

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5322 PALMS ROAD, CASCO TWP., MI 48064

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 22, 2023 – 9:30 A.M.

Office Phone: 810-765-4808  
Website: [www.stpaulscasco.com](http://www.stpaulscasco.com)

Office Email: [stpauls@stpaulscasco.com](mailto:stpauls@stpaulscasco.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stpaulscasco](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulscasco)

Pastor Kirk Langset cell phone: 586-260-1466 (Call or text)

Email: [pastorkirklangset@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorkirklangset@yahoo.com)

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG: Arise your Light Has Come ELW#314

1) A-rise your light has come! . . the Spir-it's call o-bey . .

Show forth the glo-ry of your God, which shines on you to-day.

2) A-rise your light has come! . . fling wide the pris-on door . .

Pro-claim the cap-tive's lib-er-ty, good tid-ings to the poor.

3) A-rise your light has come! . . All you in sor-row born . .

Bind up the bro-ken-heart-ed ones, and com-fort those who mourn.

4) A-rise your light has come! . . the moun-tains burst in song . .

Rise up like ea-gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

*Let Us Pray:* Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup>For 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **CHILDREN'S SONG: FISHERS OF MEN**

1-- "I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men.

I will make you fishers of men . . . if you follow Me.

If you follow Me, if you follow Me . . . I will make you fishers of men, if you follow Me."

2--Hear Christ, calling "Come unto Me, Come unto Me, Come unto Me."

Hear Christ calling, "Come unto Me,

I will give you rest. I will give you rest, I will give you rest."

Hear Christ calling, "Come unto Me, I will give you rest."

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## **THE SERMON**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY: Lead Me Guide Me ELW#768**

*Refrain: Lead me . . . guide me, a-long the way . . . for, . . . if you lead me, I can-not stray.  
Lord . . . let me walk, each day, with thee . . . Lead me, O Lord . . . lead me.*

1) I am weak . . . and I need . . . thy strength and pow'r . . . to help me o-ver my weak-est hour.  
Help me through . . . the dark - ness thy face, to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. **REFRAIN**

2) Help me tread . . . in the paths . . . of righ - teous-ness, be my aid, when Sa-tan and sin op-  
press.

I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. **REFRAIN**

3) I am lost . . . if you take, your hand, from me . . . I am blind . . . with-out . . . thy light to see.  
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me **REFRAIN**

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## **THE CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith in the Triune God.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## **THE PRAYERS**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely.

*Especially we pray for . . .*

And those we name now out loud, in our hearts,

Or add in the comment section at this time... (pause for names to be added)

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

**P:** I invite you, at this time, to make a gesture of peace to your siblings in Christ.

## **THE THANK OFFERING**

*For those who desire to make a financial offering you may drop them off at the offering station before or after service. You may also go to [www.stpaulscasco.com](http://www.stpaulscasco.com) and click on the donate icon at any time or mail them to the church during the week.*

**THE OFFERING PRAYER** P: Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. **C: Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples. He also took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink.

With these words he made us this promise. At this time, I invite you to lift the bread and cup. Please repeat after me the promise that our Lord gave us.

P: Take and eat; **C: Take and eat.**

P: This is my body, given for you. **C: This is my body given for you.**

P: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, **C: This cup is the new covenant in my blood.**

P: Shed for all people for the forgiveness of sin. **C: Shed for all people for the forgiveness of sin.**

P: Do this for the remembrance of me. **C: Do this for the remembrance of me.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** P: Let us pray in the words our Savior taught us.

**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.**

**THE MEAL** P: All those who believe in the promise are invited to partake in God's amazing grace at this time.

## **COMMUNION SONG: Seek Ye First WOV#783**

1) Seek ye . . . first the king-dom of God, and its righ-teous-ness,  
And all these things shall be add-ed un-to you. Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

2) Ask and it shall be giv-en un-to you; seek and you shall find;  
Knock and the door shall be o-pened un-to you. Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

3) We do not live by bread . . . a-lone, but by ev-'ry word.  
That pro-ceeds from the mouth . . . of . . . God. Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

## COMMUNION, POST COMMUNION LITURGY

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

**DOXOLOGY** - Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Public Domain

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** P: Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **C: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION** 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 ☩ give you peace. **C: Amen**

### **SENDING HYMN: I Love to Tell the Story ELW#661**

1) I love to tell the sto - ry of un-seen things a-bove; of Je-sus and his glo-ry, of Je-sus and his love.

I love to tell the sto-ry, be-cause I know it's true; it sat-is-fies my long-ings, as noth - ing else would do.

**Refrain: I love to tell the sto-ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry;  
To tell the old, old, sto-ry, of Je-sus and his love.**

2) I love to tell the sto - ry, how pleasant to re-peat; what seems, each time I tell it,  
More won-der-ful-ly sweet! I love to tell the sto-ry, for some have nev-er heard,  
The mes-sage of sal-va-tion, from God's own ho-ly word. **REFRAIN**

3) I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best;  
seem hun-ger-ing and thirst-ing, to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glo-ry, I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old sto-ry that I have heard so long. **REFRAIN**

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### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**C: Thanks be to God. POSTLUDE**

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*Additional Reading for this week-- - Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
Check out Pastor's Midweek Facebook Devotional  
Wednesday - January 25 at 7:00 p.m.*