

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

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*The Sunday Assembly, Lorraine S. Brugh, Gordon W. Lathrop, Augsburg Fortress, 2008
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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2020

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

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

Welcome Your Neighbors

Announcements

Gathering

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

*Sunday School Children, 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,

after the funeral service, and followed by a luncheon in the church basement.

Calendar for February 16—February 23

Today	Worship	10:15 AM
	Children Sing/Noisy Offering	
	Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship Following Service	
	“Caring for Souls Concert”	2:00 PM
Friday, Feb. 21	Ontario Library Movie Night	5:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

—“Grace to You and Peace”, a yearlong devotional journey through the 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 readings 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 are invited to attend a time of discussion on the**

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

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God’s presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

Word

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

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the

Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are

crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

Psalm 119:1-8

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**

³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸**I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

SECOND READING

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk,

“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

“This Little Light of Mine”

ELW #677

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Let your light shine.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Bill Collar, Dakota Holiday, Carla Von Haden, Ruth Johnson, Bruce Thomure, Drew Thurston

IN THE MILITARY

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

THOSE SERVING TODAY

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

Sending

Bever, Greeters: Karen Arzt & Ed Ross, Reader: Carolyn Dougherty, Altar: Barb Ornes & Lori Brueggen, Communion Server: Leonard Arndt Ushers: Lori & Joel Arndt, Barb & John Ornes

The funeral for Florence Krause will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 12:00 Noon, preceded by a visitation beginning at 10:00 am until the time of service. The committal service will be held immediately

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.
Amen.**

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table of mercy and joy.

Distribution

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

not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.151

GOSPEL READING

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

The gospel according to Matthew 5:13-26

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is

thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one

of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

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

Sermon

*Hymn “Christ Be Our Light” **ELW #715**

***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

Meal
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

**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,
together with our lives and all that you have made.
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.