

We ask that all members join the Women of ELCA and pray this prayer as you rise in the morning, and as you prepare to retire each evening.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring to you:

Jada, Myles, & Conner Garske; Britain Hahn; Amara Brandau; Chase Brandau; Avery Brueggen; Riley, Aria & Hudson Brueggen; Nolan & Logan Buchholz; Thadyn & Ayawyn Conner; Vanessa & Elliott Ornes; Lailah Eckes; Lena Ornes; Porter Sorenson; Josie Ornes; Brooklyn, Madelyn, Kaylin, Emma, Bryce, Marah, Bria, Ava, Katie, & Benjamin Gruen; Braylee Zimmerman; MaKenzie & Cooper Powell; Wesson & Arden Mayne; Vanessa, Mia, & Brek Anderson; Tyler & Jaden Bever; Carlee, Collin, & Camden Neidfeldt; Morgan Speicher; Krista & Sierra Cook; Franklin & Douglas Wildes; Sophia, Derek & Deacon Erdman; Kody Tormoen; Callie Fleming; Miranda, Daphne & Linus Arndt; Emma Elder; Bryson Lamb, Elizabeth Wildes; Alaina & Braxton Holthaus; Jayda Leis; David, Sam & Zachary Ross; Gannon & Ellory Tormoen; Jase & Margo Picha; Watson Sebranek, Violet Ford, Hunter Puhl, Eason Kelbel, Cole, Caleb & Connor Redding; Brooke, Claire, Grace & Bree Olson; Alayna, Alivia & Levi Wyttenbach, Luke Krueger and children throughout the world.

That your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you. I pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for all children every where, that you would keep them in your care.

In Jesus name I pray.

Amen



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 14, 2024

**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

**(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)*

Announcements

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Jan. 28 | Sunday School | 9:00 am |
| | Worship | 10:15 am |
| Jan. 28 | Annual Meeting | Following worship |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2023, immediately following the worship service. A good portion of the meeting will be centered around a new entrance to the church (as opposed to replacing the steps “as is”, as well as a lift from the sanctuary to the basement level. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

ANNUAL REPORT

Please have any reports which you wish to be included in the Annual Report to the office by Friday, January 19. This will give adequate time for the reports to be included in, and the Annual Report available after service on January 21.

COUNCIL MEMBERS RETREAT

The La Crosse Area Synod is sponsoring an opportunity for council members, old and new, to gather with others in our Synod on Saturday, February 17, 9:00 AM—12:00, at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in West Salem. Join other congregational council leaders in the La Crosse Area Synod for a morning of learning, networking, idea sharing, and worship. Please let Pastor Karen know if you plan to attend. The cost to St. Paul’s is \$25.00, regardless of the number of council members in attendance.

Word

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

First Reading

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel’s prophetic ministry.

1 Samuel 3:1-10

^NNow the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

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

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have searched me out;
 O LORD, you have known me.

²**You know my sitting down and my rising up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³You trace my journeys and my resting-places
 and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
 but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵You encompass me, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴**I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
 your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,
 while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them
 were written in your book;
 my days were fashioned before they came to be.**

¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
 How great is the sum of them!

¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
 to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Second Reading

Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

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

*Benediction

*Hymn **“Will You Come and Follow Me”** **ELW #798**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are God's Beloved.

C: **Thanks be to God..**

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Pastor: Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Barb Ornes

IN THE MILITARY

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene, Babbitt, Judy Bever, Aidden Tilly, Laurie Switz Johnson, Jayden Shea, Erin Laperle, Kim Ballwahn

CALENDAR

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Today | Council Meeting | 11:30 am |
| Jan. 21 | Sunday School | 9:00 am |
| | Worship | 10:15 am |
| | Noisy Offering | |
| | Birthday & Anniversary Fellowship | 11:15 am |

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

Distribution

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

"Lamb of God"

ELW p.191

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.
Amen.**

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia"

ELW p. 188

GOSPEL READING

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

The holy gospel according to John 1:43-51

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and

see.”⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!”⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.”⁴⁹Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”⁵⁰Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.”⁵¹And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

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

Sermon

Reverend Karen Sparling

***Hymn**

“Here I Am, Lord”

ELW#574

***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, **receive our prayer.**)

P: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

***Offertory Hymn**

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

**We give thee but thine own, what-e’re the gift may be;
All that we have I thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord from thee.**

**May we thy boun-ties thus, as stewards true re-ceive,
And glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Please join together in the Offertory Prayer

**Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.
Amen.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***Great Thanksgiving**

ELW p. 190

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

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