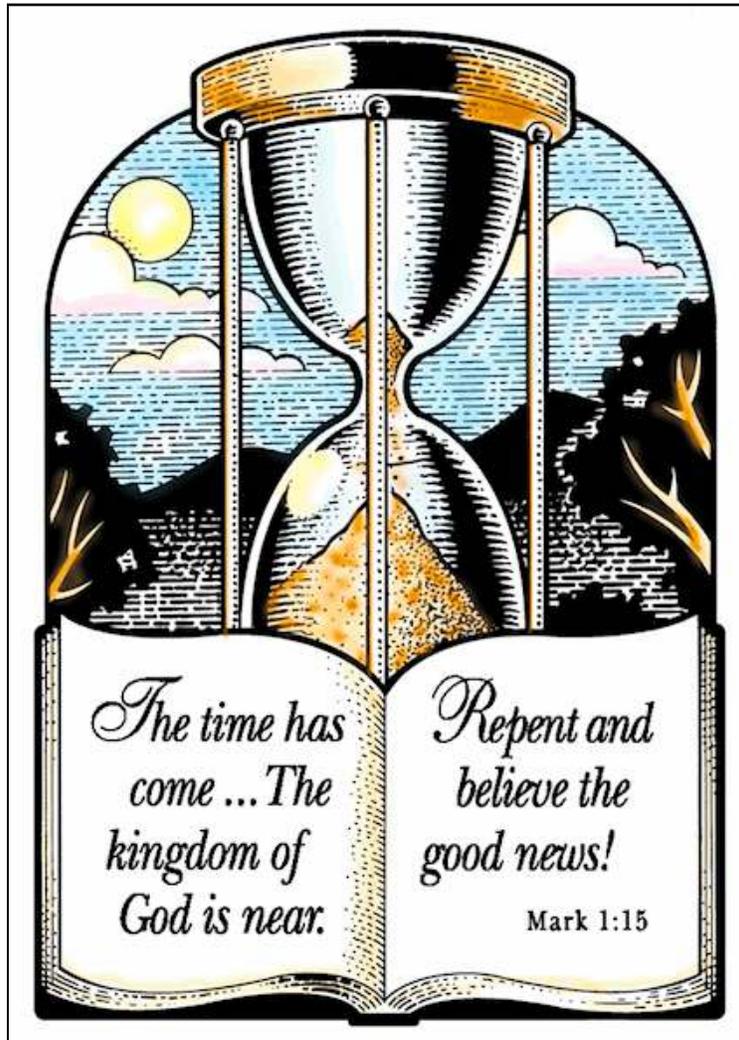


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 21, 2018**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214
(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Larry Reed, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent
Ruth Greening, Suzannah Miller, Lisa Sprengeler, organists

Pre-Service Devotion	Psalm 62 (red hymnal, p.129)
Order of Morning Worship	Tan hymnal, p.12
The Hymns	904, 688, 685, 748
Scripture Lessons	Hebrews 11:8-16, Mark 1:14-20
Psalm of the Day	From Psalm 84

Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

LET US LIVE AS "EPIPHANY CHRISTIANS"

Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
Prayers & the Lord's Prayer
Benediction & Closing Hymn, 748

† † †

A Warm Welcome in Christ to our Worship Guests. We're glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Hebrews 11:8-16

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 84

P How lovely is your dwelling place:

C O Lord Almighty!

P My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord:

C My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

P Blessed are those who dwell in your house:

C They are ever praising you.

P Blessed are those whose strength is in you:

C Who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.

P As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs:

C The autumn rains also cover it with pools.

P They go from strength to strength:

C Till each appears before God in Zion.

P Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere:

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P O Lord Almighty:

C Blessed is the man who trusts in you.

Second Lesson – Mark 1:14-20

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his

brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

+ + +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (1/21)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Temptation of Christ, NT 7)
	10:45 am	Annual Voters' Meeting
Tuesday (1/23)	10:00 am	Pastoral Study Conference at Loveland
Sunday (1/28)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service with installation of church officers
	10:45 am	Sunday School (The First Miracle, NT 8)
	2:30 pm	Colorado Springs Worship Service

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Fellowship gathering at the parsonage: Friday, Feb.2, 6-8 pm
- Ash Wednesday Worship: Wednesday, Feb.14, 7:00 pm
- Choir Practices: Sunday, Jan. 28, Feb.11 & 25, 8:30 am
- Mission Project: Sunday, Feb.25, 10:45 am. (*see note below*)

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE IN JANUARY

- Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Larry Reed
- Communion assistant: Mike Sprengeler

IN OUR PRAYERS: Leon Lacoste, son of Nick Lacoste and Brandi Erwin (great-grandson of Fred and Bobbie Brethauer), who was born five weeks premature on January 15. May the Good Shepherd tenderly keep and graciously guide the future of His precious lamb.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICES 2018 (elections to take place during today's Annual Meeting):

- President: Larry Reed
- Vice President: Doug Tiefel
- Secretary: Mark Hartmeister
- Treasurer: Wayne Ruegge
- Finance Committee: Mark Hartmeister, Bob Rankin (currently serving: Wayne Ruegge, Doug Tiefel)
- Elders: Ed Chiappetti, Larry Reed (currently serving: Mike Sprengeler)
- Trustees: Darrick Peters (currently serving: Wayne Ruegge, Mike Sprengeler)

Additional nominations may be made from the floor. If you are a voting member and would like to serve the Lord in any of the capacities listed above, please inform President Larry Reed or the pastor.

RESULTS OF LAST SUNDAY'S MARTHA/MARY LADIES' MEETING ELECTIONS:

- President: Ruth Greening
- Vice President: Crystal Ruegge
- Secretary: Jo Blakey
- Treasurer: Crystal Ruegge

May the Lord bless the labors of love which these servants carry out for Him and the welfare of His flock at St. Paul in the new year!

MISSION PROJECT: At the ladies' annual meeting last Sunday, our ladies resolved to spearhead a project here at St. Paul for our overseas missions, in cooperation with other CLC churches. The project involves making cross necklaces to be given to Missionary Todd Ohlmann for distributing to people living in our overseas mission fields next summer. (The goal for the number of necklaces to be made collectively by all CLC churches is 6000). The date chosen for the necklace-making project here at St. Paul is Sunday, February 25, after the worship service. All are invited to participate.



SYNOD NEWS: Neal Radichel, pastor of Luther Memorial Church, Fond du Lac WI, has accepted the call to serve as the co-pastor for Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato MN.

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR EPIPHANY DEVOTIONS

JANUARY 22-27

Mon Malachi 3:13-18 Those people had been raised as God's children, had heard the Word of God, and they even sang in the choir—but they had gone sour. Their hearts had not been washed clean with repentance, and resident bacteria had curdled the milk of God's goodness (13-15). What great loss! Of those who revered Him God said: *they shall be mine, I will make them My special treasure, and I will spare them.* What great gain!

Tues Luke 6:20-26 The Beatitudes are descriptive, for being *poor* in spirit, *hungry* for Jesus' righteousness, and *weeping* over sins describe the spiritual traits of God's children—just as hatred, reviling, and bullying are spiritual traits of Satan's tribe (20-23). Anyone who is so full of self, so thrilled with earthly life, and so popular that he fits in with *false prophets* . . . is in BIG trouble with God (25-26). *WOE = Weep Over Everything* that has ruined you.

Wed 2 Corinthians 13:5-14 When we cross-examine ourselves, what do we come up with? Certainly our failings, mistakes, anger, lusts, deceit, _____, and _____, too. How can anyone balance his account? On the bottom line God allows us to come up with Jesus (5) and claim His personal credits to cancel out our personal discredits. That's the reliable truth (8) and the reason we keep a strong grip (9) on Jesus and on all God's blessings (11-14). Amen!

Thurs Psalm 66:8-12, 20 Let's have a few moments of rejoicing: *Oh, bless our God, you peoples!* Why? Because God dumped us into the *fire* of His smelting furnace, turned up the heat, and boiled off the dross (10). He also flushed away our dirt via the *water* of Holy Baptism. That's how He brought us out of the rubble into His *rich fulfillment* (12). *Blessed be God, who has not turned away our repentant prayers nor removed His mercy from us!*

Fri Luke 6:27-36 When we face bullies (29) as well as beggars (30), how do we behave? What's our golden rule of conduct (30)? Reciprocity is nice, but that's just common decency (32-34). God expects His children to have the better motivation of behaving as He does, for He is *kind to the unthankful and evil, and merciful* all-around (35-36). Lord, please forgive us for our sins, even though forgiving us brought Jesus low. Lord, have mercy on us!

Sat Hebrews 3:12-15 Many dangers to our souls have sharp points, but the old, blunt-trauma ones are still bad enough. You know what they are: a heart that is attuned to this world's perversities rather than to God's Word and business, the evil of unbelief, the *evil heart that departs from the living God* and goes wandering about, looking for a more thrilling and stimulating venue. *Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you such a heart,* for that means you have been traumatized by Satan. *WOE* to such a soul! What can we do about it? Exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness (trickiness) of sin. We have become partakers of Christ, and we want all God's children to hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end. To this help us, dear Father in heaven.