

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Allen Roscovious, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton.

CALENDAR

Today	Anniversary & Birthday Fellowship	
Jan. 18-25	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	
Jan. 25	United Methodist Church, Norwalk	9:00 AM
Jan. 26	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15AM
	Annual Meeting	11:15 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today begins the week of services throughout the world for prayers of Christian Unity. Please gather in Norwalk next Saturday and join other Christians in prayer and reflection.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, immediately following the morning worship service. In addition to the usual election of council members, review and approval of the financial reports, approval of the 2025 budget, we propose to have a discussion and action to move forward with bidding on the construction project for the removal and replacement of the front entrance steps.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 19, 2025
**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
In Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

**(Indicates the people should stand as they are able.)*
Welcome and Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.
Amen.

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

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.

***Hymn "All Are Welcome" ELW #641**

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

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

Hymn "Will You Come and Follow Me" ELW#798

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Minister: Karen Sparling;
Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Alaina Holthaus Altar: Lori
Brueggen & Barb Ornes; Communion Server: Kirstin Arndt

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene Babbitt, Wayne Schindler, Florence
Dougherty, Dan Paulson, Laurie Switz Johnson, Jeremy
Munson, Heidi Stenerson, Richie Vlasak, Kristy Gwin Solovey,
Bud Speicher, Lyle Schindler, Gordy O'Rourke, Marilyn
O'Rourke, Jack Arndt, Cole Brandau, Vicky Boldon,
Bud Osteboe, Larry Arndt.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

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

Distribution

Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.

"Lamb of God"

ELW p. 191

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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,

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,
or 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.

Prayer of the Day

**Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

A reading from Isaiah 62:1-5

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places.....
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

ELW p. 190

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

*APOSTLES' CREED

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 INTERCESSION (God of grace, hear our prayer)

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Offering Hymn "This Little Light of Mine" v.1 ELW #677

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your
justice like the great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**

⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

SECOND READING

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

A reading from 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.188

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

GOSPEL READING

The holy gospel according to John 2:1-11

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn **“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”** **ELW #310**