memory of their father

Preparing Yourself For Worship

In order to help prepare your selves for our worship services, we are listing below the scripture readings for the coming week.

February 14 & 15 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:8-18, 2 Peter 1:16.21, Matthew 17:1-9

Worship Assistants

	Sat. Feb 7 – 5:30pm	Sun, Feb 8 – 9:00am
Head Usher:	Dennis Fry	Greg Kittle
Organist:	David Pitt	David Pitt

Anniversaries This Week

None

Baptismal Birthdays

7-Nicole Oliver 12-Angie Kelley

13-Brianna Fry

Birthdays This Week

None

- **Salvation Army Food Pantry** - For the month of February, we are collecting the following items for the Food Pantry:

<i>Hot Chocolate</i>	<i>Ramen Noodles</i>	<i>Peanut Butter & Jelly</i>
<i>Laundry Soap</i>	<i>Canned Meats</i>	<i>Shampoo</i>

January 31 & February 1 Statistics

In-Person Attendance:	93
Views* on Facebook:	18
Overall Participation:	111

*The number of devices playing our service for one minute or longer. This does not account for groups who watched together on the same screen.

University of Dubuque Chamber Singers are coming back to St. Paul! Mark your calendars - they will join us for our worship service on Saturday, February 21 (5:30pm). Invite a friend!

Pizza Ranch: Help support the Women of St. Paul with our mission projects. Dine at Pizza Ranch on Wednesday, Feb 11th from 4pm – 8pm. We will get 10% of the nights income and the tips. *Nancy Henry*

Interested in Serving on the Church Council?

Current Church Council terms conclude in June 2026. In preparation, the Council will present a list of candidates for voter approval at the May 17, 2026 Voters' Meeting. If you feel called to serve, please contact Pastor Crawford or Dave Kelley for more information. Council officer positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary. Committee leadership opportunities include Elders, Education, Mission and Ministry, and Properties.

Prayer Requests

Mindful of the Father's great mercy shown to us in Jesus, we pray on behalf of those who are in need.

For those undergoing cancer treatment:

Roger Riechmann (father of Teri Riechmann & Sheila Zasada)
Jayme Niemeier (nephew of Dave & Sue Krause)
Raymond Kruser (brother-in-law of Dave & Sue Krause)
Zeke Pergande (son of Dan & Doris Pergande)
Mark Goetschius (brother of A.J. Osterkamp)
Toni Jo Stelpflug (niece of Doris Pergande)
Matthew Kittle (brother to Greg Kittle)
Rhonda Kittle (sister-in-law to Greg Kittle)
Brittini Strege (niece of Richard & Kim Weed)
Jerry (family friend of Richard & Kim Weed)
Heidi Zimmer & Pat Zimmer her caregiver (friends of Misty Lutz)
Kevin Engler (brother of Nancy Clark)
Dan Pergande, Debra Spear, Richard Weed, Jill Adams

For our members who are homebound:

Laverne Ball (Ennoble Manor), Nancy Clark, Jean Henningsen (Sunnycrest Manor), Bruce & Annabelle Schaal, Judy Pergande, Doris Pergande, Dusty Colby, Jayson Eichman (Harmony), Jan Anderson, Elaine Rohde, Damaris Eichman

Additional Prayer Requests

- Joseph May - (co-worker friend of Teri Riechmann & Nicole Oliver)

**Note: The "additional" section of the prayer list will be cleared at the beginning of each month. If you would like a name to remain on the list into the next month, please contact the church office and we would be happy to continue praying for your intention.*

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



Why is Confession so important to a Christian?

Confessing our sins is important! When we confess them, we see just how terribly sinful we are.

We also know that sin brings nothing but eternal death and separation from God. When we confess our sins, not only do we see that we are sinful, but we admit to God that we deserve death and separation from Him forever. We are free to admit all of this to Him because we know that Jesus has already died and paid for all of our sins.

After we have confessed our sins, is there any hope?

After Confession comes Absolution, or, the forgiveness of sins! In Jesus we have the sure and true promise of forgiveness of sins. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Wow! Absolution is *absolutely* wonderful!




Parents: Before the service, read through the confession and explain the words that might be confusing. During the service, help direct your children to the Confession/Absolution as it happens. Remind them that when the Pastor is speaking, it is as if God himself is speaking these words of comfort to us.



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St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30am-1:30pm

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Teri Riechmann, Secretary - (563) 556-7636

E-mail: stpsecretary@msn.com

Schedule For The Week

5th Sun aft Epiphany Sat. Feb 7	5:30pm	Divine Service
5th Sun aft Epiphany Sun. Feb 8	8:00am 9:00am 10:30am	Choir Practice Divine Service Bible Study/Sunday School
Mon. Feb 9	6:00pm	Mission Circle Meeting
Tues. Feb 10		
Wed. Feb 11	8:30am	TOPS
Thur. Feb 12	4pm – 5:30pm	Confirmation
Fri. Feb 13		
The Transfiguration of Our Lord Sat Feb 14	5:30pm	Divine Service
The Transfiguration of Our Lord Sun. Feb 15	8:00am 9:00am 10:30am	Choir Practice Divine Service Bible Study/Sunday School