

ORDER OF WORSHIP

## **2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

JANUARY 14, 2024

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 8100 Shady Grove Rd. Mechanicsville, VA 23111

SAINTPAUL-LCMS.COM 804.427.7500

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

## Sunday Schedule Adult Bible Study – 9:15 a.m.

Rev. Rodney E. Bitely, Pastor Mr. Bill Moats, Choir Director Mr. Roger Sethmann, Organist Mr. Eric Burcham, Guest Organist Mrs. Debbie Harris, Church Secretary

## Traditional Worship – 10:30 a.m.

## A Word About Communion

We Lutherans believe in the Real Presence, namely that Christ's body and blood are actually present with the bread and wine in a very special way (1 Cor. 10:16). Because we want to honor Christ and to grow closer to Him through this precious gift of forgiveness we practice close communion. Our faith in Christ brings us closer to Him and to each other. This sacrament is His way of keeping us close, that is, in union or communion with Him and fellow Christians. In order to build closeness, please read below before communing.

- I confess my sins to God and rely on Jesus Christ to save me from them.
- I believe that Christ is really present in this Sacrament and that with the bread and wine I actually receive His true body and blood.
- I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life and live a life that is pleasing to God.



## As We Gather

Those who have had younger children at times become aware of their selective hearing. When told of something exciting or a treat to be enjoyed, a quick and evident response from hearing is had. Yet, when asked or told to do something which may be



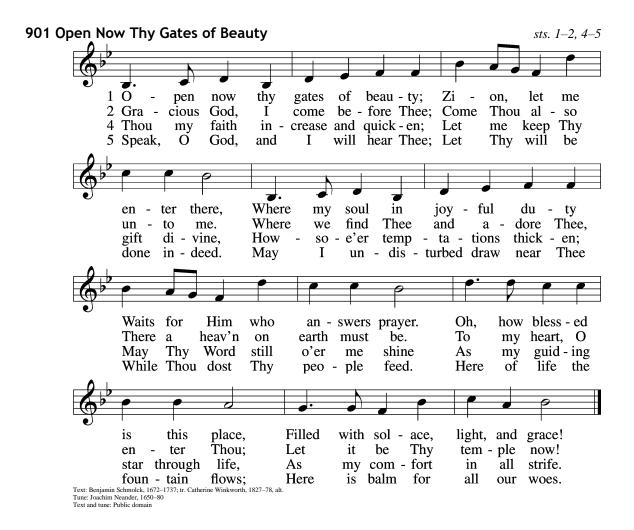
- $\mathbf{P}$  Pastor
- $\mathbf{A}$  Assistant/Reader
- $\mathbf{C}$  Congregation

unfavorable, it seems listening is lost. Either a claim is made of, "I didn't hear you," or the response are questions of "what?" or "why?" As children of God, we can learn from Samuel regarding our response to

what our heavenly Father speaks. Whether good news or something we'd prefer not to be told or asked, we are wise to not only hear but to listen, and more than that, to respond in faith, "Speak, for Your servant hears" (1 Samuel 3:10).

## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements



#### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

 $\mathbf{P}$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### **Opening Sentences**

- **P** O LORD, You have searched me and known me!
- **C** You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from afar.
- P You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
- **C** Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.
- P You hem me in, behind and before, and lay Your hand upon me.
- **C** Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.
- P Where shall I go from Your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, You are there!
- **C** If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.
- **P** Speak, LORD,
- **C** for Your servant hears.

#### Confession & Absolution

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13; [John 20:19-23]

- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- ▶ Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

- 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

#### Introit

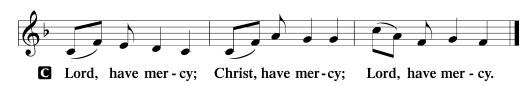
*Psalm 40:1–5; antiphon: vv. 10a, b* 

- **P** I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;
- **C** I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
- **P** I waited patiently for the LORD;
- **C** he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- P He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,
- **C** and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
- P He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
- **C** Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.
- P Blessèd is the man who makes the LORD his trust,
- **C** who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!
- P You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you!
- **C** I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.
- **P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- **C** as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- **P** I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;
- **C** I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation.

## Kyrie

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.





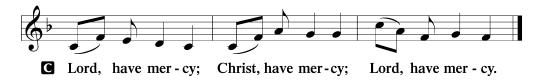
**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



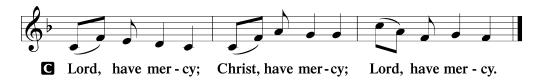
● For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

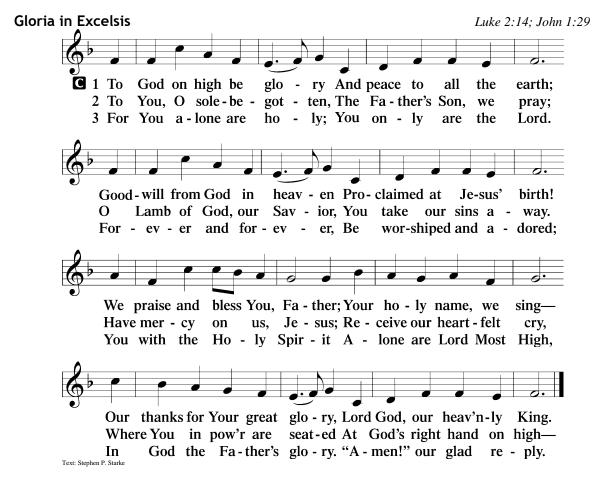


**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.





#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- ▶ Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Epiphany 2

**C** Amen.

Sit

#### **Old Testament Reading**

The Lord calls Samuel.

A The Old Testament Reading is from 1 Samuel, chapter 3.

The young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears." Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." And Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him."

And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Epistle

God's call to flee from immorality.

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 6.

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### **Choral Anthem**

Stand

#### Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

- **P** Praise the LORD, all nations!
- C Extol him, all peoples!
- **P** For great is his steadfast love toward us,
- **C** and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
- **P** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
- **C** bring an offering, and come into his courts!

#### Holy Gospel

Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.C Glory to You, O Lord.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God. Light of Light. very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

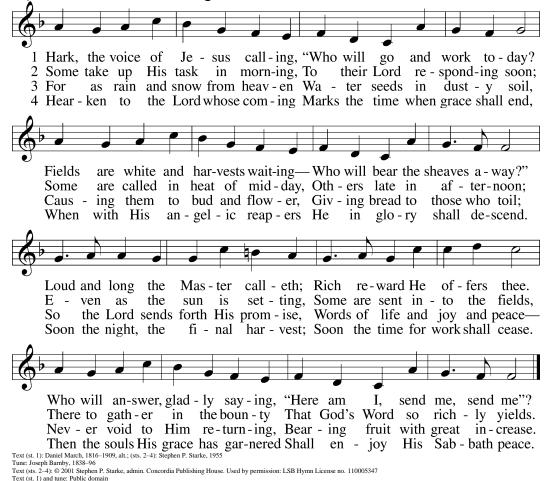
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

#### Sit

#### **Children's Message**

All children, preschool age through elementary school, are invited to come forward for a special message.

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling



Sermon - 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:1-20, "Speak, Your Servant Hears"

"And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant hears...' And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet from the Lord." I<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:10, 33

#### Prayer

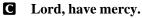
- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

## **C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

#### **C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:



**P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

#### **C** Lord, have mercy.

■ For those who labor, and for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, *especially...*, let us pray to the Lord:

#### **C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

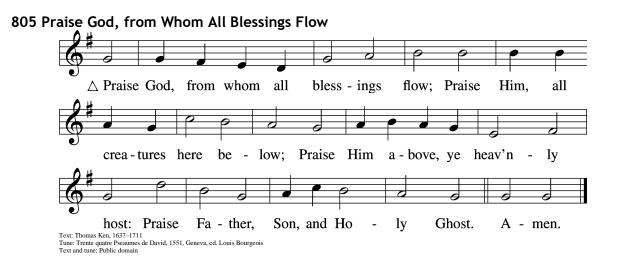
#### **C** Lord, have mercy.

- **P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, *especially...*, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Sit

## Offering

#### Voluntary

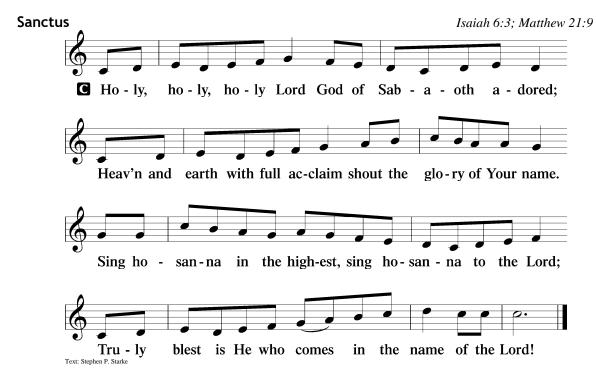


# Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also 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.
- ▶ It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



#### Lord's Prayer

С

Matthew 6:9–13

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
  - 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 Words of Our Lord

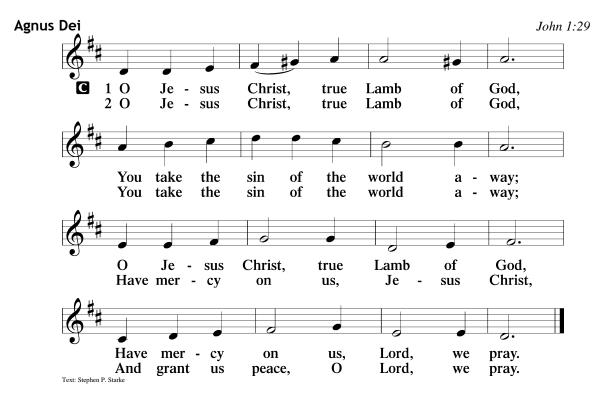
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + → body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

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

**C** Amen.



Sit

#### Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

#### Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

- ▶ Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

#### Benedicamus

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

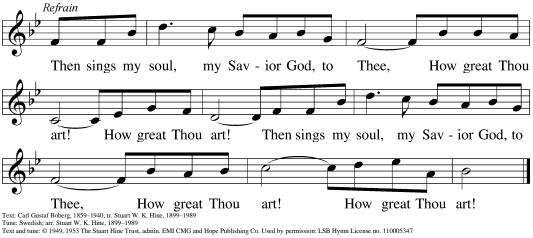
The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



- **P** Go in peace.
- **C** Serve the Lord!

801 How Great Thou Art
1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the 3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me
all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun-tain die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur-den glad - ly home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o-
thun-der, Thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played; gran-deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze; bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin; ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Psalm 103:1



#### Postlude

#### Acknowledgments

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Service, 2023-12-17, Advent 3



A Congregation Sharing Christ's Salvation By Grace... Through Faith... Revealed in Scripture... Alone.