



BAPTISM REVEALS GOD'S CHOICE

January 9 & 10, 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Howards Grove, WI





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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pew Cards: We kindly request that visitors fill out a pew card so that we have a record of your visit and can invite you to other events here at St. Paul's!

Little Children: We love having our little ones in worship with us! If desired, quiet bags and sketch tablets are located near the nursery to the right after you exit the sanctuary. The nursery is there to use if young ones become restless during the service as well.

Restrooms are located just off the gathering room.

Baby changing stations are in the restrooms down the hall just beyond the kitchen and commons area.

If you need any help, our ushers (seated in the back of church) are here to help!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.



SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

This Week's Focus: *When a popular movie is about to come out, people can't wait to watch it. They share movie trailers with each other online and talk about it in person. They can't wait to purchase tickets to go and see it. And when they finally get their seat in the theater and the reel starts to roll, they could clap and cheer. Today is a day to celebrate because we view the beginning of the long-awaited ministry of the Messiah. God puts his stamp of approval on his Son Jesus as the Anointed One. Just as Jesus' baptism was the beginning of his ministry, our baptism was the beginning of our spiritual life, where God saved us. Baptism Reveals God's Choice.*

Communion Preparation: *Christian Questions to prepare our hearts for communion are found on pp. 295-296 in the hymnal. Prayer: Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior. Amen.*

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Verse 1 & First Refrain: Soloist

Please stand.

Christ Begins | 385

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our callings as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

God chose David to be Israel's next king as he was anointed by the prophet Samuel.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

²But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."

⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

⁵Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed stands here before the LORD.”

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” ¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

SECOND LESSON

Titus 3:4-7

In our baptism, God chose to save us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so

that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17,21-23

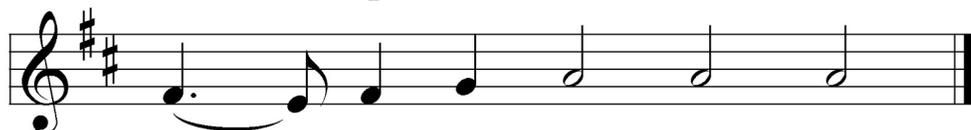
At Jesus' baptism, God reveals him as the anointed Prophet, Priest, and King, his Son and our Savior.

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my

Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord | 377:1-5

SERMON

Titus 3

*We're Saved through Baptism
Visibly - Generously*

Please stand.

Our offerings of thanks to the Lord will be brought forward during the following song.

SERMON RESPONSE

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord | 377:6

**Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute! This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream, proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

**He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION [Monday pm]

Shawn & Tiffany Sickich

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

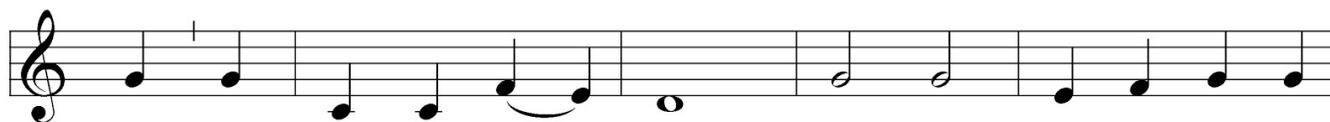


C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



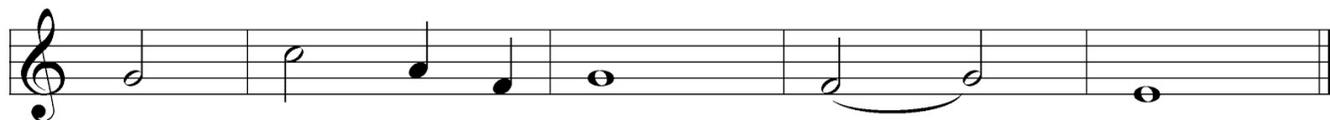
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: *St. Paul's invites up to Communion instructed and confirmed members of this congregation and the Wisconsin Synod (WELS). If you are visiting us and are not a member of either, we would love to have you join us - just after we have established a shared faith in Jesus with you on the basis of God's Word. Please speak with one of our pastors after the service so we can make this happen.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared | 667

Please stand.

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE BENEDICTION

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

All Who Believe and Are Baptized | 692

Be seated.

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SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT:

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SERVING WITH HEARTS OF LOVE

PASTOR: Rev. Adam Bode

PIANIST: Dawn Johnson

ALTAR GUILD: Bonnie Baumann, Karen Beining, Sheryl Nehls.

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.- Allen Kraemer, Trever Athorp, Ray Price, Dan Goetsch, James Bilgo;
10:30 a.m. - Alan Kuether, Terry Roehrborn, Richard Kuether, Jeremy Neemann, Aiden Dailey

OFFERINGS: 12/31, 1/2, & 1/3 - \$14,630 (WEEKLY OFFERING GOAL - \$16,300).

OFFERINGS OF \$17,890 FOR THE GROWING FORWARD CAMPAIGN. \$1,200 LES TUITION ASSISTANCE.
\$500 FAITH FOR THE FUTURE. \$325 IN MEMORY OF DONALD SCHOMBERG. \$100 FOR KENTUCKY AID
RELIEF.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



In our prayers this week...

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times
Sunday, January 9	Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. <u>Link to Online Weekend Worship Services</u>
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour
Monday, January 10	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
Tuesday, January 11	7:00 p.m. Adult Open Gym
Wednesday, January 12	8:45 a.m. Bible Study
	8:30 a.m. Mindful Moms Bible Study
	4:15 p.m. Public School Catechism
	5:30 p.m. Stewardship
	5:30 p.m. Evangelism
Thursday, January 13	1:30 p.m. Ladies Aid
	6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study
Saturday, January 15	10:00 a.m. Early Childhood Event - <u>Shape the World!</u>

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **2022 Sunday Bible Study** - Starting January 9, our Sunday morning Bible study will take us through the book of James. James warns against a dead faith that does nothing. He encourages us to be active in faith, whether going through sufferings or speaking with love, whether in praying boldly or planning humbly, helping the poor or practicing good works. Come and receive guidance in living your faith!
2. **New Bible Information Class** starting in January! The class is for new to the faith or renewing the Christian faith. No day/time is set, just looking to see who is interested and then to put together a schedule. Please contact Pastor Mueller if interested. So far the class is around ten people.

3. **Craftsmen Bible Study** - The next study will be Thursday, January 13 at 6:30 pm. Men, join us as we study the Word and apply it. Bring along a couple beverages of choice (alcoholic or not). Appetizers will be served. The focus will be on the life of Timothy. Paul the apostle trusted no one more than Timothy, a man he called his spiritual son. Yet even though Timothy was well trusted his need to be instructed, disciplined, and encouraged didn't end with the endorsement of the early church's most famous and prominent leader. In this study we'll consider what Timothy can teach us about trust, studying the Word, traceability, relationships, and models of faith.
4. **Parenting/Family Workshop** - St. Paul's is offering the second of two unique workshops for families Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 9:00-noon. Didn't make it to the first one in October? No problem. Mr. Curia will lead the parents through NEW sessions of the time-honored Active Parenting method: Responsibility, Discipline, and Building Courage & Self-Esteem. These sessions will combine video, discussion, and activities for a fast-paced, practical approach to Christian parenting. At the same time, the faculty of St. Paul's will be leading the children (ages 3-8th grade) through some of these same principles in order to create a more peaceful home life founded on God and his many gifts, including the blessing of family. The Active Parenting workshop usually comes at a cost of \$130 per couple, but we are offering it for free. For more information about Active Parenting, [CLICK HERE](#). To register for the workshop, [CLICK HERE](#) or contact the office. Contact Luther Curia with any questions: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
5. **Sunday School** - Sunday School resumes this weekend. This semester the children will sing in both services on April 10 for Palm Sunday as well as for the evening Ascension service on May 26. Please speak with Craig Schuenemann or Pastor Bode if you have questions about Sunday School.
6. **Free Hymnals** - Now that we have the new blue hymnals in place, we are giving away our old red hymnals. Hymnals are a wonderful resource for home devotions, singing around the piano or playing with brass and woodwind instruments. If you'd like to take any with you, the red hymnals are located in the balcony behind the organ in medium-sized boxes.
7. **Worship Greeters** - We are seeking members willing to smile and welcome people before worship services. This is a great opportunity to get to know more of our growing congregation. If interested in more details, please see the sign-up sheet in the member room or speak with Kate Schuenemann.
8. **Mindful Moms Bible Study** - Starting January 12, plan to join us every EVERY Wednesday at 8:30am for a 45 minute Bible Study. We are beginning a book on Philippians - Living in the Joy of Christ. All participants will receive a study book. Come to be enriched in God's Word together with fellowship and encouragement!
9. **Mindful Moms NEW Playdate** Mindful Moms is excited to have NEW playdate activities at a NEW time! Join us EVERY Wednesday from 9:30-10:30 in the school gym for a Music

and Movement playdate. Each week there will be a segment including fingerplays, singing, music, and/or movement songs where moms and kids can play and work together. There will also be free play time for the kids to run and explore and moms can enjoy chatting together. Hope to see you there!

- 10. Shape the World** - Come and join us for our Early Childhood events on January 15th, February 12th, and March 12, 2022! These are Saturday events, starting at 10:00 am with activities, a book and a Bible Story. Then we will play. Lots of hands-on learning activities, snacks, play dough and so much more - all about shapes. All events will be Bible based and geared for children ages 0-5 along with a caregiver or two and All Are Welcome.
- 11. A change to our typical schedule**, please note the January voters' meeting is on Saturday, January 29th at 9:00 am. There will be a breakfast served at 8:00am. We are planning an open forum during the Bible study hour on January 23.
- 12. Tuesday night basketball** will be running again starting on January 11, 2022. It will run every Tuesday night from 7-8:30. Everyone ages 12 and up are welcome to join us.
- 13. If you have interest in helping the people affected by tornados** and extreme weather recently, these people need three things. They need our prayers. They need help financially. They also need blood donations to help them medically. You can donate to WELS Christian Aid and Relief directly (<https://wels.net/serving-others/christian-aid-relief/>) or you can donate to St. Paul's with this noted and we will send it in (up to January 31).
- 14. Silent Auction Tickets** - Our St. Paul's Silent Auction is coming up on Saturday, March 5. Watch for more details! Tickets are now available for purchase between services as well as during the week at the office up until February 20th. Early Bird pricing available. Please contact Beth Heilman with any questions about the event.
- 15. Thank you** - On behalf of all the called workers, we would like to thank the congregation for your generosity during the holidays with gifts and snacks. We are so privileged to share the riches of Christ our Savior with you and to work with you to bring the sweet gospel to others. May the Lord bless us all and advance his kingdom among us in the new year!

MLHS Announcements

- 1. MLHS Call Update** -The MLHS Federation called Pastor Aaron Dolan for the theology department, and he has returned the call. The federation will call again in January. Nathan Gurgel, a teacher here at MLHS has received a call to St. Croix and he has returned the call. The federation delegates will have a special call meeting on Saturday, January 22nd at 9AM in the MLHS Choir Room.
- 2. MLHS Campaign Making Progress!** - "Building Our Future on Christ" is not just a campaign theme. It's a great way to end the year and then start a new one. It's a great sentiment as we continue to do our work of helping our students become equipped for

whatever paths they take in the future. The campaign is part of that ministry...and it's making progress. Here's how:

- 1—Final design to be finished in January
- 2—Final cost estimate in February
- 3—Bidding starts in April
- 4—Groundbreaking in early June
- 5—Construction to follow starting this summer

To date over three million dollars has been donated or pledged towards the project, with over one million of that in cash right now. Site work is completed...fees have been paid...the previous debt is long gone. The time is NOW for everyone who would like to support this effort to continue with pledges or donations. Not only does it help to raise as much up front as we can, but it also provides confidence to a lender that we have a broad range of support that will last for years to come. Because we are encouraging generous gifts, donors can know that they may have up to five years (or more) if they need to pay off a generous pledge. For more information contact the mission advancement office at MLHS or visit www.mlhslancers.org/campaign. We are happy to make visits with anyone interested.

3. **Pizza Fundraising for Mission Trip-** The National Honor Students are fundraising for a mission trip to Immanuel in Taylor, AZ, and Immanuel in Springerville, AZ. The trip will take place from March 24-28, 2022. Students will help with an "Easter for Kids" activity at the local parks and hand out flyers in the nearby neighborhoods. In addition, the students will get to sing and play music at both churches for their worship services. Show your support for the Manitowoc Lutheran High School National Honor Society (NHS) Students with prayers and pizza orders! From now until **Monday, January 17th**, the NHS students will be taking orders for freshly made 12" pizzas! Visit www.mlhslancers.org/post/pizza to place your online order today and share the news! Thank you!
4. **Freshman Information Night-** Do you have an 8th grader in your family? MLHS invites all 8th graders and their parents to come to MLHS either Monday, January 24 or Wednesday, January 26th at 6:30PM to see the MLHS campus, meet our faculty, and hear more about keeping Christ in higher education. This event is NOT a binding commitment, and no fees are involved. If you are undecided about high school for next year, please come and get a taste for MLHS. To help us plan for those nights, please provide us with some basic information about your child by going to www.mlhslancers.org/application. MLHS offers need-based tuition assistance to our families. In addition, aid is provided through the SCRIP program, from your home congregation, and you can apply for the Wisconsin Choice Voucher Program. Inquiries regarding tuition assistance will also be explained these nights. See you then! If you have any questions, contact Ryan Holper our Admissions Director at rholper@mlhslancers.org.