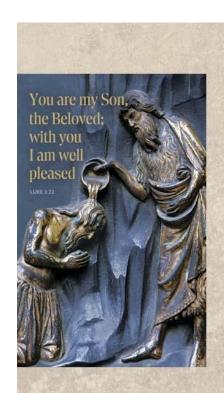
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET HANOVER, PA



BAPTISM OF OUR LORD SUNDAY

January 12, 2025

Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com

Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus
Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries
Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells
Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music
Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's

Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family Church Office: 717-637-5941

Email: <u>stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net</u>
Website: <u>www.stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- -Generously stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- -Serving as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- **Providing** for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- -Growing in Faith through worship, study, and discernment
- -Praising God through music, word, and service
- -Welcoming all people into fellowship with God

Important Worship Notes

All liturgies are printed within this bulletin.

Children's activity bags and children's bulletins are located on the podium in the hallway on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Children's activity bags are also located on the coat rack behind the door of the choir loft side of the sanctuary.

P: Pastor C: Congregation L: Lay Reader A: Assisting Minister

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

+ The Baptism of Our Lord + First Sunday after Epiphany January 12, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

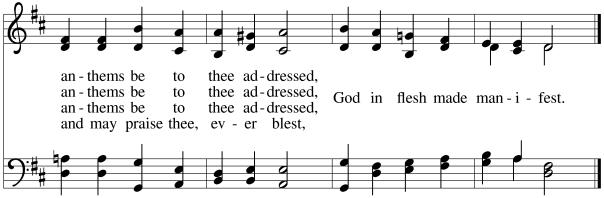
At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

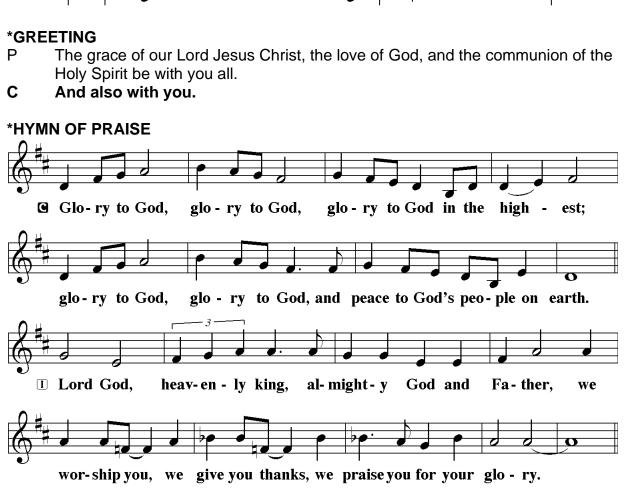
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!









*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

- L The First Reading according to Isaiah 43:1-7
 - ¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."
- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 29 read responsively

- A ¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- C ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

- ⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- ⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- ⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

- ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. nd in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
- C 10The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
 - ¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.
- A Holy wisdom, Holy word.
- C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Acts 8:14-17

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

- L The Second Reading according to Acts 8:14-17
- ¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

*GOSPEL

P ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON



*NICENE CREED

A Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.

C 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.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

A brief silence.

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news.

especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"I've Got Peace Like a River"
From collection of Ring Together Spirituals
Jeffers Handbell supply 1999

arr. Rodgers

Hand Bell Choir

There are a number of ways of making your offerings to God during this time. One is to place your offering in our offering plates in front of the pews or to give online at https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give. If you prefer not to give online, you may of course mail a check to St. Paul's. If you are not able to give monetarily during this time, know that your prayers and praise are a pleasing offering to God. If you are able to give a little more during this time, please consider doing so as a way of supporting your fellow disciples who are not able to.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of grace,

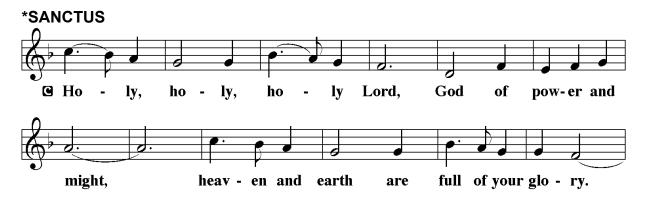
your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

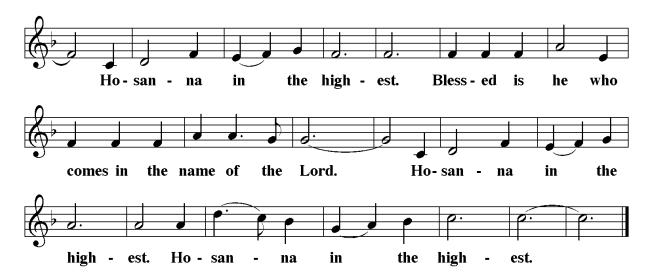
*DIALOGUE ELW 144

- 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.

*PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

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

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen!

*LORD'S PRAYER

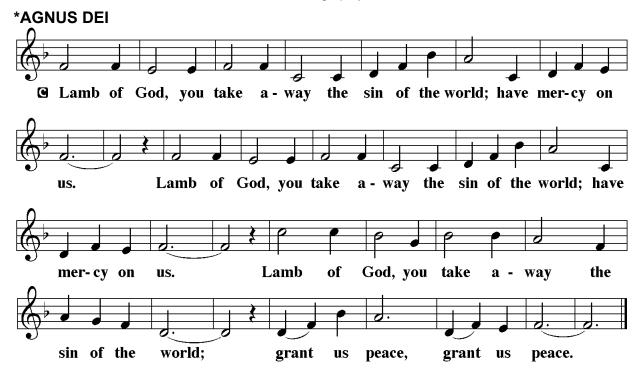
- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

All are welcome to commune. If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

"We, Thy People, Praise Thee"
"On The Water I"

Hand Bell Choir arr. MacGorman arr. MacGorman

Children and Faith Formation leaders are dismissed to Faith Formation time after receiving communion.

*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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,

C Amen.

THE SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL SECRETARY

*BLESSING

- P The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
- C Amen.





*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

^{*} Stand if you are able

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	January 12	January 19
Assisting Minister	Donna Lehman	Frank Hueske
Acolyte	Jocelyn Fissel	Leah Kaltreider
Lay Reader	Betty Sheets	Bill Sowers
Communion Distributors	Cindy Schmidt	Russ Kaltreider
	Sally Lovelace	Maureen Kaltreider
Ushers	Suzanne Butler	Suzanne Butler
	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman
Altar Committee	Ginny Murray	Ginny Murray
	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We know that fellowship is an important part of our faith community; that's why we hold Coffee Hour after church each Sunday. We are looking for volunteers to help keep our Coffee Hour going! There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge for folks to volunteer as coffee makers or to bring snacks. Coffee makers would start the coffee urn around 9 a.m. (coffee training available on request!) Both volunteers would help with set up and clean up. If you have questions, see Russ Kaltreider. Thank you for your help!

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at <u>finance@stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Radio–Jan. 19. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers- Jan. 19. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine- Jan. 19. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins- Jan. 19. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$20 each date)

Eternal flame- Jan. 19. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$10 each date)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR IN OUR CHURCH LOUNGE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE, for anyone who is not attending the children's Faith Formation classes, will be held following the Worship Service. Grab some coffee and snacks in the lounge and join us **in the nursery, across from the lounge,** to dive a little deeper into the day's Bible readings. We should finish by 11:30 am.

JANUARY'S DESIGNATED GIVING will go to support Golden Visions Adult Day Services. Golden Visions is a 501(c) organization that has been serving the elderly of the Hanover community since 1990. They serve around 25 clients each day in the Adult Day Service, as well as providing vital Alzheimer's and dementia support services to their family and caregivers. Golden Vision's mission is to offer a daily structured program that ensures safety, security, and provides needed nutritional and medical care to local Alzheimer and Dementia clients. They provide outstanding services to a large portion of low-income seniors who would otherwise be overlooked. We will support Golden Visions in providing a bridge of care and support for our seniors in the Hanover area.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES are available to pick up in the hallway outside of the pulpit entrance. Please feel free to contact Maureen in the church office (717-637-5941 or finance@stpaulsyorkst.org) anytime you have questions about your offerings.

PLEASE ENJOY OUR ADVENT IN FULL COLOR murals displayed in the hallway beside and in front of the 2025 Offering Envelope boxes. Thanks to all who participated in coloring and reflecting on our Advent preparations. May the God of love, hope, joy, and peace continue to fill your life with innumerable blessings!

FAITH IN ACTION NEWS: Our Souper Bowl "soup" collection will run from Jan 12 - February 9, 2025. We will be collecting regular size cans of soup (10.5 oz) for the Saturday Morning Grocery Ministry here at St. Paul's. Any kind of soup is acceptable. We are setting a goal of 400 cans this year. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

SOMETHING'S BREWING BIBLE STUDY - Monday evenings at 7:00pm in the Lounge. Join us!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED on Saturday, January 18th, at 9 am to take down the Christmas decorations. Please consider helping because many hands really do make light work.

HERITAGE CHOIR will rehearse on Saturday, January 18th, at 9 am in the sanctuary.

ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB will meet on Wednesday, January 29 at 12:30 pm in the Conference Room at 12:30 pm. The book we are reading for January is <u>Ordinary Grace</u> by William Kent Kruegar. We extend an invitation to all readers to come, bring a brown bag lunch and drink and join us for great discussion and good fellowship.

PIE AUCTION AND DINNER will be held February 23 at 1 pm. Watch upcoming bulletins and the February Evangel for more information.

SUN., JAN. 12	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – Baptism of Our Lord
Immediately following	Communion	Children's Choir rehearsal – Children's Music Room
		Followed by Faith Formation
Immediately following Worship		Coffee Hour - Lounge
,		Daily Discipleship class – Nursery room (1st floor)
		Youth Choir rehearsal - Choir Loft in the Sanctuary
		,
MON., JAN. 13	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd floor
,	7:00 pm	Something's Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
	,	gg
TUES., JAN. 14	10:30 am	LIU #12 – Fellowship Hall
,	6:00 pm	Finance Committee – lounge
	•	S .
WED., JAN. 15		February Evangel deadline
·	7:00 pm	Council meeting – Conf. Room (2 nd floor)
	•	,
THUR., JAN. 16	6:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – 2 nd Floor
	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in the Sanctuary
EDI 1411 47		D.A.I. T # 0
FRI., JAN. 17	0.00	P.A.L. Team # 2
	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
SAT., JAN. 18	9:00 am	Heritage Choir rehearsal - Choir Loft in the Sanctuary
OATI, OAN. 10	9:00 am	Taking down Christmas decorations
	3.00 am	HELP NEEDED
	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry – St. Paul's Book Club
	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship Service)
	6:15 pm	Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
SUN., JAN. 19	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 2 nd Sunday of Epiphany
		Followed by Faith Formation
Immediately following Worship		Coffee Hour - Lounge
_	-	Daily Discipleship class – Nursery room (1st floor)
		Youth Choir rehearsal - Choir Loft in the Sanctuary