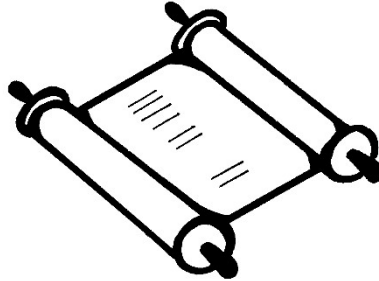


Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Eucharist Service  
January 26, 2025



**Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
12095 Blades Road, PO Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625  
Phone: 410-364-5147 – Email: [info@stpaulscordova.org](mailto:info@stpaulscordova.org)  
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**Meredith Lewis-Secretary**  
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*Vertrau Auf Gott!*  
*[Trust in God]*  
*Services are being live-streamed and recorded.*

## The Holy Eucharist

### Announcements & Prelude

A Hymn in Procession – “I Love to Tell the Story”

Hymnal #661

### The Invocation

*Celebrant* In the Name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
*People* Amen.

### The Prayer of Invocation

*The Celebrant continues*

Send forth, O God, your good grace, and sanctify our souls, bodies, and spirits; turn our thoughts to holiness, so that with pure conscience we may offer to you the sacrifice of praise; through the mercy and compassion of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

### The Confession of Sin and Absolution

*Celebrant*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

*The Celebrant and People together*

**Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

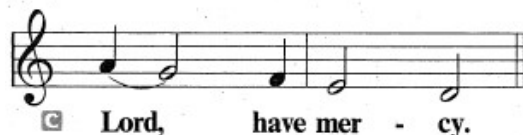
*The Celebrant stands and declares the absolution.*

### The Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie Eleison – “Lord, have mercy”

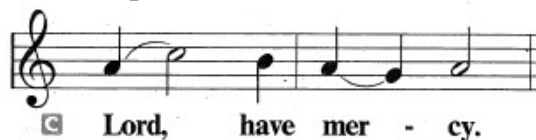
*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

(*Response:* **And also with you.**)

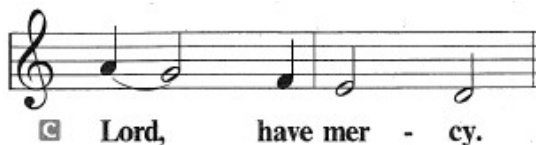
*Celebrant* In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
*People*



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



*Celebrant* For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the Church of  
*People* God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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



*Celebrant* Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.  
*People*



**The Canticle – *This is the Feast***

***This is the feast of victory for our God.***

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.***

***This is the feast of victory for our God.***

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.***

***This is the feast of victory for our God.***

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

***Sing with all the people of God,***

*and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God  
and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

*This is the feast of victory for our God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.*

*Alleluia.*

*This is the feast of victory for our God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.** *Celebrant* Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **A Reading of Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

*Lector* The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 19** *Read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get  
dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in  
your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

**A Reading of 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole

body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.    *People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*Almighty Father, in your Son  
you loved us, when not yet begun  
was this old earth's foundation!  
Your Son has ransomed us in love  
to live in him here and above:  
this is your great salvation.  
Alleluia!  
Christ the living, to us giving  
life forever, keeps us yours and fails us never!*

### **A Reading of the Gospel according to Luke 4:14-21**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives.

*People* **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*Celebrant*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon**

*The Reverend Jonathon Moyers, S.T.M.*

**A Hymn – “Christ, Be Our Light”**

**Hymnal #715**



## The Apostles' Creed

*The Celebrant and People together*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the † body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition, (God of grace) the congregation responds: Hear our prayer.*

## The Sharing of Peace

*Celebrant*     The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**

## The Liturgy of the Altar

**The Offertory Hymn – “One Bread, One Body”**

**Hymnal #496**

## The Offertory Prayer

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

*People*     **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.**



## The Great Thanksgiving

**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.

### *The Celebrant continues*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with angels and archangels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### *The Celebrant and People together*

**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.

*The Celebrant continues*

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection; we await his coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people. And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share these holy mysteries, that we may receive the true body and precious blood of your Son.

Fill us with your ✠ Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, \_\_\_\_\_, and all the saints, we may praise and glorify you, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

*The Celebrant and People together*

**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 Agnus Dei – “Lamb of God”



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;**



**grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## Invitation to Holy Communion

*Celebrant* Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his Supper.

*People* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you. But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## The Distribution of Holy Communion

*In the Evangelical-Lutheran tradition, we invite all baptized persons to receive Holy Communion at the altar. We believe that in the Blessed Sacrament we receive the true Body and precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Please come forward as directed by the usher and return by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward, the Celebrant will bring Holy Communion to you.*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People together*

**Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

*The Celebrant*

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. In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**The Final Hymn – “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” Hymnal #551**

**The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

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**This Week**

**Monday, January 27: 5 pm Vespers at Grace**

**Tuesday, January 28: 8:30 am Matins & 9 am Bible Study at St. Paul’s**

**Wednesday, January 29: 12 pm Eucharist at Grace**

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held after the service today and refreshments will be in the fellowship hall following.

**Next Sunday, February 2, 2025, we will have a joint service at Grace at 10:45 am. There will be no service at St. Paul’s.**