St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

Pastor: Thomas Schuetze, 303-428-5524, trschuetze@yahoo.com Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776 Sunday School Superintendent: Derek Barthels



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Member Congregation: Church of the Lutheran Confession www.clclutheran.org



1st Sunday after Epiphany – January 7, 2024

Order of Worship Service of the Word & Sacrament

Find today's order of service printed on the liturgy insert tucked inside the front cover of the maroon *Lutheran Service Book* (in the hymnal rack). Large print copies of the order of worship and worship bulletin are on the shelf under the tract rack or speak to an usher who will be happy to share them with you. A warm welcome in Christ to all worshipers!

<u>Serving Us At God's House Today</u> Organist: Jeana Kettner – Ushers: TBD

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 89:1-15 (pew bible, p.528)
- ◆ The Hymns: *718 (1-4), 394, 637, *718 (5) *(*tan hymnal)*
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Romans 8:11-19, Mark 1:4-11
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 2
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Matthew 12:46-50

Theme – "Jesus, Our True Brother"

- 1. His Father is our Father.
- 2. As our True Brother, Jesus' interests are our interests.
- 3. Jesus is our True Brother and our bond with Him is eternal.

(a CLC Ministry-by-Mail sermon)

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction / Closing Hymn (718, stanza 5, tan hymnal)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Romans 8:11-19

We are Children of God and Fellow-heirs with Christ

11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. 12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 2

The Reign of the Lord's Anointed

- P Why do the nations rage:
- C And the peoples plot in vain?
- P The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD:
- C And against his Anointed.
- P He who sits in the heavens laughs:
- C The Lord holds them in derision.
- P Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying:
- C "I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."
- P I will tell of the decree of the LORD:
- C He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Sermon Text – Matthew 12:46-50 [NKJV]

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

46 While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. 47 Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You." 48 But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" 49 And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! 50 For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

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To our guests seeking an altar at which to commune

We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of outward unity in the faith as well as inner union with Christ. For this reason we practice "Fellowship Communion" (we ask only those who are communicant members of our fellowship to come forward to receive the Sacrament). We follow this practice in loving obedience to the Scriptures, not in judgment of anyone's faith, sincerity, or standing before God. If you would like more information or are interested in becoming a St. Paul member, please speak to the pastor. Thank you.

This	Week	at St.	<u>Paul</u>

Today (1/7)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Undecorating
Today (1/14)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Mary/Martha Ladies Meeting

Extended Calendar

- Church Council Meeting, January 21, 8:30 am
- CLC Cooperative Budget Plan Presentation: Sunday, Jan.21, 10:45 am
- Annual Voters Meeting: Sunday, January 28, 10:45 am
- Installation of Church Officers: Sunday, February 4

Pastor Schuetze Is Out of Town visiting family in Minnesota. He plans to return home Tuesday. Our thanks to Mike Sprengeler for conducting today's service in the pastor's absence.

Adult Bible Study will resume on Sunday, February 4. (The next two Sundays the ladies and voters will have their annual meetings following the worship service.)

Psalm 133

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

- 1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
- 2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!
- 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

