

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, O God,
that you have fed us at your banqueting table
with bread and wine beyond compare,
the very life of Christ for us.
Send your Spirit with us now,
that we may set the captive free,
use your gifts to build one another up,
and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“O Christ, Our Hope”

ELW #604

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People *Pastor:* Bill Horn *Organist:* Nalani Bever *Greeters:* Karen
Arzt and Ed Ross *Reader:* Kirstin Arndt *Altar Committee:* Barb Ornes and Lori
Brueggen *Communion Server:* Tim Deichler *Ushers:* Lori and Joel Arndt, Barb and
John Ornes



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 24, 2019
**Inviting People to Journey with
Christ's Family in Spreading
God's Love and Mercy**

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel.
The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile
what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of
having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glo-
ry of God revealed in the Christ.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates us and forms us,
who redeems us and calls us,
who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We seek our own way.
We divide the body of Christ.
In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.
Let the words of our mouths,
the thoughts of our hearts,
and everything that we do
be filled with faith, hope, and love.
Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus:
"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to proclaim release to the captives."
In the name of ☐ Jesus Christ,
I proclaim to you
that your sins are forgiven and you are released.
The joy of the Lord is your strength,
and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.
Amen.

*Gathering Hymn "Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW #379

***GREETING**

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**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

"This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia"

ELW p. 149-150

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

ELW p.153

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Come to the table.

Feast on God's abundant life for you.

Distribution

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

"Lamb of God"

ELW p. 154

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** (Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**)

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(You are invited to turn to one another and share a sign of peace.)

OFFERING

*Offertory Hymn "Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil"

ELW #513

*Offertory Prayer

**God of all creation,
all you have made is good,
and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth
and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts,
that we might be for the world
signs of your gracious presence
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our Lord our God.

hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

A reading from Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in
evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you
they seek refuge.

A reading from 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they
come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for
what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of
wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to
each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is
raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in
weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual
body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written,
"The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving
spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual.
⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.
⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of
heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the
man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit
the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

Gospel Acclamation

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The gospel according to Luke 6:27-38

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those
who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If any-
one strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes
away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from
you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to oth-
ers as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners
love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what cred-
it is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom
you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to re-
ceive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting noth-
ing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High;
for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your
Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be
condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A
good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your
lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

ELW #631

***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,**