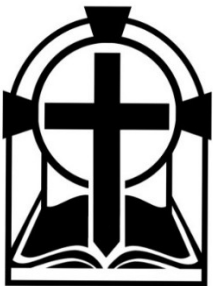


## *Cursed vs. Blessed*

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod  
Columbus, Indiana

## Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you have come to God's house to be fed and strengthened by His holy Word. The order of service for today is printed on the **insert** in this bulletin. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this morning. We are privileged to have you as our guest today and encourage you to worship with us again soon.

**The Family Quiet Room and Restroom** are located outside the doors of the sanctuary and to the left. In the Family Quiet Room, you can hear and see the service. **Assisted hearing devices** are available for the service. Please contact an usher.

Do you need prayer support? Please call Bonnie England at **812-447-7895** to activate our **Prayer Chain**. Your fellow church members will pray for you.

**Our Communion Practice:** We invite and encourage those who have been instructed, confirmed, and confess the faith of this congregation and other congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to receive the Sacrament. Communicants at this altar acknowledge their sins, believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, and desire the Spirit's help to turn from their sins.

Those who are not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing by placing their arms across their chest.

If you have questions regarding our Communion teaching and practice, please speak to a pastor.

**Communion Preparation:** To prepare for the Lord's Supper, you may wish to pray the prayer on the inside cover of the hymnal or review the Christian Questions and Answers on pages 329-330.

### Today's Christian Education Opportunities

First Steps of Faith (Infants and Toddlers with a parent)  
Sunday School classes for ages three-sixth grade  
Confirmation Instruction (grades 7-8) led by Pastor Patterson  
Sr. High Youth in the Youth Room led by Mrs. Probst  
*Financial Peace University* led by the Burbrinks and Fohnes meets in the quiet room  
*Signs, Symbols, and their Meaning* led by Pastor Bauman meets in the fellowship room

### Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau  
Acolytes: 8 AM Service Jonathan Dettmer  
10:45 AM Service Faith Wofford

## Church Calendar

*Nave and Sanctuary Painting This Week*

*Chapels and Matins will be held in the fellowship room*

Today	<b>8:00 AM Divine Service</b> 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:30 AM Sunday School <b>10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish</b> Noon KfC Event Noon Lunch 12:15 PM Youth Confirmation 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 1:30-4:00 PM Fellowship Room Reserved 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM
Monday	9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10:00 AM Small Group Handbells 5:30 PM Girl Scouts
Wednesday	<b>8:20 AM Doves and Kindergarten Chapel</b> 9:00 AM Bible Study <b>10:15 AM Matins Service</b> 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Sr. Handbells 7:00 PM Sr. Choir 7:00 PM ECM Board Meeting
Thursday	<b>8:20 AM Lambs Chapel</b>
Saturday	Church Reserved
Next Sunday	<b>8:00 AM Divine Service</b> 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:30 AM Sunday School <b>10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish</b> Noon Lunch 12:15 PM Youth Confirmation 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes 1:15 PM Jr. Handbells 1:45 PM Choristers 2:00-3:30 PM Children's Tea Social 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

**TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY...** is sponsored by Jim and Carol Probst in thanksgiving to God in honor of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### **IN THE GATHERING SPACE...**

+ 2024 Contribution Statements  
+ March Newsletter

# Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

## Prelude

*Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now—J. Walther*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please sign the Record of Fellowship*

## Ringling of the Bell

## Opening Hymn

*Please stand for stanza six*

**553**

## Confession of Sins

*please stand page 203*

## Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis

*page 204*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

*please be seated*

## Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

[Paul writes:] Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse

*please stand and sing page 205*

**G** **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the sixth chapter.

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

And [Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him and healed them all.

And He lifted up His eyes on His disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Apostles Creed**

page 207

## **Little Sermon**

## **Hymn of the Day**

**705**

## **Sermon**

*Cursed vs. Blessed*

Jeremiah 17:5-8

## **Prayer of the Church**

*please stand*

## **Offering**

**729**

## **Service of the Sacrament**

*please stand* pages 208-210

## **Distribution**

**904, 557, 758, 797**

*Visitors: Please read our Communion statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.*

## **Closing Liturgy**

*please stand* pages 211-212

## **Closing Hymn**

**923**

## **Postlude**

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow—J. Walther*

# **Children's Tea Social—Next Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

All St. Paul and ECM children (*boys and girls*), and accompanying adult(s), are invited to a dress-up Children's Tea Social **next Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 2-3:30 PM in the church fellowship room. Flavored teas and apple juice, scones, petite sandwiches, and dainty desserts will be served (more of a snack than a meal), and an activity is being planned. The focus of the event is primarily for the children and accompanying adult to learn another country's culture by participating in a High Tea modeled after the British custom. The sign-up deadline is **TODAY, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. You may sign-up by emailing Vicki Howarth at [dvhowarth@comcast.net](mailto:dvhowarth@comcast.net) or through the following link: <https://forms.gle/jPtc7ha3uPpDujYC8>. A sign-up table is also available in the gathering space. Please join us for an afternoon of High Tea fun and fellowship!

Thank you to all those who have let us borrow your teacups, saucers, pots, sugars and creamers, etc. for the tea. We look forward to an enjoyable afternoon of scrumptious snacks, tea and fellowship next Sunday. You can pick-up your items in the church kitchen any time after the Tea Social.

# Cursed vs. Blessed—Jeremiah 17:5-8

The LORD sets before us two w\_\_\_\_\_ : blessing and life vs. cursed and condemned

Everyone has f\_\_\_\_\_. The all-important question: Who or what are you t\_\_\_\_\_ above all things?

The Hebrew word for “blessed” is a derivate of the word “to k\_\_\_\_\_.”

The object lesson—Cursed vs. Blessed:

S\_\_\_\_\_ in the w\_\_\_\_\_ vs. t\_\_\_\_\_ planted by w\_\_\_\_\_.

How should we respond to those who are trusting in man, who have separated themselves from Christ and His gifts and blessings?

How do we remain connected to Christ, the living water, firmly rooted, growing, and producing abundant fruit?

What are the seasons of “drought” that we experience? How do we remain growing and thriving even during the difficult seasons?

**Next Sunday's Readings** *Genesis 45:3-15; 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42; Luke 6:27-38*

**LIVING THE SERMON...** What are the two different ways? How are we tempted to place our trust in human strength rather than in the LORD? Consider how you can remain firmly rooted in Christ, receiving His living water so that you can be growing and thriving even during seasons of drought. Pray for those who are in the barren wilderness of self-trust and trusting in the things of this world and look for opportunities to witness to them.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH...** Give thanks to God that through Christ, you are firmly rooted, drawing spiritual strength from His living water, growing, thriving, and bearing abundant fruit. Pray that you would always remain connected to Christ. Pray for all who are in the barren wilderness, those who have separated themselves from Christ, the living water.

**MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK...** *[Joseph said to his brothers:] So it was not you who sent me here, but God.*  
Genesis 45:8

## Youth Events

### **KfC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)**

KfC meets **today** from noon-1:15 PM for lunch, devotions, and activities. Please join us!

### **SPY (high schoolers) and C4Life (sixth-eighth grade)**

**Friday-Saturday, March 7-8 Lock-In:** The lock-in will begin at church on Friday evening and will conclude at Trinity Lutheran High School on Saturday morning. Please RSVP by phone or email to Pastor Bauman by Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> Youth and Young Adults:** Fun and fellowship at Back 9 Golf in Indianapolis. Meet at church at 1:30 PM. RSVP by March 12<sup>th</sup>. See the announcement page in this bulletin for more details.

### **All Youth and Youth Families**

**Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Supper:** Our youth groups will be sponsoring the Lenten supper. Please plan to attend and assist with this fundraising meal.

*Friends are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact a youth counselor or Pastor Bauman.*

# Extending Christ's Love Update

The Building and Finance Committees continue to work diligently on developing the design and raising funds for our Christian Education Center. But what about our current facilities? What about capital improvement projects? Obviously, there are and will be needed improvements now and throughout the next five years of our Extending Christ's Love campaign. How will we fund these special projects?

20 years ago, during our Growing with Christ's Love campaign and the construction of our current church, any capital improvement project necessitated a smaller campaign to raise the needed funds. Members were asked to contribute to three funds at the same time (general fund, Growing with Christ's Love, special campaign). We met the challenge at that time and were able to make extensive repairs on the bell tower of the chapel, reroof, install new sidewalks, and repair the south wall of the education building, as well as add insulation and improve lighting in the education building, even as we continued to support Growing with Christ's Love!



Although we accomplished what needed to be done 20 years ago, our congregational leaders have been working diligently to not put us in a place of simultaneous capital campaigns. Before beginning our Extending Christ's Love campaign, we conducted our Friends of Clifty Church campaign to replace the retaining wall, make needed repairs and improvements to the chapel, and move the bell to the newly constructed bell tower.

Last year, due to hail damage, all six HVAC units were replaced at the church, funded by insurance and your generosity through your general fund giving.

Going forward, our congregational leaders have identified capital improvement projects that need to be completed. They have developed a schedule and a plan to finance these projects. Our 2025 budget includes funds for repainting the sanctuary, the final area of our church that has not been repainted recently. Repainting will occur this week and next week (weeks of February 16 and 23).

In the coming years, some of these capital improvement projects will be included in the proposed budget while others will be funded through the unrestricted funds managed by our Endowments, Estates, and Trusts Committee. For example, the Endowments, Estates, and Trusts Committee has set aside funds to reroof our current church building at the same time the new Christian Education Center is being shingled.

Please continue to pray for Extending Christ's Love, for our congregation, our committees, and those who will be served through our Christian Education Center.

## Nave and Sanctuary Painting

Nave and Sanctuary painting begins **tomorrow, February 17<sup>th</sup>** and continues through **Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**. With the exception of Sunday services next weekend, the nave and sanctuary will be closed. Please note the following location changes:

- Matins will be in the fellowship room on Wednesdays, February 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- ECM Chapels will also be in the fellowship room this week. You are invited to worship with our preschoolers and kindergartners at chapel. Kindergarten and Little Doves Chapel is **this Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** and Little Lambs Chapel is **this Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**. Chapel services begin at 8:20 AM.

## Indiana District LCMS Workshops

**Altar Guild Workshop** *Sacred Time, Sacred Space, Sacred Things for a Holy People* is **this Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 9:30 AM-2:30 PM at Trinity, Dillsboro. The workshop is free, and lunch is included. For more information or to register, please contact Trinity's church office at 812-432-5406.

**Evangelism Workshop** *Modern Evangelism: Historical Tools* is **Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** at Epiphany, Westfield. For more information, please contact Pastor Bauman or visit the Indiana District website: [in.lcms.org](http://in.lcms.org).

**IN OUR PRAYERS... Sick and Recovering:** Dennis Peters, Pastor Stache, Ray Cline, Sandy Lagneau, Karen Hendershot, Phyllis Fox, Nancy Lipka, Kay Newton, Kathy Hoover, Lynn Hoeltke, Jan Sherbundy, Bob Runge, Jill Scheidt, Pam Jenkins, Paul Schultz (Gloria's son; Sandy Banister's brother); Edward Arnold (Amanda Kruger Arnold's brother-in-law), Greg Hercamp, Mike Alesandro (Gayla's husband), Cassie Murray (Jason and Laurie Schroer's friend), Lonnie Doty (Laurie Schroer's father), Tiffany Wilson (Karen Hendershot's cousin), Dianne Hargraves (Carolyn Schuette's sister), Connie Ball (Jan Voelz's friend), Dave Jensen (Krugers' friend), Moe Humphrey (Ray and Pat Hall's friend) Ozzy Hentges (Kallis' friend), Kristina Hargitt (Kim Chandler's friend), Amy Cockburn (South Decatur principal), Dale Christophel (Ray and Pat Hall's friend), Ed Vogel (Eddie Vogel's father), Jim Baute (Jeff Booher's uncle), Annie Walton (Holly Wischmeier's coworker's daughter), Marcelle Williams (Bridges' friend), William Leitshuh (Clearys' friend), Naomi Gillespie (Haaks' great-niece); **Grieving:** Jan Haak Davis (Larry Haak's cousin); **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Noah Hoeltke, Evan Rickus, Michael Mullins (Sperrys' friend), Sam Studler (Kallis' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative)

### **SUNDAY LUNCHES...**

Today: Chicken Sandwiches (KfC Day)

Next Sunday: February 23<sup>rd</sup>: Fettuccine Alfredo

March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Taco Bar

March 9<sup>th</sup>: Chicken Nuggets (KfC Day)

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDIES...** The 9 AM morning Bible class is beginning a new study on Paul's epistle to the Romans. Now would be a great time to join us!

The 6 PM class meets through Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> and then will be in recess during Lent.

**CHARITY FUNDRAISER...** You are invited to a fundraiser to support Adicyn Otte's treatments for lupus **this Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** beginning at 5 PM at the White Creek School Gym. The evening includes a chili supper, gift basket auction, and more. For more information or to donate a gift basket or make a cash donation, see the information posted in the gathering space or contact Carsyn Schlehuser at 812-447-4240 or carsynschlehuser@gmail.com.

**ALLELUIA BANNER PROCESSION ...** At both services on **Transfiguration Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, children are

invited to process the Alleluia Banners. Following the service, the Alleluia Banners will be "buried" for the Lenten season as we do not say or sing "Alleluia" during this penitential season. On Easter Sunday, the Alleluia Banner box will be opened, and the children will process with them to celebrate our Lord's resurrection!

**BRASS AND ORGAN CONCERT...** You and your friends are cordially invited to attend a concert featuring the Columbus Brass Quintet and Kantor Dan Mau on organ on **Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 3 PM. The concert will also include congregational hymn singing. A freewill offering will be received to benefit our Music Department.

**MOMS IN THE WORD...** meets **Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 10 AM for a children's devotion and fellowship in the conference room. All are welcome!

**OGT WORK DAY...** is **Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** from 9 AM-noon at the Orphan Grain Train Warehouse in Jonesville. There is a great need for volunteers right now so please consider serving at the Work Day or during regular hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 AM-3 PM.

**COMMUNION WAFER MAKING DAY...** is **Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 10:45 AM in the church kitchen. Come, serve, and enjoy Christian fellowship!

**MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES...** Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on **March 5<sup>th</sup>**. The services are at 6:45 PM. On Ash Wednesday, those who desire the Imposition of Ashes can receive them from 6:30-6:45 PM. The Ash Wednesday service will also include Communion. The remaining five midweek services begin at 6:45 PM with a hymn sing from 6:30-6:45 PM.

Lenten Suppers: Meals will be served before each of the Wednesday services beginning at 5:30 PM.

**YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT OUTING...** All SPY and C4Life youth and post-high school adults are invited to an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Back 9 Golf and Entertainment (1415 Drover Street, Indianapolis; back9golf.com) on **Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**. Meet at church at 1:30 PM for devotions. We will then travel to Back 9 for play from 3-5 PM, returning around 6 PM. Bring golf clubs if you have them. We will also have some "experts" for those who haven't played golf or want to improve their swing. Cost: SPY and C4Life Youth—free. Young

adults, parents, younger siblings—suggested \$10 donation. All attendees should bring their own money for food and drinks.

We have a limited number of spaces available so sign-up soon! The registration deadline is Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP to Eric and Linda Scheidt (812-371-8810; elscheidt@juno.com).

**2025-2026 ECM REGISTRATION...** is now open. Information is available on the front table in the gathering space and online at [stpaulcolumbus.org](http://stpaulcolumbus.org). All registration is online. *Please help us promote our Christ-centered, accredited early learning center!* If you have any questions, please contact Director Jen Probst.

**OPEN ECM POSITIONS...**We are looking for quality candidates to fill the following positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Preschool teacher
- Teacher assistant
- Afternoon extended care teachers
- Substitute teachers

Most positions have morning responsibilities. Depending on availability, the weekly work structure can flex between Tuesday/Thursday and Monday/Wednesday/Friday. If you are interested in joining our staff, please send in your resume to [secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org) with a note indicating which position(s) you are interested in. We will be collecting resumes through the month of February. For additional questions, please feel free to contact Jen

Probst or any member of the Early Childhood Ministry Board (Andrea Cotton, Marissa Younger, and Emily Linke).

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS...** Thrivent members: It's time to designate your Choice Dollars if you have not already done so. Login in to [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) or call (800) 847-4836 and designate your Choice Dollars before March 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Lois Wischmeier or the church office.

**ADDRESSES...** Please continue to pray for the following members who are receiving ongoing medical care and rehabilitation. Here are their addresses if you would like to send them a note or card:

Jill Scheidt, Amira Choice, 5501 American Boulevard W, Unit 311, Bloomington, Minnesota 55437  
Pastor William Stache, Traditions of Columbus, 4300 West Goeller Boulevard, Columbus, Indiana 47201  
Dennis Peters, Silver Oaks Health Campus, 2011 Chapa Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203

**THANKS TO...** all who supported our youth attending the National Youth Gathering at their Valentine's Day fundraiser on Friday night.

## The Response of God's People

**Last Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Divine Service Attendance: **351**; Communion: **272**

Sunday School Attendance: **165**

General Fund: \$31,055.05      Weekly Need: \$15,933

Extending Christ's Love: \$1,775

## St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201

812-376-6504; [www.stpaulcolumbus.org](http://www.stpaulcolumbus.org)

Pastor Doug Bauman; [pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-350-4115

Pastor Jeff Patterson; [pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-569-2471

Pastor Daniel Fickenscher; [pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org); 260-710-6750

Kantor Daniel Mau; [kantor@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:kantor@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-927-9319

Church and ECM Secretary Mackenzie Wint; [secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-528-1176

Church and ECM Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne; [financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-343-3786

Latino Outreach Coordinator Renee Strietelmeier; [riskplants@yahoo.com](mailto:riskplants@yahoo.com); 812-343-6466

Early Childhood Ministry Director Jen Probst; [director@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:director@stpaulcolumbus.org); 765-491-7818

ECM Teachers: Anne Wiltsey (kindergarten); Jen Probst and Michelle Schultz (preschool)

ECM Assistants: Gayla Alesandro, Sally Haak, Kathy Hoover, Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz,

Caroline Wilcox, Glory Wofford, Amy Yeley