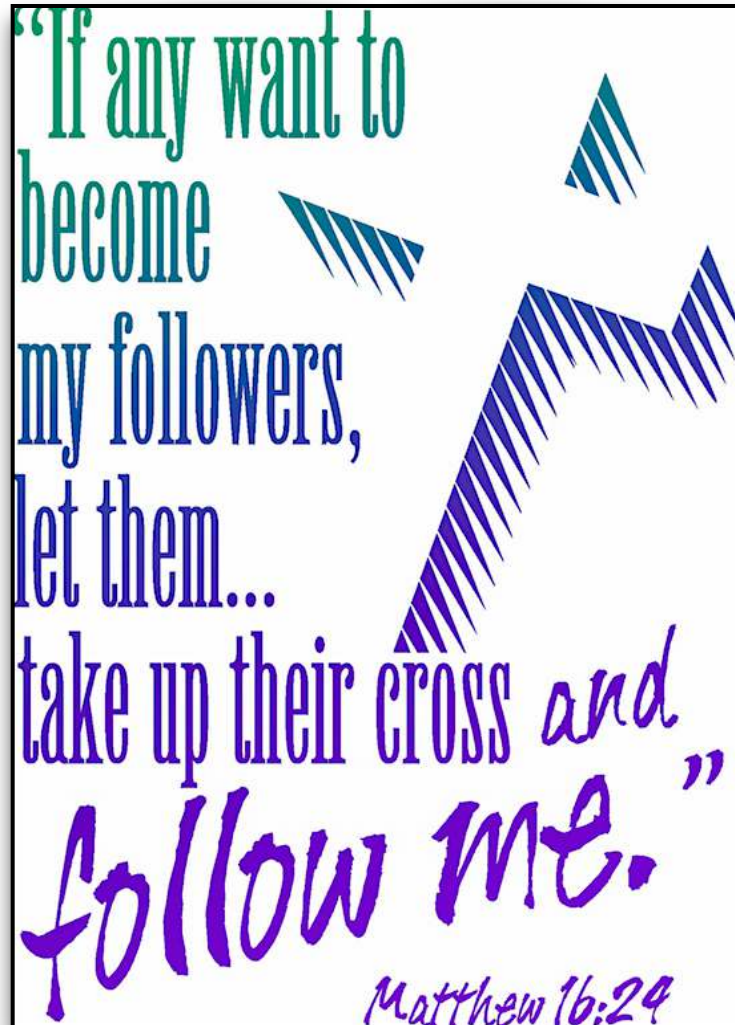


**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**2ND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 5, 2019**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 148 (pew bible, p.559)

◆ The Hymns: 507, 124*, 688, 718

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◆ Scripture Lessons: 1 Samuel 2:1-10, 1 Peter 4:12-19

◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 102

Sermon Text – Matthew 16:24-26

FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE NEW YEAR

1. It won't be easy.

2. But it will be worth it!

(a CLC Ministry-by-Mail sermon)

◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts

◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (718)

† † †

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 – 1 Samuel 2:1-10

1 Then Hannah prayed and said: "My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn is lifted high. My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in your deliverance. 2 There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. 3 Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed. 4 The bows of the warriors are broken, but those who stumbled are armed with strength. 5 Those who were full hire themselves out for food, but those who were hungry hunger no more. She who was barren has borne seven children, but she who has had many sons pines away. 6 The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up. 7 The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts. 8 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. "For the foundations of the earth are the LORD'S; upon them he has set the world. 9 He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. "It is not by strength that one prevails; 10 those who oppose the LORD will be shattered. He will thunder against them from heaven; the LORD will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed."

Psalm for the Day – From Psalm 102

P Hear my prayer, O LORD:
C **Let my cry for help come to you.**
P Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress:
C **Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly.**
P My days are like the evening shadow:
C **I wither away like grass.**
P But you, O LORD, sit enthroned forever:
C **Your renown endures through all generations.**
P In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth:
C **And the heavens are the work of your hands.**
P They will perish, but you remain;
C **They will all wear out like a garment.**
P Like clothing you will change them:
C **And they will be discarded.**
P But you remain the same, and your years will never end.
C **The children of your servants will live in your presence:**

Second Lesson – 1 Peter 4:12-19

12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" 19 So then,

those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

Sermon Text – Matthew 16:24-26

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? [NKJV]

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (1/5)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (David Anointed King, OT 38) (Bible Class will resume on Jan 26)
Sun (1/12)	8:30 am	Church Council Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School (David and Goliath, OT 39)
	10:45 am	Mary/Martha Ladies' Meeting
	4:00 pm	Installation service for Pastor Timothy Wheaton at Prince of Peace, Loveland (see note below)

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

- Organist: Lisa Sprengeler
- Ushers: Ed Chiappetti, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Larry Reed

PASTOR SCHUETZE IS OUT OF TOWN visiting family in Minnesota. He plans to return to Denver on Monday or Tuesday. Our thanks to Wayne Ruegge for conducting today's service in the pastor's absence.

NOTE TO ST. PAUL COMMUNICANTS: Holy Communion will be celebrated in January one week later than usual, next Sunday, January 12.

LOVELAND INSTALLATION SERVICE: The installation service of Pastor Timothy Wheaton will be next Sunday, January 12. Service time: 4:00 pm. There will be a meal after the service to which you are also invited.

ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING: Sunday, January 19, 10:45 am

THANKS TO ALL who brought menu items for last Tuesday's New Year's Eve party at the parsonage. Everything was great. The Lord blessings to one and all in the new year of His grace. Pastor Schuetze

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
JANUARY 6-11

Mon Isaiah 61:10-62:3 God's Word via Isaiah to ancient Israel applies to us as well; therefore we also greatly rejoice in the LORD, for He is still bearing us up with His righteousness. Who says so? God says so, for He assures us He will not take a nap until His Church (Zion) shines like a lantern and the Gentiles see your (Christian) righteousness, and you shall be called by the new name (Christian), supported and activated for our destiny by the hand of our God.

Tues John 1:14-18 An Epiphany comes when Jesus is displayed. That's the principle (14) put into practice by Baptizer John (15). As to His fullness —that's everything Jesus IS and DOES (cf. Colossians 1:13-14), imparted to us generously, lovingly, and without reservation —grace on top of grace. God's salvation program remains grounded on His Son, Jesus. Hallelujah!

Wed Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18 How full is the fullness of Jesus? Overflowing. With what? With spiritual blessings packaged in heaven (3), and with our name on the package—printed before planet Earth existed (4)—and delivered by Jesus Christ (5), thanks be to God (6). We see our blessings past, present, and future, for God has removed our spiritual cataracts (15-18).

Thurs Psalm 72 Since our Father God has put Jesus in charge of planet Earth, Jesus will preside over humanity just as He presides over Earth's geography (3-4), for all time (5-7), over the entire planet (8-9), over all kinds of people (10-11), in all their needs (12-14), abundantly and forcefully (15-16), forever, for their blessing (17). Blessed be the LORD God of His people (18-19). Amen!

Fri Matthew 2:1-12 Gentiles from the East (Mesopotamia?) evidently had learned God's Word from immigrant Jews, and they expected to find baby Jesus in the palace nursery (1-2). Herod was not only clueless (3-4), he was also a devious hypocrite (5-8). Nonetheless, God saw to it that the foreigners found Jesus, favored Him with hearts and hands (9-11); God kept them safe from Herod (12), too, to return home with their good news. Praise God!

Sat Acts 6:8-15 Satan never gives up trying to derail God's salvation train, and he hired cronies to unseat Stephen from his position and prestige as the functioning conductor (9). Though people on the wrong track will play dirty, cheat, and lie (11-14), God has prepared His passengers to hold fast and not give up their seats. Which brings us to Stephen, full of faith (grace) and power, who was manifesting Jesus as LORD. It totally irked Stephen's adversaries in being unable to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke (10), and their attention was riveted to Stephen's face to see how he was reacting to their threats and lies. What did they see? The face of an angel! Stephen was not shaking in his boots, but was ready and willing to serve as God's spokesman; an epiphany was about to arrive. Stay tuned.

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© Lord, Our Father, Thanks to Thee

Ps. 107: 1



8. 7. 8. 7. 8. 8. 7.

Herr Gott Vater, wir preisen dich
 Cyriacus Schneegass, 1597
 Tr., August Crull, 1880, alt.

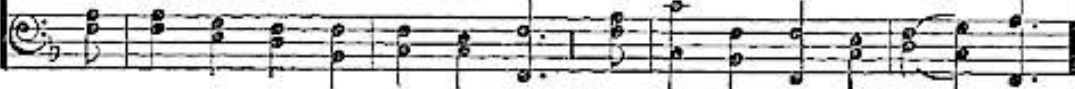

Nun freut euch
 "Erlisch" christliche Lieder"
 Wittenberg, 1524




1 O Lord, our Fa-ther, thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der,
 2 Lord Je-sus Christ, our thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der;
 3 Lord Ho-ly Ghost, our thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der,
 4 Our faith-ful God, we cry to Thee: Still bless us with Thy fa - vor,

For ev-'ry e-vil had to flee Be-fore Thee, our De-fend-er.
 Thy reign hath kept Thy peo-ple free, Hath shown Thy mer-cies ten-der.
 For Thou hast led our eyes to see Thy truth in all its splen-dor
 Blot out all our in-iq-ui-ty, And hide our sins for-ev-er.

Our life was nour-ished, we were fed With rich sup-plies of dai-ly bread,
 Thou hast re-deemed us with Thy blood, Thou art our Joy, our on-ly Good,
 And thus en-kin-dled from a-bove With-in our hearts true faith and love
 Grant us a hap-py, good new year And, when the hour of death draws near,




And peace reigned in our bor - ders.
 In life, and death our Sav - ior.
 And oth - er Chris - tian vir - tues.
 A peace - ful, blest de - part - ure. A - men.

