



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2100 16th Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

Phone: 507-433-1957

Cell: 507-219-2517

Church Office:

Phone: 507-433-8191

Worship Services streamed on YouTube Channel: St. Paul CLC Austin.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com

www.CLClutheran.org

www.ilc.edu/home.htm

January 31, 2021

4th Sunday after Epiphany

PRESERVICE PRAYER Heavenly Father, in your grace and love for a fallen mankind You have caused the light of the glory of God to be revealed in the face of Jesus Christ. We pray that You would send your Holy Spirit into our midst, that as we hear Your holy Word we may comprehend the glory of Jesus so that the light of the gospel might shine in our hearts, dispelling the darkness of sin and death and granting us the hope of everlasting life, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

HYMN 239 Come, Thou Almighty King

1. Come, Thou almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.
Father all glorious, O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

2. Come, Thou Incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty Sword,
Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless And give Thy Word success;
Stablish Thy righteousness, Savior and Friend!

3. Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour.
Thou, who almighty art, Now rule in every heart
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of Pow'r!

4. To the great One in Three Eternal praises be
Hence evermore!
His sov'reign majesty May we in glory see
And to eternity Love and adore!

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

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C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin

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

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Together let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: 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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and honorable man in the eyes of his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was also a mighty man of valor, *but* a leper. ²And the Syrians had gone out on raids, and had brought back captive a young girl from the land of Israel. She waited on Naaman's wife. ³Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master *were* with the prophet who *is* in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy." ⁴And *Naaman* went in and told his master, saying, "Thus and thus said the girl who *is* from the land of Israel."

⁵Then the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he departed and took with him ten talents of silver, six

thousand *shekels* of gold, and ten changes of clothing. ⁶ Then he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which said,

Now be advised, when this letter comes to you, that I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may heal him of his leprosy.

⁷ And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, “*Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me.*”

⁸ So it was, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, “Why have you torn your clothes? Please let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.”

⁹ Then Naaman went with his horses and chariot, and he stood at the door of Elisha’s house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and *you shall* be clean.” ¹¹ But Naaman became furious, and went away and said, “Indeed, I said to myself, ‘He will surely come out *to me*, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.’ ¹² *Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?*” So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, “My father, *if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it?* How much more then, when he says to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. (NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:40-45

Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.”

⁴¹ Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” ⁴² As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

⁴³ And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, ⁴⁴ and said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

⁴⁵ However, he went out and began to proclaim *it* freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city, but was outside in deserted places; and they came to Him from every direction.

(NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 417 How Can I Thank Thee, Lord

1. How can I thank Thee, Lord For all Thy lovingkindness,
That Thou hast patiently Borne with me in my blindness?
When dead in many sins And trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God, Thine anger ev'ry day.

2. It is thy work alone That I am now converted;
O'er Satan's work in me Thou hast Thy pow'r asserted.
Thy mercy and Thy grace That rise afresh each morn
Have turned my stony heart Into a heart new-born.

3. I could but grieve Thee, Lord And with my sins displease Thee;
Yet to atone for sin My works could not appease Thee
Though I could fall from grace and choose the way of sin,
I had no strength to rise, A new life to begin.

4. But Thou hast raised me up To joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way That leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away, For this I thank Thee, Lord;
And with my heart and soul All dead works are abhorred.

THE SERMON: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Theme: Running the Race of Faith

I. Securing the Prize of Eternal Glory

II. Striving for the Finish Line

SERMON TEXT: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain *it*.²⁵ And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for an imperishable crown*.²⁶ Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as *one who* beats the air.²⁷ But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

(NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD'S PRAYER

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATION OFFICERS

In the regular fall quarterly meeting of St. Paul's Lutheran Church the following were called to serve the congregation. Today they willingly give their pledge to serve this congregation as the Lord gives them strength. Chairman - Randy Berg; Vice chairman / Elder – Leon Hellickson; Secretary –Joe Ubl; Treasurer;– Ken Nickson; Board of Building and Grounds - Luke Berg; Elders - Joe Ubl, Melvin Eichstadt

HYMN 447 Fight the Good Fight

1. Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy Strength and Christ thy Right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally

2. Run the straight race Thro' God's good grace;
Lift up thine eyes and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the Path and Christ the Prize.

3. Cast care aside; Upon thy Guide
Lean, and His mercy will provide;
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its Life and Christ its Love.

4. Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear.
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is All in all to Thee.

BENEDICTION;

C: Amen.

Hymn 453:2 We Are the Lord's

2. We are the Lord's; then let us gladly tender
Our souls to Him in deeds, not empty words.
Let heart and tongue and life combine to render
No doubtful witness that we are the Lord's.

CALENDAR

TODAY: Thank you for coming to hear the Word.

Used bulletins should either be taken home or deposited in the wastepaper basket at the narthex door. Your offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the nave. Annual Voters meeting will follow about 20 minutes after the service. The Ladies Aid has also scheduled a meeting to follow the service this morning. NO Bible class this morning.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism via ZOOM beginning at 4:00p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Bible class is scheduled to follow the service. Next Sunday's sermon text: Mark 2:1-12.

FEBRUARY 17th: ASH WEDNESDAY Our midweek Lenten meditations begin. On Ash Wednesday we will have Holy Communion. Service begins at 7:00 p.m. We will not be having our traditional soup and sandwich suppers this year.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: January 25 worship – 15 Bible Class - 11

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,250.00	Other offerings
Offerings Received	\$ 950.00	
Needed for Year:	\$5,000.00	
Received for Year:	\$4,290.00	

February Church Cleaning – Barthels

CLC NEWS: Pastor David Schaller, Redeemer, Sister Lakes (Dowagiac), MI, has received the call to serve as professor at Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI. This call is for replacing Prof. John Reim who is retiring in June of 2021.

Special Announcement: Ron and Karen Strike, former members of St. Paul's, (Karen was our last Christian day school teacher, and Ron served selflessly on the Board of Buildings and Grounds,) will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, February 12, 2021.

A SURPRISE card shower is being planned for them. If you would like to send greetings, please address it to:

Ron and Karen Strike

c/o Phil Strike

PO Box 134

Okabena, MN 56161

ILC Dorm Supervisors: After serving faithfully as dorm supervisors, both Gus Falkenberg and Beth Sandeen will be resigning at the end of this academic year. We thank them both for their faithful service to the LORD and for being such positive role models to our dorm students. ILC is accepting applicants for these two positions to begin the 2021-22 year, an adult male for the boys' dorm and an adult female for the girls' dorm. These roles are vital to our campus given how they provide spiritual counsel and a parental role for students living away from home. Those who are CLC members in good standing and are interested in filling this position may contact ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck (dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231) for more information about this position. An application is available online at ilc.edu > Forms and Applications > ILC Employment Application. Review of applications begins March 8.