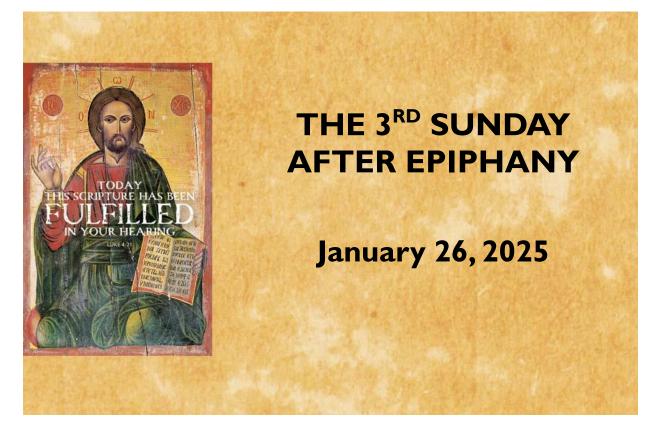
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET HANOVER, PA



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: <u>www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst</u>

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.

+ 3rd Sunday after Epiphany + January 26, 2025

INTRODUCTION

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

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.

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.

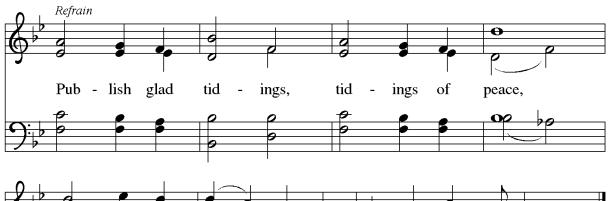
Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"O Zion, Haste"









*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.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**







*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the Lord is your strength."

L The First Reading according to Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 19

read responsively

- A ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- C ² One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴ their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶ It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷ The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸ The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults. ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

- A Holy wisdom, Holy word.
- C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

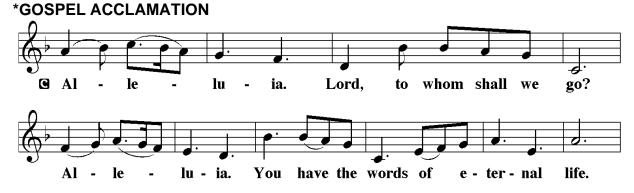
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

L The Second Reading according to 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-Jews or Greeks, slaves or free-and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of vou." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.





*GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke 4:14-21

C Glory to you, O Lord.

- P ¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON



*APOSTLES' CREED

- A Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- 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.

*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.

As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers and mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all experiencing depression, anxiety, or eating disorders; be a source of strength for all affected by memory loss and their caregivers; draw near to all undergoing medical treatment or surgery. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As we are made one body in baptism, strengthen all who serve. Renew and inspire all who use their gifts in this congregation, community, and the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we remember leaders of the early church, and beloved friends and family who have died. 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 "I'm Gonna Follow" *From* ChildrenSing in Worship, Volume 3/Augsburg Fortress Children's Choir

(Use this time to reflect on your financial and spiritual offerings to God.)

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 <u>https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give.</u> 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

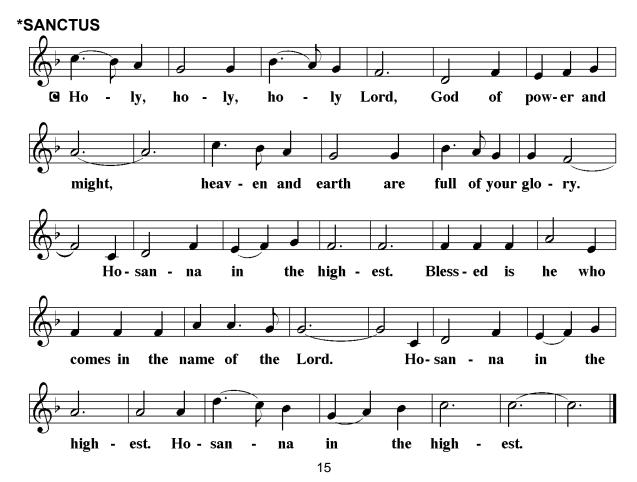
- A Let us pray. God of grace,
- C your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

- 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

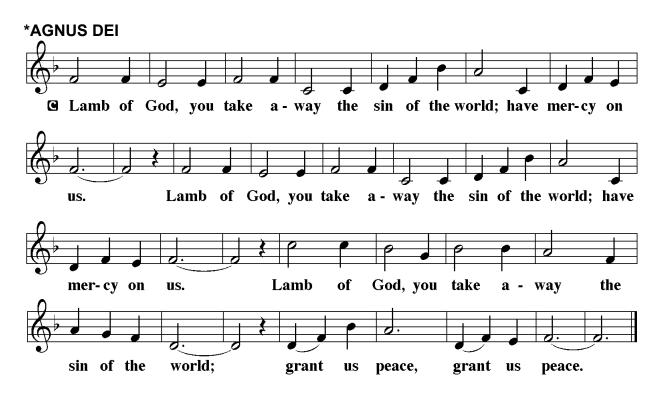
- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead 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

"For God So Loved the World"		Pote
	Adult Choir	
"How Beautiful"		arr. Larson
	Adult Choir	

***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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Deb DiddlemeyerTroy GebhartBarbaraPamela HueskeFergusonCalvin Lucy

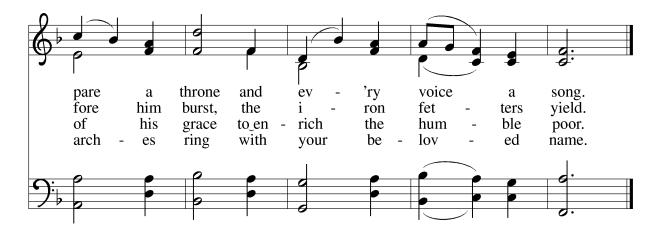
Cindy Mitz-Soumai Nicole Therit

*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 26	February 2
Assisting Minister	Deb Sowers	Bill Sowers
Acolyte	Matthew Kaltreider	Dilynn Long
Lay Reader	Deb Sowers	Sherry Cracium-Bolin
Communion Distributors	Bill Sowers	Donna Lehman
	Deb Sowers	Suzanne Butler
Ushers	Suzanne Butler	Michael Kelly
	Donna Lehman	Sharon Kelly
Altar Committee	Ginny Murray	Becki Davis
	Donna Lehman	Norma Lucabaugh

PLEASE JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP HALL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE AS WE WISH PASTOR KATRINA FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FOR GUIDING US ON OUR TRANSITION JOURNEY.

THERE ARE NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES TODAY.

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–Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date) Altar Flowers-Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (2 vases at \$20 each) Communion Bread and Wine-Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$12 each date) Worship Bulletins-Feb. 2, 9, 16, & 23 (\$20 each date) Eternal flame-Feb. 9, 16, & 23 (\$10 each date)

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE, for anyone who is not attending the children's Faith Formation classes, will resume next Sunday 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.

FEBRUARY'S DESIGNATED GIVING will go to support our missionaries, The Swanson's, in Tanzania. There newsletter can be found on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office.

FAITH IN ACTION NEWS: Our Souper Bowl "soup" collection will run until Sunday, 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!

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.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY: Join us Tuesday evenings beginning March 11 as we study the elements of the Crucifixion with the book *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado. The book focuses on what Jesus did for us on the Cross by getting us to look at it in a new light, and with a fuller understanding. Please sign up on the sheet by the pastor's office or contact Carmen no later than February 24 so we may order your book.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES are available to pick up in the hallway outside of the pulpit entrance.

PLEASE ENJOY OUR ADVENT IN FULL COLOR murals displayed in the hallway across from 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!



SUN., JAN. 26 Immediately followi	8:30 am 9:30 am ng Worship	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany Farewell and Thank You reception for Pastor Katrina
MON., JAN. 27	6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd floor Daisies – Fellowship Hall Something's Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
TUES., JAN. 28	10:30 am	LIU #12 – Fellowship Hall
WED., JAN. 29	12:30 pm	St. Paul's Book Club – Conf. Room – 2 nd floor
THUR., JAN. 30	6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary Cub Scouts – 2 nd Floor Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in the Sanctuary
FRI., JAN. 31	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
SAT., FEB. 1	9:00 am 5:00 pm 6:15 pm	Grocery Ministry – St. Paul's Council Saturday Evening Worship Service) Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
SUN., FEB. 2 Immediately following Immediately followi		Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – Presentation of our Lord Children's Choir rehearsal – Children's Music Room Followed by Faith Formation Coffee Hour - Lounge Daily Discipleship class – Nursery room (1 st floor) Youth Choir rehearsal - Choir Loft in the Sanctuary