St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



The Baptism of Our Lord January 7, 2024



If you are a guest with us today, we extend a special welcome in the name of Jesus! If you have questions or prayer requests or want to get in touch with us, please sign the guest book in the lobby (or use this QR code) or email or call.



Children's Bulletins are available in the lobby.

Service Live-streamed In The Learning Center Turn right when you leave the sanctuary and follow the hall around to The Learning Center if you need a break during the service.

Prelude: Please use the prelude as a time for quiet prayer and meditation before worship.

Prayer before Worship: O Lord, creator, redeemer, and comforter, I come to worship You in spirit and in truth. Open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus name. Amen.

For Those Who Desire to Receive the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. Paul in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

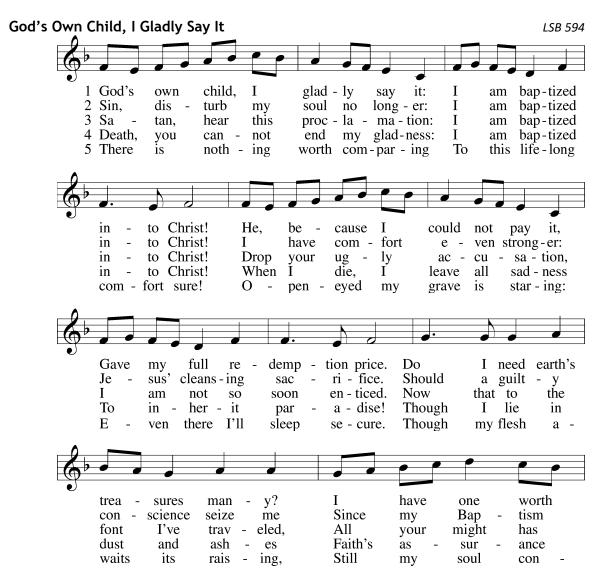
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. (Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion trays.)

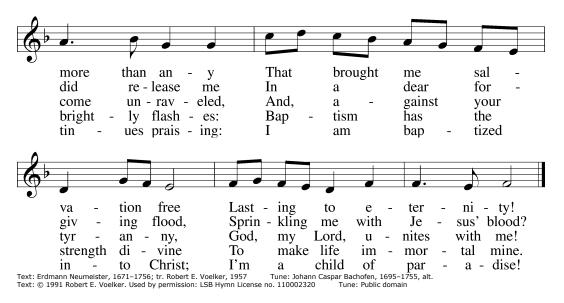
> St. Paul Lutheran Church and School 2001 Old Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228 Church: 410-747-1897 School: 410-747-1924 www.stpaulcatonsville.org email: secretary@stpaulcatonsville.org Pastor Gregory Alms Renata O'Reilly, Organist & Choir Director

The Baptism of Our Lord January 7, 2024

Prelude: When Jesus Came to Jordan

David Cherwien ((b. 1957)





Confession and Absolution

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Sit

Confession of Sins

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

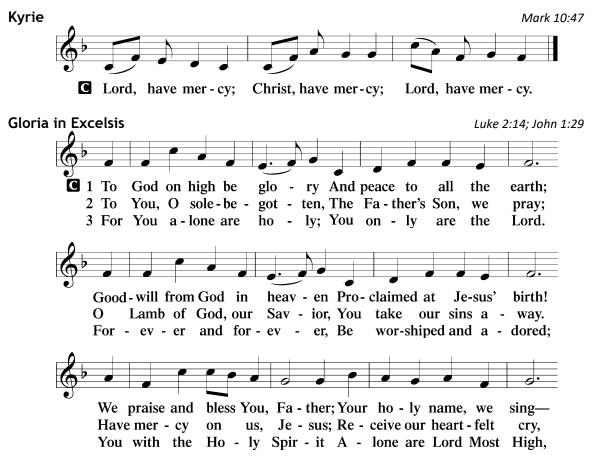
Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word





Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high— In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply. Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.
- C Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit Anthem: from Messiah

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Tori Johnsson, Soprano

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy king cometh unto thee. He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1–5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



Refrain

Psalm

Blessèd are those who fear the LORD,

who find great delights in his commands..

Wealth and riches are in their houses,

and their righteousness endures forever.

Refrain

Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

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Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
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Refrain

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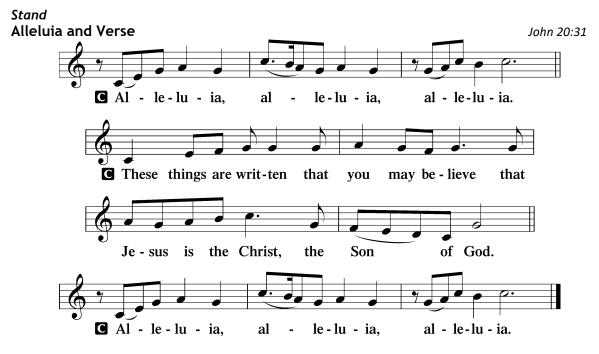
Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

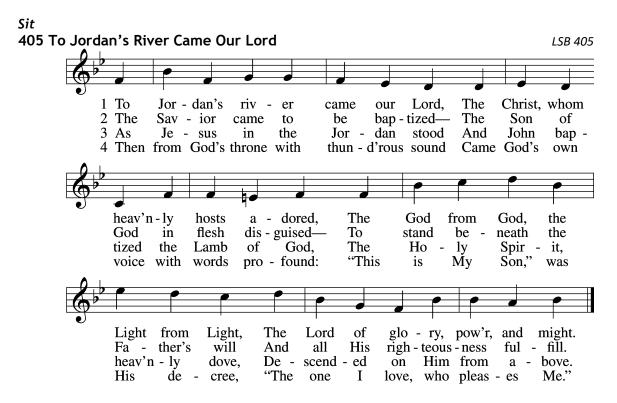
Mark 1:4–11

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.



- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight Anointed Christ in glorious sight As God's own choice, from Adam's fall To save the world and free us all.
- Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
 This man is Christ, our substitute!
 He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
 Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt. Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002320 Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand Nicene Creed

- C I believe in one God,
 - the Father Almighty,
 - maker of heaven and earth
 - and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God. begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

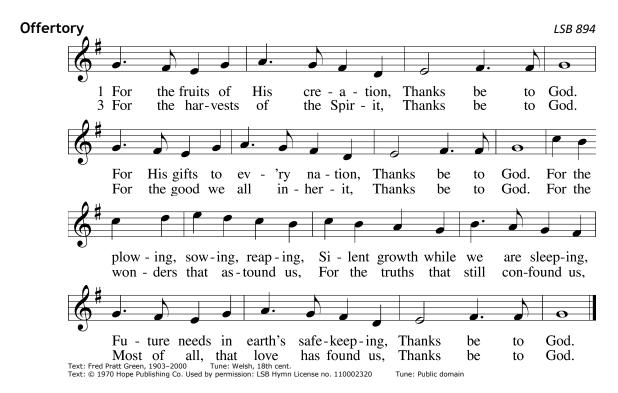
- the Lord and giver of life,
- who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
- who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
- And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
- I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
- and I look for the resurrection of the dead
- and the life ${\sf T}$ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

(An offering plate is available in the narthex. You may also give electronically through our website at stpaulcatonsville.org/donation. If you would like to send in an electronic offering via text, text the dollar amount you would like to give to 410-888-0161.)



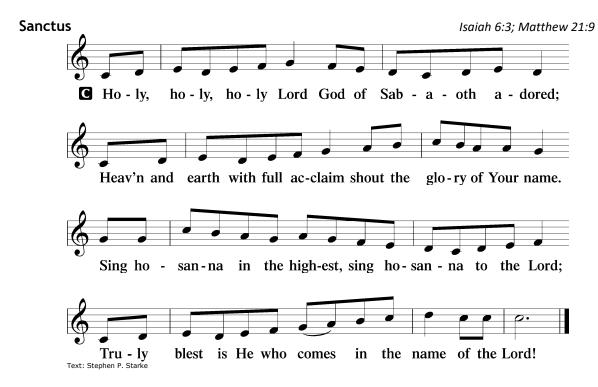


Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

- 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 Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, right, and salutary evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

 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 Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.









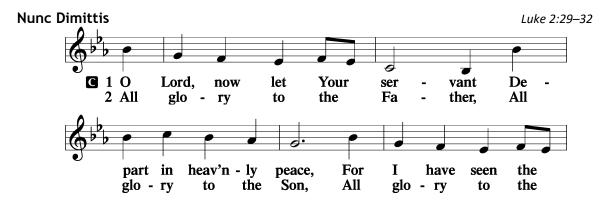
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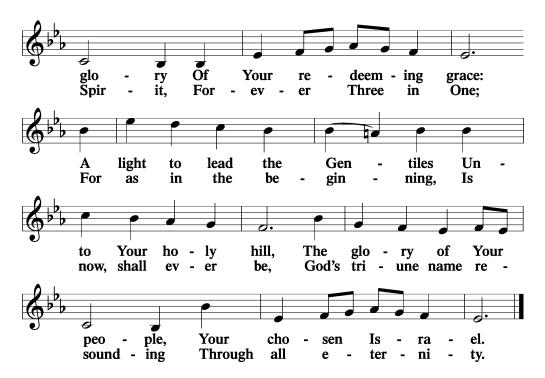
O Lord, We Praise Thee LSB 617 10 Lord, we bless Thee, and praise Thee, a - dore Thee, 2 Thy ho - ly to death was bod in giv - en, у -3 May God His grace and be - stow on fa - vor us thanks - giv - ing Thee. Thou with Thy In bow be fore Life win for No to in heav great - er us en. That we fol - low Christ our Sav ior And live to -Thy blood didst nour - ish bod - y and Our weak souls that love than this to Thee could bind us; Mav this feast there geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this Θ they may flour ish: 0 Lord, have mer cy! re - mind Lord, have mer of us! 0 cy! _ blest Com - mu nion! 0 Lord, have mer cy! That May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, our Thy kind - ness That Lord. did con - strain Thee Thy SO Let good Spir not Thy it for - sake us; Grant that -And Thy blood sor - rows did car - ry, for us plead sins and debt blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our Thou hast paid; heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Θ tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer cy! In all Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer cv! Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, h Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002320 Tune O Lord, have mer cy!

Tune: Public domain

God. Who Made the Earth and Heaven LSB 877 1 God, who made the and heav - en, Dark - ness earth and light: 2 And when morn a - gain shall call us То life's way. run 3 Guard us wak-ing, guard us sleep-ing, And when we die, You the day for work have giv-en, For the night. May Your rest we still, what - e'er be - fall us, Your May will o - bey. From the we in Your might - y keep-ing All May peace - ful lie. When the an - gel guards de - fend us, Slum-ber sweet Your mer - cy send us, e - vil hide us, In the nar - row path - way guide us, pow'r of last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not for - sake us. Ho - ly dreams and All hopes at - tend us through the night. Your smile All through the day. Nev - er be de - nied us With You on high. But to reign in glo ry take us Text (st. 1): Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.; (st. 2): William Mercer, 1811-73, alt.; (st. 3): Richard Whately, 1787-1863, alt. Tune: Welsh, 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Stand Post-Communion Blessing





Post-Communion Collect

- A Let us pray....
- C Amen.

Benedicamus

- A Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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 T give you peace.
- C Amen.

Psalm 103:1

394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



Dismissal

Postlude: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

LSB 394

Acknowledgments

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Prayer Líst

CHURCH MEMBERS

Merilyn Blomster (recovering) Bruce Staudinger (injured leg) Laurie Dungey (concussion) Rik Johnsson (recovering from neck/back surgery) David Nguyen (recovering from back surgery) Lindsey Gay John Gay (cancer) Janice Gay (caretaker) Debbie Frech (cancer, chemotherapy treatments) Marilyn Haberl (scleroderma)



SHUT-INS

Mildred Klein, Betty Blackburn, and Janet Conklin.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Thanksgiving for the birth of Andrew Curtis Oldhouser, son of Matt and Katie Oldhouser, and grandson of Bill and Debbie.
Billie-Jean, friend of Sally Foks (mom of young children, having surgery) 1/7
Vicky Weyrich, Sister-in-law of LaVerne Kyne (recovering from knee replacemet) 1/7
Sandy Miller, friend of the Kynes (breast cancer) 1/7
Elsie Cox, friend of the Kynes (congestive heart failure) 1/7
Ronnie Stevenson, friend of the Kynes (recovering from rotator cuff surgery) 12/17
Kelly Woolford, friend of the Staudinger's 12/10
Walt O'Reilly, husband of Renata (undergoing radiation cancer treatments) 11/26
David Storey, our organ tuner/repairer (triple heart bypass) 11/26
Tim Will, grandparent & guardian of school child (recovering from abdominal surgery) 12/31

Prayer is a great gift and privilege for Christians. To add people to the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please email pastoralms@stpaulcatonsville.org or dana.stigdon@splscatonsville.org or call the church office at 410-747-1897. Family and friends will automatically be removed after one month. If you want your request to stay on for another month, just contact the office.

News & Notes



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are given to the glory of God by the Women's Guild. Altar flowers give glory to God, beautify the sanctuary, and commemorate an important person or event in your life. The *Flower Chart for 2024* is posted and has openings available. Consider sponsoring flowers, flowers can be taken home after the service.

Mission Brunch/Congregational Potluck 2024

On Jan 28th we will have a congregational get together! Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov, a friend of Pastor Alms, from the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church will be our featured speaker. This will be a potluck brunch. Sign-up in the Narthex for what you will bring to share.

Lutheran Books & Beer

The next meeting will be on January 25th at 7 pm at the Rathskellar in Elkridge. Beginning a new book: *I Am Not Afraid: Demon Possession and Spiritual Warfare* by Robert H. Bennett. A fascinating first-hand account of the spiritual warfare in Africa and closer to home. Book is available from CPH or from Amazon.

Together We Can/Health Care Kits/Soup & Sandwich

On January 24th we will have a church and school mission project event. We will gather to share a meal and then put together health care kits. There is a great need for these kits that will be distributed by the Lutheran Mission Society. Church members are asked to bring in toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, and travel size/small liquid soap to contribute to the kits. If you plan to come and help on the 24th, please sign up on the bulletin board.

Grace: An Introduction to Lutheranism

Pastor Alms will teach this class beginning on January 15th on Mondays at 7 pm. All are welcome.

Bible Classes

Sunday morning Bible classes resumed today. Pastor is leading a study in the Fellowship Hall on the Suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Mark. The women's study in the upstairs Conference Room continues the study of Joseph.

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship Hour sponsors are needed. If you can provide treats on a Sunday morning, please sign up on the bulletin board.



Community Craft Day

This Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. Bring any craft you want to work on and enjoy some time of fellowship and productivity.

	This week	Next week
Cantor	Steve Haar	Steve Haar
Reader	Jay Barringer	Karen Eichelman
Usher	Ben Haberl	Greg McDonald
Usher	Jim Baeder	Jeffrey Hemmeter
Greeter	Doris Schascheck	Bruce Staudinger
Acolyte	Charlotte McKay	Paul Baeder

Serving at St. Paul

Daily Lectionary Readings

Following historic practice, this lectionary presents a continuous reading through the books of the Bible, often associating certain books with particular seasons of the Church Year. These readings are in the bulletin each week. Two readings of 15-25 verses each are provided for each day – one from each the Old and New Testaments. Under this plan, nearly all of the New Testament and approximately one-third of the Old Testament are read each year.

Daily Readings: Jan 7: Ezek 1:1–14, 22–28, Rom 1:1–17; Jan 8: Ezek 2:1—3:11, Rom 1:18–32; Jan 9: Ezek 3:12–28, Rom 2:1–16; Jan 10: Ezek 18:1–4, 19–32, Rom 2:17–29; Jan 11: Ezek 33:1–20, Rom 3:1–18; Jan 12: Ezek 34:1–24, Rom 3:19–31; Jan 13: Ezek 36:13–28, Rom 4:1–25.



4	Sermon	Notes
VISUAL FAITH ministry		

