



25 January, 2026

The 3RD Sunday after Epiphany
Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Worship Notes

This morning we have gone fully remote. Whether you're joining from table or couch or treadmill, welcome! In house or by heart we gather to hear the word, pray for one another and our community. We will celebrate communion – please set your worship space with bread and grape juice/wine as you are able.

If you went to Sunday School or Vacation Bible School you sang the familiar "I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men...", sometimes with motions, always with enthusiasm. Have to wonder: were the first disciples enthusiastic when Jesus called them to leave their family business, their livelihoods to follow an itinerant teacher? Enthusiastic or not, follow they did. In Jesus the kingdom of God has and will come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be "caught" in the net of God's grace and mercy.

Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency please call the Parsonage at 267-362-8129

GATHERING

PRELUDE: Worship and prayer announcements, followed by a time for prayer and centering our hearts on God.

Blessed be the Father, and of the \dagger Son, and Holy Spirit, one God

whose light shines with welcoming grace and who calls, gathers and enlightens us. **Amen.**

Let us pray: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the \dagger Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray *Silence* 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.**

WORD

Please be seated. Silence for reflection follows each reading

The first Reading is from Isaiah, the 9th chapter (Isaiah 9:1-4)

¹There 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.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.**

Psalm 27 is read responsively

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message - “Seek my face.”**
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away - you have been my helper;
forsake me not, O God of my salvation. **Amen.**

The second Reading is from 1 Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

(1 Corinthians 1:10-18)

¹⁰Now 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. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What 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.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For 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.

¹⁸For 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 ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to the first chapter (Matthew 4:12-23)

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

¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the 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.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As 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. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As 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. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus 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 our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

TEACHING THE WORD (SERMON)

Let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the needs upon our hearts, our church and community.

A brief silence. The invitation: '... at this time, for what else shall we pray?' is followed by a time to offer our own petitions aloud or in silence. Each petition concludes:

*...in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

We greet one another in peace saying, "Peace be with you"

OFFERTORY/ANTHEM

*We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies.
This is our 5th Sunday offering – please use the QR code for your offering, or mail it to the church office.*



Let us pray. God our provider, **you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Table is prepared as we pray and prepare our hearts.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, it is our duty and our great joy to praise You, O God, for Jesus the Word made flesh...

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes:

...Hear us as we join our voices in obedience and hope to pray:

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

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the table of the Lord, for all is ready.

We shall come with joy! Alleluia, Amen.

THE COMMUNION
*We believe Jesus is truly present in the forms of bread and wine.
Please take communion as you are able.*

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

SENDING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. -*Silence-* We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
**In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and your minds through faith in Christ Jesus;
And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with
you always. **Amen**

DISMISSAL Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

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