## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 23, 2025



"Sharing the Good News of Christ With All People."

## The Divine Service

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 23, 2025

#### **AS WE GATHER**

Forgiving is not beyond the realm of possibility for us. Although, as children of Adam, we are part of the earthly world, by the grace of God we are also His children, in the family through Baptism. We can extend God's love and forgiveness to those who hate us, take from us, and are our enemies. Anyone who is in Christ, while still dealing with this Adamic world, can expect undeserved favor—grace—from our heavenly Father for Jesus' sake. Today our worship helps to strengthen us for the task. Fear not! Those who oppose us are part of this fallen world; Christ has destroyed even death for us. And we are in Christ.

#### **Prelude**

#### Invocation

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

  The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.
- C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

## **Confession and Absolution**

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- 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.

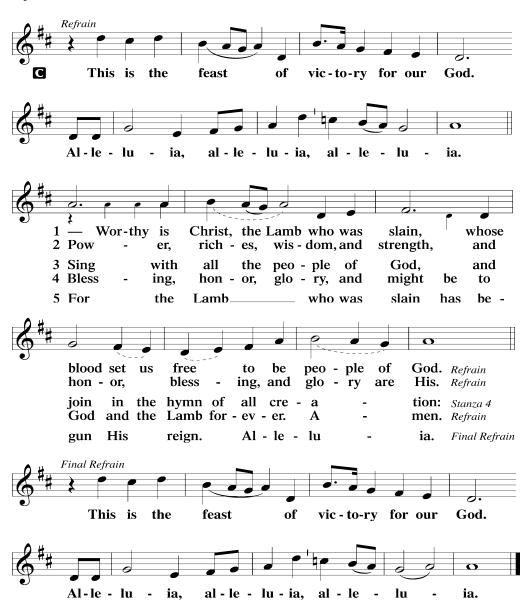




Kyrie LSB 168

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P 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.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.





#### **Salutation**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

## **Prayer of the Day**

- P Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **The Old Testament Reading**

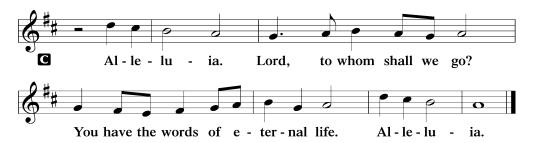
Genesis 45:3-15

- <sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. <sup>10</sup>You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' 12And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup>You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." 14Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

<sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ... <sup>30</sup>Why am I in danger every hour? <sup>31</sup>I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! <sup>32</sup>What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." 33Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." <sup>34</sup>Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame. <sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup>You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. <sup>39</sup>For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. <sup>40</sup>There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. <sup>41</sup>There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. 42So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

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

## Alleluia and Verse LSB 173



Holy Gospel Luke 6:27–38

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

<sup>27</sup>[Jesus said:] "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. <sup>31</sup>And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. <sup>32</sup>"If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. 37" Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

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







 $sun, \qquad And \quad hold \quad you \quad in \quad the \quad palm \qquad of \quad His \quad hand. \qquad 2 \quad The \\ Text \ and \ tune: \ @ \ OCP \ Publications. \ Used \ by \ permission: \ LSB \ Hymn \ License \ no. \ 110000828$ 

Sermon

"You Can't Make Me"

**Pastor Scott Henze** 

## **Apostles' Creed**

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ⊤ everlasting. Amen.

## **Prayer of the Church**

Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer".

Offering

"Majesty and Glory of Your Name"

Choir, 11:00 a.m.

## **Offertory Prayer**

- P Let us pray: Blessed are You, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

A word about Holy Communion We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

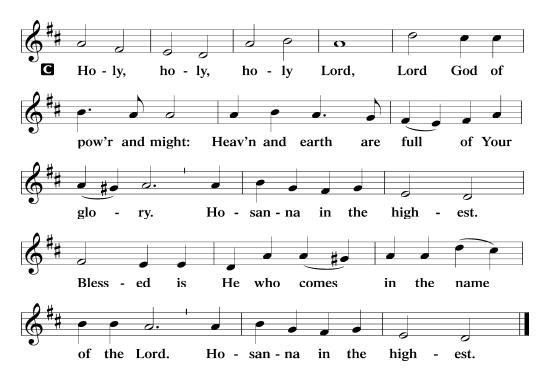
### **Service of the Sacrament**

## **Preface**

- 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.

## **Proper Preface**

Sanctus LSB 178



## The Lord's Prayer

- P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

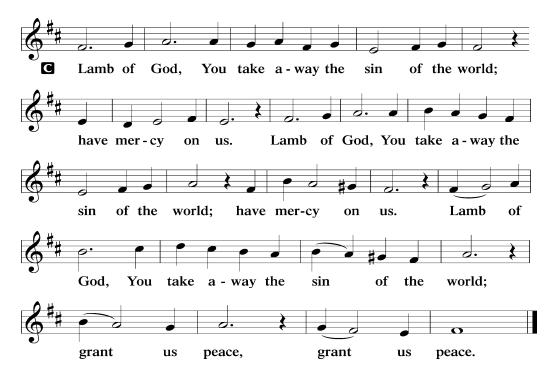
### **Words of Institution**

### The Peace of the Lord

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

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)

Agnus Dei LSB 180



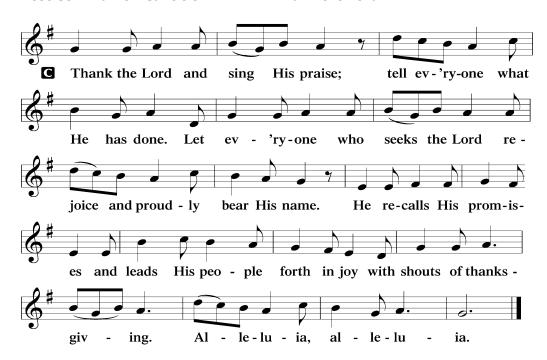




- O let the harps break forth in sound!
  Our joy be all with music crowned,
  Our voices gladly blending!
  For Christ goes with us all the way—
  Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
  His love is never ending!
  Sing out! Ring out!
  Jubilation!
  Exultation!
  Tell the story!
  Great is He, the King of Glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,
  The Lord we love is first and last,
  The end and the beginning!
  He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
  Transport us to that happy place
  Beyond all tears and sinning!
  Amen! Amen!
  Come, Lord Jesus!
  Crown of gladness!
  We are yearning
  For the day of Your returning!

## **Closing of the Table**





#### **Post-Communion Collect**

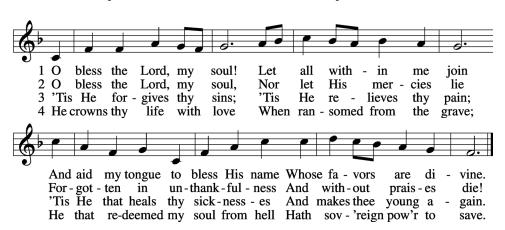
- P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **Small Groups Minute**

#### **New Member Installation**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**



- He fills the poor with good;
   He gives the suff'rers rest.
   The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th'oppressed.
- His wondrous works and ways
   He made by Moses known,
   But sent the world His truth and grace
   By His belovèd Son.

### **Dismissal**

- P Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....
- C Disciples making disciples.
- P Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!



March 1, 2025 Car Wash Fundraiser. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Get ready to shine, and let us pamper your ride! Join us for a fun-filled day of sparkling clean cars at our Car Wash Fundraiser. Please fill out the form to make a pledge to the 2025 Fundraiser. All donations support our Youth.

March 5, 2025 Ash Wednesday Services 6:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

March 12, 2025 Midweek Lent Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

**March 14, 2025** Older Wiser Lutherans. Older Wiser Lutherans will meet at 7:00 p.m. in rooms 201/202. Come and mingle in fellowship.

# YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH FUNDRAISER!

Pamper your ride and support our Youth!



March 1st, 2025 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pledge online before the car wash! https://stpaulweston.com/carwash/

All proceeds support our Youth Ministry!



Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one,
Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and
the community experiencing life difficulties.
Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone
you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

#### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor
Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



