

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 1, 2026

8:30 a.m.



Sharing the Good News of Christ With All People

The Divine Service

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 1, 2026

AS WE GATHER

Many of the words that we use on a regular basis in our worship have a rich and meaningful history that is often not well known. The word *blessed* or *blessing* used in the liturgy and hymns of the church is derived from the Old English word *bloedsian*, "to make something sacred." This word, traced further back to an ancient Germanic dialect, originally meant "to make sacred in marking with blood." That meaningful linkage is well reflected in the eighteenth-century hymn text by English clergyman Joseph Humphreys, which begins: "Blest the children of our God, They are bought with Christ's own blood; They are ransomed from the grave, Life eternal they will have" (LW 370:1). In his poetic text, Humphreys echoes 1 John, where we read: "But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1:7). We are blessed though the blood of Jesus to be the children of God! As we pray with hymnwriter Humphreys: "With them numbered may we be here and in eternity!" (LW 370:1).

Prelude

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

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

Confession and Absolution

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

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.**

Processional Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" LSB 790 *sts. 1-2, 5*



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

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.**





C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 (Women) 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 (Men) 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Father of glory, You reveal Your greatness in showing mercy. Keep our focus faithfully on the cross of Christ, where Your mercy was displayed in its fullness, and fill our hearts with thankfulness for Your gift of salvation; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:1–8

¹Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.” ⁶“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

A This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff contains the lyrics: "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes with lyrics placed below the notes.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 Je - sus sat with His dis - ci - ples On a
 2 "Bless-ed are the meek and hum - ble, All the
 3 "Bless-ed are God's sons and daugh - ters, Mak - ing

moun - tain - side one day; As the crowds of peo - ple
 earth to them is willed. Those who hun - ger to be
 peace where there is strife. Bless - ed are the per - se -

gath - ered, He be - gan to teach and say:
 ho - ly, They are bless'd and will be filled.
 cut - ed, Who for righ - teous - ness lose life;

"Bless-ed are the poor in spir - it, Heav - en's
 Yes, the mer - ci - ful are bless - ed, Mer - cy
 Their re - ward is great in heav - en, In the

king - dom they will share. Bless-ed are the sad and
 will to them be shown. And the pure in heart are
 king - dom up a - bove— So be glad to share My

mourn - ing, Joy and com - fort will be theirs.
 bless - ed, They have eyes for God a - lone.
 suf - f'ring And re - joice to know My love."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950 Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828 Tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828

Sermon

"We Are Blessed"

Pastor Scott Henze

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 of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

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

Offering

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.**

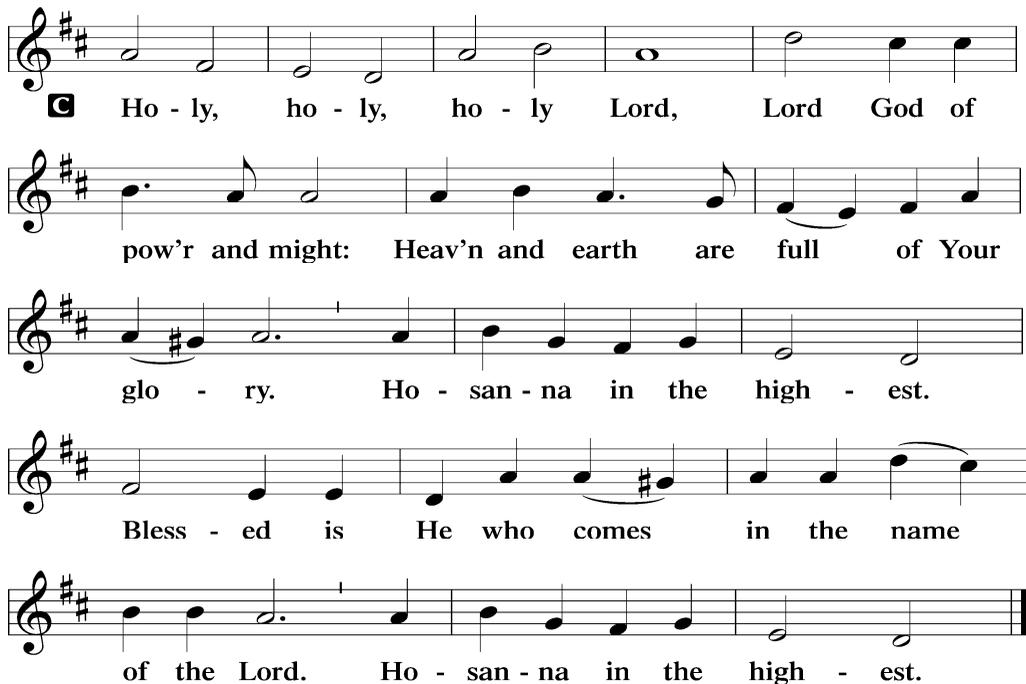
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

Sanctus

LSB 178



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

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

The 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

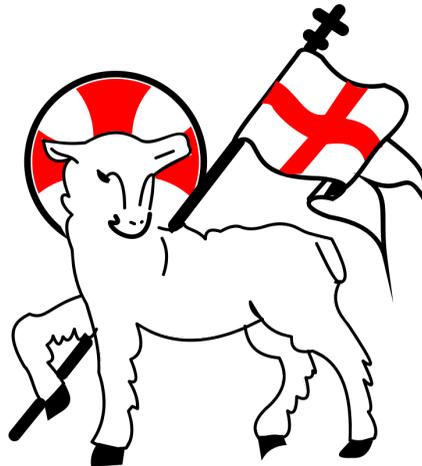

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;


have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the


sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of


God, You take a - way the sin of the world;


grant us peace, grant us peace.





1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
 3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
 all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
 grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
 lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
 peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.



Closing of the Table

Post Communion Canticle

"Thank the Lord"

LSB 181



The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-ises and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

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. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

LSB 837 *sts. ref-1, 3*

Refrain



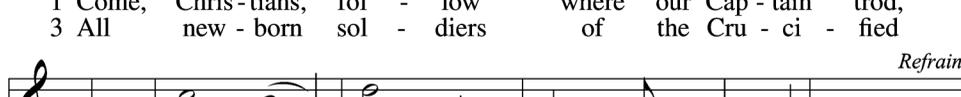
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,



3 All new-born sol-diers of the Cru-ci-fied

Refrain



Our king vic-tor-ious, Christ, the Son of God.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt. Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947 Text and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828



Prayer Support

If you want to be lifted up in prayer, our prayer team is here to pray for you after the worship service. You can meet them at the Communion Rail.

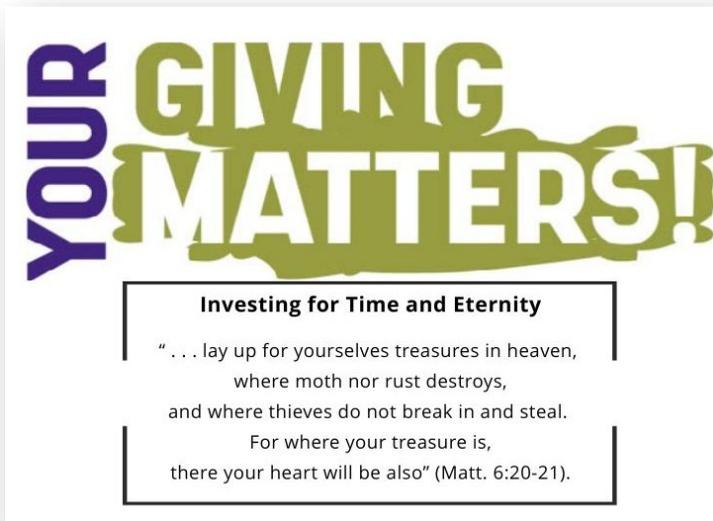
Dismissal

P Lord Jesus, you lead us! Now we go as....

C **Disciples making disciples.**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

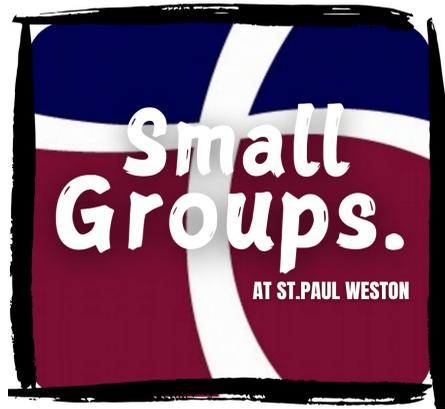
C **Thanks be to God!**



YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Investing for Time and Eternity

"... lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where moth nor rust destroys,
and where thieves do not break in and steal.
For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:20-21).



Celebrate Community with Small Groups at St. Paul!

Whether you're looking to join a group, learn more about how they work, or explore hosting one yourself, we invite you to visit our Small Group Ministry page <https://stpaulweston.com/groups/> and take the next step in your faith journey.

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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Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

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



Website and online giving

St. Paul
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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