

+++ THE GUIDE +++
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-STRASBURG ILLINOIS

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Pastor	Kene Whybrew	Secretary	Sue Bowers
Pastor's Cell	815-383-1148	Secretary HRS	M-W 4-7PM TH 12-4PM
Pastor's Home		Church Office	217-644-2661
Pastor's E-mail	chebrev@yahoo.com	E-mail	stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com
Pastor's Address	512 S Walnut St Strasburg	Address	511 S Walnut St Strasburg
Education Supt	Diane Jack	Website	stpaul-strasburg.com
Altar Flowers	Diane Jack	YouTube	St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Organist	Muriel Merriman		Strasburg Illinois
Choir Director	Karen Rentfro	Pause for Peace	217-644-3124
Accompanist	Sheryl Vonderheide	Prayer Chain	217-821-3038
Greeter	Bob & Ronda Schlechte		

THIS WEEK WITH THE LORD

SUN. 8:30 AM Worship Service-Choir sings
 9:30 AM SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S. College+
 5:30 PM Worship @ Grace

TUE. 9:00 AM Bible Study
 7:00 PM LFL @ Grace

WED. 8:30 AM Chair Yoga
 6:30-7:30 PM WDS

THURS 8:30 AM Blanket Making

SUN. 8:30 AM Communion Service
 9:30 AM SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S. College+
 9:30 AM Voter's meeting
 5:30 PM Worship Service @ Grace

January 11 8:30: 125 Year Ago: 155 Sunday School: 47

Welcome Greetings! Whether this is your first Sunday with us or your five-hundredth, we're so glad you're here! Every time we gather to worship is worth celebrating. If you are a *visitor*, we invite you to worship with us again and to please fill out the visitor connection card listing your information on both sides and depositing the card in the box in the narthex.

Seminary Student Our 2025-26 Adopted Seminary Student is Benjamin Wagner. Ben is attending the seminary in St. Louis. One of his greatest joys of seminary life has been the friendships he has built. He is having a ton of fun with his friends and doing a lot of events on campus. He and his friends have organized extended evening prayer services and preaching opportunities. Things continue to go very well with his girlfriend, and he is grateful for her support and encouragement. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. It means so much to have faithful people like you walking alongside me during this formative time. Ben Wagner

Windsor Harvest Picnic Will be hosting their annual "Soup-er" Bowl Luncheon at the Windsor Community Center from 10:30-1:00 on Sunday, February 8th. They will be serving hamburgers, pork burgers, chili soup, oyster soup, potato soup, dessert and drinks. The luncheon is a free will donation.

THE LORD'S WORK

<u>CURRENT OFFERINGS</u>	<u>\$ TO MEET YEARLY BUDGET</u>	<u>\$ RECEIVED</u>	<u>\$ DIFFERENCE</u>
January 11	\$ 4,191.00	\$ 3,244.00	\$ -947.00
year-to-date	8,382.00	6,679.00	\$ -1,703.00
<u>Synod-Offerings</u>			
January 11	\$ 481.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -281.00
year-to-date	\$ 962.00	\$ 395.00	\$ -567.00
TRINITY GOAL-\$10,000		Total to Date	\$140.00
Building \$20 Sem.Student \$175 Tech Fund \$100 Cemetery \$105			
Lutheran Care Center \$100			

January 11 \$ 3,944

1/27 9:00 AM Morning Bible Study
1/28 8:30 AM Chair Yoga
2:30 PM Social Hall Communion
6:30-7:30 PM WDS
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thank you to the members of St. Paul's for their contributions to our "Dollar for Missions" project through the Central Illinois District of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. In the months of September, October, November, and December our church collected a total of **\$428.92**. (December was a light month with our collection box having \$64.00. But with Christmas spending and our wonderful collection of food and money for our food banks, we are still more than grateful and it was totally understandable.) We continue to pray for this Mission for our Synod projects and appreciate the support of all members of St. Paul's. Please do not forget your weekly "Dollar for Missions" in the box provided in the narthex! Let us see what we can gather in this New Year of 2026 for Missions for our Synod projects!

Thank You Thank you Carolyn Boldt for the December Altar flowers.

Annual Report Please have your annual report turned in to the church office by January 19, 2026.

Seminary Student News Gifts of \$1,000 each were sent to our adopted seminary students in December. Thank you for your financial support of our future pastors. Please keep both students and their families in your prayers. They would love to hear from you with a card or note.

Year End Statements The year end statements have been mailed out. Call the church office if you have any questions 217.644.2611.

Thank you Thank you to everyone that helped in any way with the Schlechte funeral lunch. Your help is greatly appreciated. Ladies Aid

Sympathy Please keep the family of Rosemary Schlechte in your thoughts and prayers. Rosemary passed away on January 11, 2026. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, with Rev Kene Whybrew officiating. Visitation was 9-11:00 AM, Wednesday in the church. Burial was at St. Paul's Cemetery, Strasburg, IL.

Minutes & Agenda The Minutes and Agenda are available in the narthex.



BIRTHDAYS

18-Dean Rentfro
 19-Doreen Whybrew
 20-Amy Stremming
 21-Noah Prosser; Jacob* York
 22-Chris Bowers; Colleen Storm;
 Lane Hoene
 23-Muriel Merriman; August* Supan
 24-Jennifer Buening; Charlie* Logan

HOUSEHOLDS OF THE WEEK

Gary & Karen Kull, Rhonda & Mark Kull,
 Roger & Marilyn Kull, Imogene Lading,
 Dwight Lading, Jenna & Josh Layton, Ryan
 Sporleder, John Stewart, Rick Stodden,
 Jennifer Stodden, Darin & Colleen Storm,
 Chris Storm

PRAYER

Dianna Gibson	Cathern Stremming
Nick Hanfland	Clay Tabbert
Frances York	Wayne Wirth
Nick Oller	
John Wittenberg	

LIMITED MOBILITY

Ramona Radloff (Shelby Rehab &
 Healthcare)
 Chris Storm (Lutheran Care Center
 RM#31)
 Beulah Ulmer (The Manor-Shelbyville)
 Robert Stremming
 Imogene Lading – Villas of Holly Brook
 Bill Orr
 Rosemary Sporleder-Brookstone
 Mattoon
 Mildred Rincker – Heartland, Neoga
 Doris Stremming – Willowbrook,
 Effingham
 Margaret Swank – Willowbrook
 Effingham

FRIENDS & FAMILY
(non-members)

Walton Foster (medical-Chris Kramer
 nephew)
 Trevor Roy (accident, Grace
 Vonderheide friend)
 Ken Daily (Karen Pfeiffer's father)
 stroke
 Walker Warden (cancer)
 Christie Dust (Howard & Kay's
 daughter) (Primary Progressive
 Multiple Sclerosis)
 Matt Durbin

Adopted Seminary Students 2025-26
4th Year Student

**Joshua Gerken (Wife Rachel, son
 Callan)
 5418 Brighton Dr.
 Fort Wayne, IN 46825**

**2025-26 Vicar assignment to St. Paul
 Lutheran Church, Eldora, Iowa
 Hunter Kinnison (Wife Naomi)
 1105 Washington St.
 Eldora, IA 50627**

**Benjamin Wagner
 801 Seminary Place
 St. Louis, MO 63105**

2nd Sunday After the Epiphany/Life Sunday – Setting One

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

LSB 540

- 1 Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

- 2 Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven, Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

- 3 Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

- 4 Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, Watching all Your lambs and sheep;
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, Never-failing vigil keep.
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home;
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice alone.

- 5 Christ, the way that leads unailing To the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.

- D 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 1964 Text: © 2001 Steven P. Mueller. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001500

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 19:1–4a, b; antiphon: v. 14

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P 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.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Amen.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

C ***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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1–7

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C ***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.***

Holy Gospel

John 1:29–42a

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C ***Glory to You, O Lord.***

The Gospel is Read

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Message

The Only Son from Heaven

LSB 402

- 1 The only Son from heaven, Foretold by ancient seers,
By God the Father given, In human form appears.
No sphere His light confining, No star so brightly shining
As He, our Morning Star.
- 2 O time of God appointed, O bright and holy morn!
He comes, the king anointed, The Christ, the virgin-born,
Grim death to vanquish for us, To open heav'n before us
And bring us life again.
- 3 O Lord, our hearts awaken To know and love You more,
In faith to stand unshaken, In spirit to adore,
That we, through this world moving, Each glimpse of heaven proving,
May reap its fullness there.

- D 4 O Father, here before You With God the Holy Ghost
And Jesus, we adore You, O pride of angel host:
Before You mortals lowly
Cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
O blessed Trinity!"

Text (sts. 1–3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500–1535; (sts. 1–3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Text: Public domain

Sermon Isaiah 49:1-7 "From the Womb"

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

Offertory

LSB 159

- C ***What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.***

Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

Benediction

LSB 166

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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

All Glory Be to God on High

LSB 947

1 All glory be to God on high And thanks for all His favor;
No harm can touch or terrify A child of God forever.
God shows His good and gracious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
All strife at last has ended.

2 We praise and laud and worship You; We give You thanks forever,
O Father, for Your rule is true And just and changes never.
With boundless pow'r, Your mighty reign Fulfills whatever You ordain.
Lord, grant us ev'ry blessing!

3 O Jesus Christ, the only Son Begotten of the Father,
Your saving death has made us one With God and with each other.
O Lamb of God, to You on high In our distress we sinners cry,
Have mercy on us, amen!

4 O Holy Spirit, our delight And source of consolation,
Protect us from the devil's might Through Jesus, our salvation,
Who by His death upon a tree Has rescued us from misery:
To this we hold forever.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Text: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001500

Next Week's Readings – Isaiah 9:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-25

This Week's Memory Verse – Isaiah 49:1 " Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name."

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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