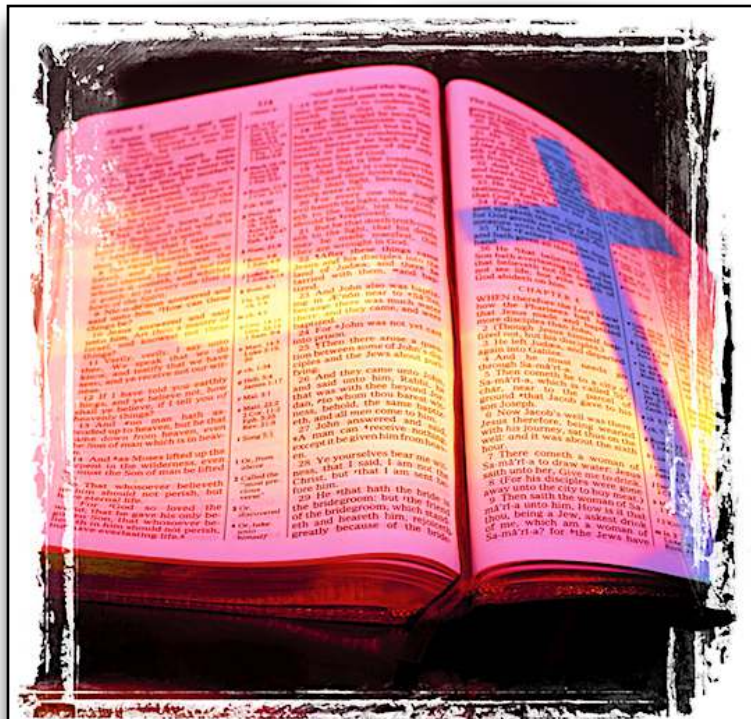


# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

— CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION —  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**F**OR the message about  
the cross is foolishness  
to those who are perishing,  
but to us who are being  
saved it is the power of god.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18

**4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 2, 2020**

# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

(303) 233-5000 – [www.denverlutheran.com](http://www.denverlutheran.com)

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

## ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

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

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 65 (pew bible, p.513)
- ◆ The Hymns: 905, 647, 560, 537
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Micah 6:1-6, Matthew 5:1-12
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 1
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

### Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

#### ***GOD'S "FOOLISH" GOSPEL IS THE HIGHEST WISDOM!***

It's what He uses ...

1. To accomplish the greatest work ever!
2. To bring the greatest glory to His beautiful Savior name!

- ◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Installation of newly-elected Church Officers
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (537)

† † †

**A WARM WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS.** We are 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 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

### Old Testament – Micah 6:1-8

1 Listen to what the LORD says: “Stand up, plead your case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. 2 Hear, O mountains, the LORD’S accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. 3 My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. 4 I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. 5 My people, remember what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember [ your journey] from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.” 6 With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? 7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? 8 He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

### Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 1

P Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked:  
C Or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.  
P But his delight is in the law of the Lord:  
C And on his law he meditates day and night.  
P He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season:  
C And whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.  
P Not so the wicked!  
C They are like chaff that the wind blows away.  
P Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment:  
C Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.  
P For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous:  
C But the way of the wicked will perish.

### Second Lesson – Matthew 5:1-12

1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

## Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

26 Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him. 30 It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 31 Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.”

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (2/2)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Installation of Church Officers and Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bible Class (Study of John 18:)
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Absalom’s Rebellion, OT 42)
Sun (2/9)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	CBP Presentation / Voters’ Meeting ( <i>see note below</i> )
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Solomon Builds the Temple, OT 43)
	11:15 am	Bible Class

## EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Elders’ Meeting: Sunday, Feb.16, 8:30 am
- Ash Wednesday Worship: Feb 26, 7:00 pm

## SERVING US AT GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

- Organist: Jeana Kettner
- Ushers: Larry Reed, Mike Sprengeler
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti
- Communion Assistant: Wayne Ruegge

**TODAY’S BULLETIN INSERT – “What’s Good about the Public Ministry”** –is the second in a six-part series produced by the Committee on Partners in the Public Ministry. The series is adapted from chapel talks that were delivered to the students of Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI. One will be shared each month as a bulletin insert through June 2020.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO . . .

Amanda Maestas, Feb 1	Mike Sprengeler, Feb 5
Hayden Botchek, Feb 2	Don Claeys, Feb 20

**THE CLC COOPERATIVE BUDGET PLAN (CBP)** for the new year will be presented in PowerPoint format after the worship service next Sunday. It will provide information about the projected financial needs for the various phases of the Lord's work in our synod in the coming year. A short voters' meeting will follow the presentation for the purpose of setting our 2020 CBP Estimate. This is the amount of offerings we will pledge to contribute as a congregation to the CLC's General Fund in the new year. (An abbreviated Bible Class will follow the voters' meeting).

**WELCOME FOLDERS:** Our St. Paul welcome folders were recently updated. The folders (containing leaflets with information about our church) are intended for sharing with worship guests and other folks who may be interested in learning more about our church. Feel free to take one home for perusing and sharing.



**ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS:** Copies of the reports presented by the pastor at the recent annual meeting of the congregation may be found on the shelf in the entry. Help yourself.

<b>ELECTION RESULTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING</b>	
President:	Ed Chiappetti
Vice President:	Doug Tiefel
Secretary:	Mark Hartmeister
Treasurer:	Wayne Ruegge
Board of Elders:	Mike Sprengeler
Board of Trustees:	Mike Sprengeler
Finance Committee:	Mark Hartmeister, Bob Rankin
<b>Also serving on the Church Council:</b>	
Board of Elders:	Ed Chiappetti, Larry Reed
Board of Trustees:	Darrick Peters, Wayne Ruegge
Finance Committee:	Wayne Ruegge, Doug Tiefel

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

—1 Peter 5:1-7

## SYNOD NEWS

- **Five of our CLC young people** were at the March for Life in Washington D.C. on January 24 (Courtney Behlmer, Christian Kazemba, Grace Meyer, Sam Radermacher, and Aric Reim). A reporter from Breitbart News was doing interviews, and Aric, Grace, and Courtney did an outstanding job of giving witness to their faith and the sanctity of human life. The excerpt of the live stream can be seen here: [youtu.be/a\\_cR-JjqHas](https://youtu.be/a_cR-JjqHas).
- **“Registration is now open for the CLC Midwest Women's Retreat.** Join us March 20-22 at the new retreat location in Amery, Wisconsin. This year the theme is: *You Are Designed. You Are Loved. You Are Sent. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10.* We will be studying how God designed us as His children, the unique gifts He has given to each of us, and how we can use those gifts to glorify Him in this world. *For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15.* You can access the online registration link and all other retreat information through the website: [christianwomensretreat.weebly.com](http://christianwomensretreat.weebly.com). The cost is \$150 per person which includes lodging and all meals. Lodging preferences are on a first come first served basis, so register soon! We hope you can join us for a weekend of fellowship and growing in the study of God's Word! If you have any questions, please contact Erin Radichel or Sarah Radichel at [clcmidwestwomensretreat@gmail.com](mailto:clcmidwestwomensretreat@gmail.com).”
- **Black Hills Family Bible Camp** – “Camping in the beauty of the Black Hills, studies in the beauty of God's Word. There will also be many outdoor activities available such as hiking, climbing/repelling, swimming, fishing, kayaking, bonfires, s'mores etc. The dates are Friday evening July 10 through Tuesday morning July 14. To sign up or for more information, you can call Pastor Aaron Ude at (605) 393-1311 or email him at [aaronude@gmail.com](mailto:aaronude@gmail.com).”
- **“With the approval of the CLC President,** the Board of Regents for ILC is suspending the calling of the next professor. In the past year the Regents and ILC President have been reevaluating how to address all of ILC's administration functions. As this has developed, we considered this a timely opportunity to implement a full-time administrator position by keeping the faculty at 11 professors after this year's retirement of Prof. Paul Sullivan. We are working through the details with the faculty to determine if this is a viable option. If so, the intent is to present a proposal to the 2020 CLC Convention. May the Lord of the harvest continue to lead us in managing the available man-power within our church body so that our primary focus is on the preaching and teaching of His powerful Word” (from John Hein, Chairman of the Board of Regents)

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS FEBRUARY 3-8

**Mon Micah 6:1-8** Since God is the same yesterday, today, and forever—and humanity hasn't changed much, God vents a complaint against us also, and not behind closed doors but out in the open, in a valley between mountains where His voice reverbs (1-2), saying, "What have I ever done to make you disrespect Me? I have always treated you famously." (3-5) Now comes a good response: "I'm sorry; how can I make it up to You?" (6-7) God: "Well, at the least you should behave as My child: honorably, mercifully, and humbly" (8).

**Tues Matthew 5:1-12** We don't always appreciate how blessed we are, so Jesus clarifies that we are beneficiaries of many blessings, even when we are hassled for being God's favorites (11-12). Our human nature won't agree with Jesus' evaluation, but the Holy Spirit prompts us to depend on His good judgment; He knows what He's doing better than we realize.

**Wed 1 Corinthians 1:26-31** God knows our congregational statistics (26) —which somewhat represents His congregation in our small corner of the world. Note: God has sifted through the rubble of humanity and has chosen to use discards for His building materials (27-28). For what good reason? Well, if He had started with high-grade materials, that would short-change the miracle which God is accomplishing in this sin-wrecked world (29-31).

**Thurs Psalm 1** We live with God's protection every day as we steer clear of sin-soaked renegades (1), learn to navigate by His directives (2), and enjoy life (3). Our heart aches for those who are blowing with the wind and headed for the furnace (4-5). Please, God, salvage what can yet be salvaged — using Your good judgment with each individual, person by person (6)!

**Fri Matthew 13:53-58** Humans have always had a hard time facing the facts, especially when they are God's facts. Jesus ran into that every day of His life, even in His home town and suburbs. People should have been able to figure Him out, but they were looking at Him in the wrong way (54-57). So Jesus left them behind; He had other places to go and other people to see (58).

**Sat Acts 7:37-50** Was Stephen guilty of bad-mouthing Moses? Not at all, for the guilt lay with our fathers who rejected Moses and abandoned God's religion (37-41). So what did God do about that? He turned aside and let them eat their own garbage (42-43). Nonetheless, He did not desert them for long, for He even engineered a portable church (the tabernacle) where He could supervise their public worship. That was just temporary, and later He allowed Solomon to erect a splendid temple for such worship. Note: It was an insult to God to imagine that He needed earthly housing for Himself, since He has heaven for His throne and Earth for His footstool. Are we okay with that?