



St. Paul's Lutheran Family, ELCA

PO Box 20876

Carson City, NV 89721

775 882-3020

www.stpaulslutheranfamily.com

Email: stpaulcarson@gmail.com

Rev. Paul M. Larson, Pastor



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Family!
We're so glad you're here.

All Are Welcome!

**We mean it when we say, "All are welcome!"
No matter where you are on your faith journey,
or how you identify,
your presence is important to us!**

We are incomplete without you.

Pastor Paul M. Larson

Hospitality Details

We firmly believe that there are no limits in God's house. Young or old, **you** are part of our worship community.

There is a table at the right-hand side of the sanctuary especially for children. Each Sunday, a bulletin, activity books, and crayons are available for them to use.

Families are encouraged to sit in front of the sanctuary, so they can fully see what is happening.

Those participating in worship who find it difficult to stand for long periods of time are encouraged to take care of themselves. Please sit or stand in ways that make you comfortable.

Communion

All are welcome at God's table!

Sunday School

Sunday school will meet after Children's Time. The children will rejoin the congregation during communion.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class meets the first three Sundays of the month around 10:45 a.m. after our worship service.

Grab a snack and join us in the library.

Happy Hour

Join us for coffee and goodies in Friendship Hall each Sunday after worship.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located between the narthex and Friendship Hall.

Everything is on the screen in front, and we use ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship), Setting Three, which is on page 138 in your ELW hymnal and found under the seat in front of you.

Thank you for joining us. There is a guest book in the narthex and in the back of your bulletin, a visitor information form. Please fill it out and return it to us via email, US Mail, or you can slip it into the mail slot in the church office door.

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe to” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose**

injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ✝Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN: Hymn #717, Let Justice Flow Like Streams –
Three verses**

- 1 Let justice flow like streams
of sparkling water, pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life,
abundant, cleansing, sure.

- 2 Let righteousness roll on
as others' cares we heed,
an ever-flowing stream of faith
translated into deed.

- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight,
define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade
this world our whole life through.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

KYRIE

Page 138

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

CANTICLE

Page 140

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER of the DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
 it is perverse—
 who can understand it?
¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
 and search the heart,
 to give to all according to their ways,
 according to the fruit of their doings.
 R: Word of God. Word of Life.
 C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 1, *Tone and Refrain*



They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,
 nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!
² **Their delight is in the law | of the Lord,**
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. R



³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due
 season, with leaves that | do not wither;
 everything they | do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so | with the wicked;**
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,
 nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

⁶ **For the Lord knows the way | of the righteous,**
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed. R



SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

R: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace – St. Paul’s Choir

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 142

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

P: The Holy gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

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

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN’S TIME – Traci Angel

SERMON – The Reverend Paul M. Larson

The assembly stands.

HYMN of the DAY: Hymn #726, Light Dawns in a Weary World – Three verses

- 1 Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

- 2 Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain*

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

- 3 Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain*

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

APOSTLES' CREED

AM: 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.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

R: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the
church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

R: Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to
proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and
resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful
practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its
restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for
the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation.
God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way. Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you

MEAL

OFFERING

The assembly stands.

OFFERING HYMN: Hymn #188, Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. 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: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

P: And now we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 assembly seated.

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come, here is your God.

LAMB of GOD

Page 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

COMMUNION

At St. Paul's Lutheran Family, all are welcome at God's table. Nobody will be turned away whether you have partaken before, or this is your first time. All are welcome.

During communion, please come forward to the altar at the instructions of our ushers. Take the wafer, and dip it into the cup. We have gluten-free options available. Please ask a communion assistant. If you need assistance getting to the altar, Pastor is available for help. We can also bring communion to you, just let Pastor or an usher know.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymn #754, Jesus the Very Thought of You – Four verses

- 1 Jesus, the very thought of you
fills us with sweet delight;
but sweeter far your face to view
and rest within your light.

- 2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
nor can the mind recall
a sweeter sound than your blest name,
O Savior of us all!

- 3 O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul,
O joy of all the meek,
how kind you are to those who fall!
How good to those who seek!

- 4 O Jesus, be our joy today;
help us to prize your love;
grant us at last to hear you say:
"Come, share my home above."

Hymn #479, We Come Hungry to the Feast – Three verses

- 1 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 2 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 3 We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

Hymn #434, Jesus Shall Reign – Five verses

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his peace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER after COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: **Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come one! Come all!
Bring family, neighbors and friends
to our annual SPLF Chili Cook-off,
Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

We have limited seating, so please sign up early. Sign-up sheets will be provided on the WELCA bulletin board. Please note the number in your party and check off in the column to the right of your name if you are entering a chili for the contest.
Please contact Linda Wilson for more information.

Dave Lingsjo will be coordinating the entertainment for next month's Chili-Cook off. If you would like to entertain or help Dave in any way, please contact him at his home phone number. Thank you!

Pastor Paul's Bible study meets on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

If you are interested in an evening Bible study at 6:00 p.m., there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please add your name and check the day you prefer.

Join Pastor for coffee on Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Old World Coffee Roasters, 301 N. Curry St., Carson City.

St. Paul's began hosting N.O.T.S. (Nights off the Streets) on February 1st. If you can volunteer for a shift, please contact Jay Olshen.
Our guests arrive at 9:00 p.m.

We grieve with Ruth Fitzgerald
on the loss of her dear friend
Skip Reed who passed away on February 9th.
May his memory be a blessing!



SENDING SONG: Hymn #449, We Know That Christ Is Raised – Four verses

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Hallelujah!
- 2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
as living members of our Savior Christ.
Hallelujah!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.
Hallelujah!
- 4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Hallelujah!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeter – Ruth Fitzgerald

Reader – Linda Wilson

Usher – Jay Olshen

Cantors – Tom Gesick and Brian Marley

Counters – Deanna Fine and Jay Olshen

Acolytes – Clay Woslum and Greg Griffith

Youth Acolytes – Alana and Shay

Live-streaming Team – Nick Cotsonis and Holly McPhail

Musician – Vicki Hamilton

Altar Guild: Hope Chowanski and Heidi Jones

CHURCH ATTENDANCE STATS: Sunday, February 9, 2025:

Adults: 48, Children: 3, Online: 17

PRAYERS for COPING and HEALING

Grace Little, daughter of Anna Little and granddaughter of Judy McPhail, pneumonia and a blood infection; Donald, a friend of Susan Bunker Niles and his wife Anne, surgery; Carol, a friend of Mary DeFelice, suffering from influenza and Afib; Sandy Danforth, knee surgery; Sharon Gesick's sister Karen; Marta Marsh, surgery; Lois Denim, amputated leg and cancer; Dick Lowther: surgery; Karen Lowther: a broken hip from a fall; David Wilson, recovering from heart surgery; Katherine Poline, friend of Judy McPhail's oldest daughter Heather, diagnosed with breast cancer; Ray Patrick, Wayne and Jean Opperman's son-in-law, cancer treatment; Wayne Opperman; Vera Logie; Tom, a friend of St. Paul's; Joan Yeskie; Edward Yoho; Fern Yoho; Maxine McGregor, and a special prayer for all those living with devastating diseases and life-threatening injuries.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Jim Kennett; Gayle Kennett; Pat Thunder; Audrey Stroub; Bev Steinert, ongoing vision issues; Bob Stroub; Bill Sandell; Frank and Shirley Bartlett; Carol Kalleres, continued health issues; James Wilson, continued health issues; Mary Ann Adamik, healing; Ellen Harrell, medical issues; Betty Razor, healing; Karen (Hone) Nolte; and Diana Johns.

WELCA CHILI COOK-OFF AND SILENT AUCTION WITH SPECTACULAR ENTERTAINMENT



Come one! Come all! Bring family, neighbors and friends to our annual SPLF Chili Cook-off, Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

**THIS IS A WELCA FUNDRAISER
TO HELP SUPPORT ALL PEOPLE IN NEED**

We have limited seating, so please sign up early. Sign-up sheets will be provided on the WELCA bulletin board. Please note the number in your party and check off in the column to the right of your name if you are entering a chili for the contest.

Other sign-up sheets will be provided on the WELCA bulletin board for volunteers to help set-up, clean-up, and provide complimentary side dishes, desserts. Soups, casserole dishes etc. are welcomed.

Contestants should have their chili entries at church by 4:00 p.m. All other complementary dishes and desserts should be at the church by 4:00 p.m. also. Dinner will be ready at approximately 5:00 p.m. **If you have any questions, please contact Linda Wilson. Contact information is in the church directory. I will be at church no later than 1:00 p.m. setting up.**

For donating auction items, please hold items until that day. You can bring them to the church any time after 1:00 p.m. If you have questions, **please contact Charlotte LaCombe.** (Examples: gift cards for auto oil changes, movie and popcorn certificates, eatery gift cards, gift baskets (chocolate, bath, wine, kitchen, foot spa) artwork, or nail salon certificate.

If you would like to join the line-up of entertainers, please contact Dave Lingsjo. The cut-off for entertainment sign-up is Wednesday, March 12th.

The fun festivities begin at 4:30 p.m. with the judging of the chili. The 1st and 2nd place judge's choice awards, along with the people's choice awards will be presented after dinner. All other contestants will receive a consolation prize.

Family gatherings always raise happy memories; take pictures, and put on some happy faces, have fun and at the same time know that you are helping others that need our support. **Together we can make a difference.**

The Peace of the Lord Be with You All. – Linda Wilson

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

If you'd like more information about St. Paul's or are interested in becoming a member, please fill out this form and return it to the church office via email or US Mail.

You may also drop it in the church office door mail slot.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Special needs or requests: _____

.....

Prayer Requests: _____

Hymn Requests: _____
