



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 2, 2020  
**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

\*The Sunday Assembly, Lorraine S. Brugh, Gordon W. Lathrop, Augsburg Fortress, 2008  
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*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peace-makers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*

**Gathering**  
*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God\**

*Welcome Your Neighbors  
Announcements, followed by  
Prelude.....A time for silent reflection*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☐ one God,  
the eternal voice from heaven,  
the anointed and beloved one,  
the Spirit moving over the waters.  
**Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,  
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God who searches us and knows us,

you have shown us what is good,  
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.  
We have not been just in our dealings with others.  
We have chosen revenge over mercy.  
We have promoted ourselves  
instead of walking humbly with you.  
With what shall we come before you?  
Forgive us our sin,  
and show us your salvation  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior.  
Amen.

Beloved of God,  
you have not received the spirit of the world,  
but the Spirit that is from God,  
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.  
Receive the promise of baptism:  
You are God's child;  your sins are forgiven.  
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.  
Amen.

\*Gathering Hymn                      "We Are Called "

**ELW #720**

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.**

**\*KYRIE**

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,

Epistles by Norma Cook Everist has been provided through Wartburg Seminary. We have sent the devotional through e-mail to our members. February and March are on the table in the narthex. Extra copies will be made, as needed. Just ask Nalani and she will get a copy to you.

You may now contact Pastor Cathleen on a landline, #608-435-0097. This telephone itself is a "Caption Call". This means a written display of what you are saying is displayed for Pastor to read, and continue the conversation. Be patient, it takes a few seconds for your side of the conversation to be displayed. You may also leave a voice mail message.

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever,  
To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Additional Contact Information:  
Pastor Cathleen: [cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu](mailto:cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu)  
Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com  
Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com  
Nalani Bever: nalanib@gmail.com  
Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>  
FACEBOOK!! Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI

Bever, Greeters: Karen Arzt & Ed Ross, Altar: Dixie and Leonard Arndt,

**Sending**

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

Reader: Arlis Ballwahn, Communion Server: Leonard Arndt,  
Ushers: Lori & Joel Arndt, Barb & John Ornes

**Calendar for February 2—February 9**

Today	Soup & Sandwich @ St. John's Baptist	11:00 AM—1:00 PM
Sat., Feb. 8	Blood Drive	7:00 AM—11:30 AM
Sun., Feb 9	Sunday School/Confirmation	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Church Council	11:30 AM
	Cookie Collection for Campus Ministry	

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For those of you who signed up to donate cookies to Lutheran Campus Ministry, please plan on bringing them next Sunday, Feb., 9, or Monday, Feb. 10 by 10:00 AM. The church basement will be open for your Convenience.

The W-ELCA group will be collecting items for Personal Care Kits again this year during lent. While lent is a few weeks off, it's never too early to begin looking for items, especially since sales seem to run frequently.

The following are items needed:

- Towels: Size 20" x 40" to 27" x 52", light-weight, dark colors preferred
- Soap: Bath size bars
- Combs: Sturdy
- Nail Clippers: Metal, with or without nail file
- Tooth Brushes (please leave in original packaging)

Grace to You and Peace, a yearlong devotional journey through the

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.**

\*Canticle of Praise "This is the Feast" ELW p.149

\*Prayer of the Day

**Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to at*

**Word**

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

*tempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk humbly in God's service.*

**Micah 6:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,

and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For 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.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“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?

<sup>7</sup>Will 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?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, 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?

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

### Psalm 15

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who**

**Amen.**

P: God fills the hungry with good things.  
Come with joy to the feast.

Distribution

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

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 154

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Faithful God,  
you have kept your promise to us in this meal,  
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.  
Now send your servants forth in peace,  
that we may testify to your goodness  
and share the hope that is ours  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Let Justice Flow like Streams”

**ELW #717**

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Let your light shine.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Katie Wallace, Florence Krause, Bill Collar, Dakota Holiday, Carla Von Haden

**IN THE MILITARY**

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Robert Cale, Seth Tormoen

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God's People, Pastor: Cathleen Morris, Organist: Nalani

together with our lives and all that you have made.

**Meal**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ\*

Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.  
We wait for your mercy;  
we long for your peace;  
we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,  
our banquet of life.  
Amen.

**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.....  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW p.153

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

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.**

**fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

**SECOND READING**

*According to the world’s standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

**1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where 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?

<sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews

and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the pres<sub>5</sub>

ence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

\*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.151

### **GOSPEL READING**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

#### **The gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12**

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

Sermon

\*Hymn "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

ELW #719

### **\*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** (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

#### **\*PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us show signs of Christ's peace.

### **OFFERING**

\*Offertory Hymn "We Are An Offering"

ELW #692

\*Offertory Prayer

**God of wonder,  
you formed us in our mother's womb,  
and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.  
We place them on your table,**