

Symbol of the Apostle Paul



2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 18, 2026

Welcome to
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lakewood, Colorado

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 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 will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you. Questions? Please speak with one of the ushers. They will happy to assist you!

On the Symbol of St. Paul (cover page)

St. Paul has a sword symbol assigned to him because he was a persecutor of the Church of Christ, breathing out murderous threats against Christians, and instrumental in having many put in prison (Acts 9:1-2, Galatians 1:13). The book represents Paul's conversion into being the greatest missionary of the Church by the working of the Spirit through the Word of God. *Spiritus Gladius* is a Latin phrase that translates to "sword of the Spirit." It is derived from Ephesians 6:17 where Paul refers to God's Word as a part of the "full armor of God" Christians must put on so that they may be able to stand against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms and come away victorious. The day in the year when the church has traditionally celebrated the Festival of the Conversion of St. Paul is January 25.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

based on Worship Supplement 2000 (pp. 12-21)

Opening Prayer

Hymn

LSB 906 "*O Day of Rest and Gladness*"

The Invocation

P: Welcome ... in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession of Sins & Announcement of Forgiveness

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

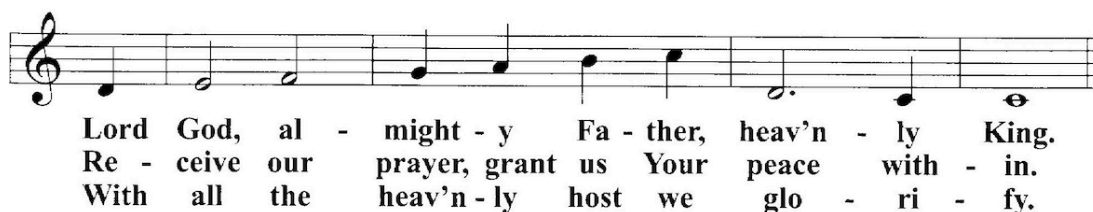
The Kyrie



Glory to God in the Highest

The Gloria in Excelsis





Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

First Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, 2 to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, 5 that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, 6 even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, 7 so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 89

P: I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever:

C: **With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.**

P: For I have said, "Mercy shall be built up forever:

C: **Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens."**

P: The heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD:

C: **Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.**

P: Who is mighty like You, O LORD?:

C: **Your faithfulness also surrounds You.**

P: Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound!:

C: **They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance.**

P: In Your name they rejoice all day long:

C: **And in Your righteousness they are exalted.**

P: Blessed be the LORD forevermore!:

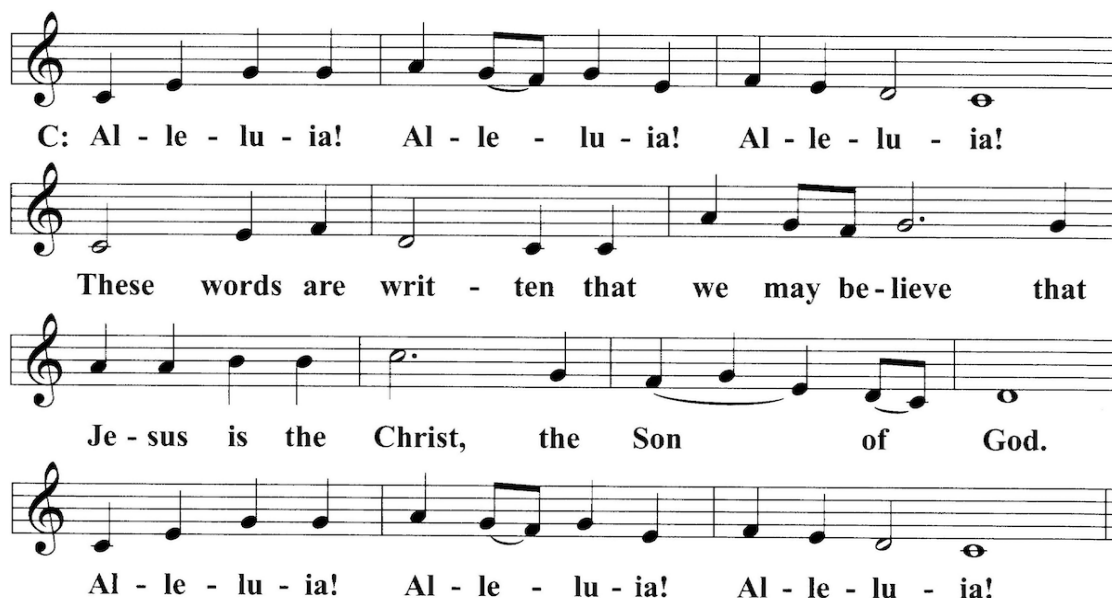
C: **Amen and Amen.**

Second Lesson

John 1:29-41

39 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He of whom I said, "After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." 35 Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. 36 And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). 40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ).

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it. Alleluia!



Confession of Faith

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 869 *"With the Lord Begin Your Task"*

Sermon


Isaiah 49:1-6

The Well-Used Servant of the Lord

1. To speak His life-giving Word.
2. To display His heavenly splendor.
3. To bring back all people to Himself.

1 "Listen, O coastlands, to Me, and take heed, you peoples from afar! The LORD has called Me from the womb; from the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name. 2 And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, and made Me a polished shaft; in His quiver He has hidden Me." 3 "And He said to me, 'You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' 4 Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, and my work with my God.'" 5 "And now the LORD says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him (for I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength), 6 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

Offertory



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

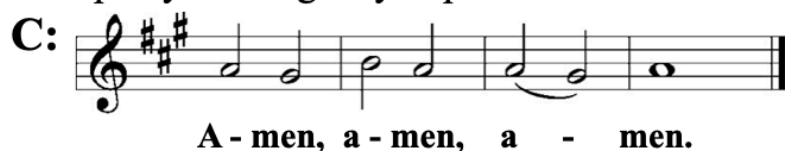
The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn LSB 646 (1-3) *"Church of God, Elect and Glorious"*

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



Closing Hymn

LSB 646 (4)



This Week at St. Paul

Today (1/18)	8:30 am	Church Council Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
Tue	9:00 am	Pastoral Study Conference at Loveland
Sun (1/25)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Annual Voters Meeting

Synod News & Notes

Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Ev. Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has received the call to Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY.

Pastor John Hein of Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN, has announced his retirement as of January 31, 2026. Pastor Hein has also resigned from the CLC Board of Regents.

The January CLC World Missions Prayer List, provided by Missionary Todd Ohlmann, is available in the tract rack. Please read and remember, with thanks to God: *"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much"* (James 5:16). Missionary Ohlmann has also provided a QR code (at right) you can scan that will take you to the online version of the prayer list.



Deadline for applying for this summer's CLC Mission Helper to Africa is today. One way to be involved in this trip indirectly is by offering financial support so others may participate. Donating to the Mission Helper Trip is very helpful and lowers the overall cost for those going on the trip. To do this, you can send a check to the CLC office (address: 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701) made out to CLC-MDF with a memo that it's for the 2026 MHT. For more information about the Mission Helper Trip, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

January 19-24

Mon John 2:1-11 Jesus' glory is revealed through His provision of wine for a wedding banquet. His gifts in little Cana are not only generous (v6), but they are also of the highest quality (v10).

Tues Romans 12:6-16a Our faith influences our use of the gifts which God has given to us, for faith works by love. Our love for the Lord will lead us also to love those for whom He died and to hate what is evil.

Wed Deuteronomy 18:15-19 Like Moses, the promised Prophet would be a true human and Mediator, but not just for Israel. He would bring mankind to the God of forgiveness and salvation!

Thurs Psalm 16 The one whom God guards does not chase after another god, but has a glorious inheritance that brings gladness to the heart. This is the glory which Christ shares with us!

Fri Psalm 14 Like the fools who deny God's existence, by ourselves we deserve nothing but punishment from Him. But the Lord restores His people and provides salvation for them, as He promised of old! (V7)

Sat Luke 19:1-10 The Lord's saving glory is seen as He passes through Jericho. Jesus seeks out Zacchaeus, one who helps the Romans exploit Israel, and He brings salvation also to this son of Abraham (v9).

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214



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

Serving Us Today
Organist Suzannah Miller
Ushers Wayne Ruegge, Ed Chiappetti

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