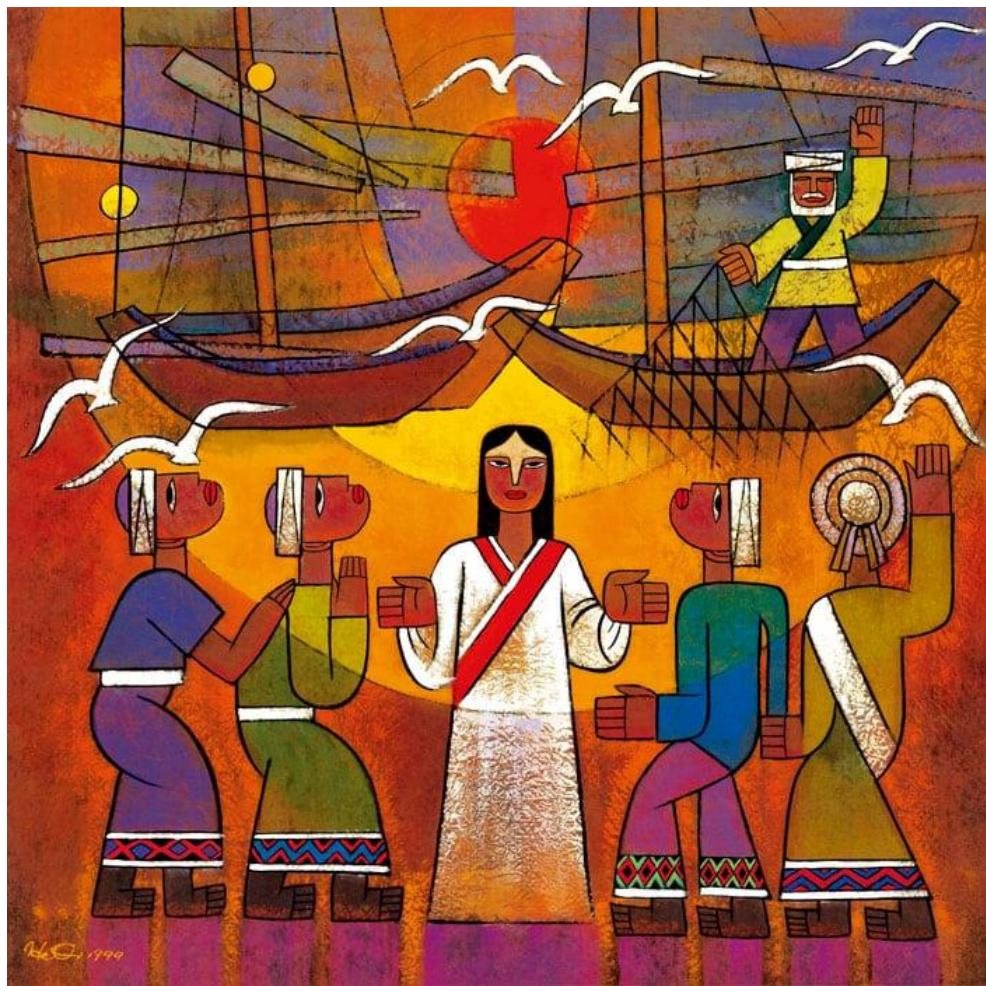


# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

9:30 a.m.



*Jesus Calls His Disciples*  
He Qi

January 25, 2026

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are happy you have joined us for worship today. Wherever you are on your journey with or toward God, you are welcome here—you are a blessing to this assembly. We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status.

We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

Lutherans believe, teach, and confess that in, with, and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. All who are drawn in faith are welcome to join in this confession and receive the Sacrament.

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. With this service bulletin you can follow and participate in this morning's liturgy.

**New to St. Paul?** If you have questions or want more information, please fill out a newcomer form with the QR code at the right. Questions about transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, membership, or transferring from one of the other Christian traditions, may be directed to the Church Office at 781-646-7773 or [parishadmin@stpaularlington.org](mailto:parishadmin@stpaularlington.org).



## SUNDAY SERVICE

9:30am | Service of Holy Communion led by  
St. Paul youth  
10:30am | Brief Coffee Break  
10:35am | Annual Meeting

## LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Arlington Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY:

Marie Brietenbach, Taryn Walsh & Kim Fechtel, *Altar Guild*  
Jordan M.C. and Morgan B., *Acolytes*  
Marc Rom, *Lector*  
Peter Schmidt, *Cantor*  
Eric Carlson, *Deacon*  
Natalie R. and Max R., *Ushers*  
Hollie Schmidt & Mat Carter, *Livestream Broadcast Team*  
Peter & Hollie Schmidt & Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild*

*When the instruction for standing \* appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.*

*At the †, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.*

*The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors.** We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. **Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

\* GATHERING HYMN

Open the Eyes of my Heart

Paul Baloche



O - pen the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
o - pen the eyes of my heart; I want to  
see You, I want to

see You.

To see You high and lift - ed up,

shin-ing in the light of Your glo -

ry. Pour out Your pow'r and love -

as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

ly." Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

ly. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

ly. I want to see You.

see You.

\* 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.**

We have come to praise God!

**Oh, come, let us worship!**

We have come to pray to God!

**Oh, come, let us worship!**

We have come to hear God's Word and share the Lord's Supper!

**Oh, come, let us worship!**

\* SONG OF PRAISE

Lord, I Lift your Name on High

Rick Founds



Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth

to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,

from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**

For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
 on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—  
 the people who sat in darkness  
 have seen a great light,  
 and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
 light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

## REFLECTIONS

Luther Oliver, Brick Carter, Maya Venkatesh

### \* SONG OF THE DAY

Shout to the North

Martin Smith

Men of faith rise up and sing of the great and glo - rious King. You are  
 (Rise up) wom - en of the truth, stand and sing to bro - ken hearts, who can

strong when you feel weak, in your bro - ken-ness com - plete.  
 know the heal - ing pow'r of our glo - rious King of love.

Shout to the north and the south; sing to the east and the west

Je - sus is Sav-ior to all, Lord of heaven and earth. Rise up

19

We've been through fire, we've been through rain; we've been re-fined by the

22

pow'r of His name. We've fall-en deep-er in love with You. You've burned the truth on our

26

lips.

28

Shout to the north and the south; sing to the east and the west Je - sus is Savior to all,

34

Lord of heaven and earth. Rise up, church with bro - ken wings, fill this

39

place with songs a - gain of our God whoreigns on high. By His grace a - gain we'll

44

fly. Shout to the north and the south; sing to the east and the west Je - sus is

51

Sav-ior to all, Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth,

56

Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.

## CREED SONG

## I Believe I Do Believe

John Ylvisaker

$\text{J} = 120$

1

3

1

I      be - lieve,    I      do      be - lieve,    tru      -      ly      I      be - lieve    it.      tru -

E

下

A

- lv I believe it. tru - lv I believe it. I believe. I do believe tru -

1

B E

- ly I believe it, tru - ly I believe it, tru - ly I believe it

I believe in God the Al-mighty Lord Cre-a-tor, Might - y Lord Cre-a-tor, Might -  
I believe in Je-sus the Sav-i-or of the people, Sav - i-or of the people, Sav -  
And I do believe in the Pow-er of the Spir-it, Pow - er of the Spir-it, Pow -

1. *What is the primary purpose of the study?*

A blank musical staff consisting of five horizontal lines and four spaces. It begins with a clef (soprano) and a key signature of one sharp (A major). There are no notes or other markings on the staff.

## E A B

A blank musical staff with 10 measures, each consisting of a single vertical bar line.

11. *W. E. B. DuBois, The Negro in America, 1903* (New York: Holt, 1903).

- y LordCre-a - tor. I believe in God the Al-mighty - y LordCre-a-tor, Might-

- ior of the peo - ple. I believe in Je-sus the Sav - ior of the peo-ple, Sav -

- er of the Spir - it. And I do believe in the Pow - er of the Spir-it, Pow -

E

- y Lord Cre - a - tor,  
 - ior of the peo - ple,  
 - er of the Spir - it,  
  
 Might - y Lord Cre - a - tor.  
 Sav - ior of the peo - ple.  
 Pow - er of the Spir - it.

#### \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority in our country and every country so that they may govern wisely and justly. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick, especially Bobby, Dan, Diane, George, Jim, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, Roberta, and Susan. We pray for all who are affected by winter storms and a changing climate. Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Father and Mother of us all, we pray for the children and young people of St. Paul. Walk with them in life, and when they face hardships, be their rock and strength. Help them to revel in the joys of healthy relationships, to remain curious and courageous, and to grow in faith toward you and in love for every child of earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, you gather us as congregation to participate in your work in the world. Guide us in this time of transition, bless and sustain all the servant leaders of St. Paul with your wisdom and love, and continue to open our hearts and minds to all whom you would have us see. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

What other prayers shall we pray?

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

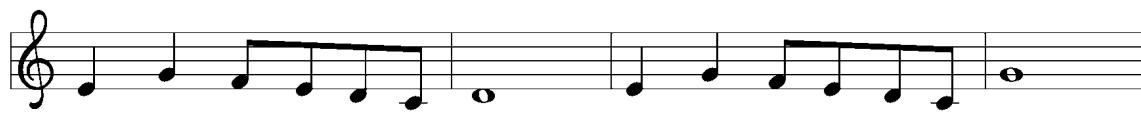
Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

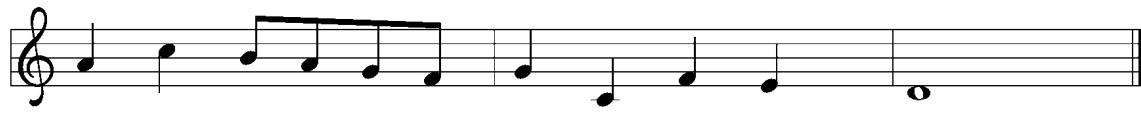
**Amen.**

## MEAL

### \*OFFERING SONG



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

### \* 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 the Lord our God.

**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, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of eternal life. 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:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck - et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nän - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un-der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless-ed are you com-ing near. Bless - ed are you com-ing here

väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

<sup>2</sup>  
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är nära - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

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.**

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.*

*Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.*

COMMUNION SONGS

Sanctuary

Moderately slow

John Thompson, Randy Scruggs

C G

Lord, pre - pare me \_\_\_\_ to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and

F F/G C G C

ho - ly, tried and true. \_\_\_\_\_ With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

G F F/G G C

liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for \_\_\_\_\_ You. Lord, pre -

G

pare me \_\_\_\_ to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and

F F/G C G C

ho - ly, tried and true. \_\_\_\_\_ With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

G F F/G G C

liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for \_\_\_\_\_ You.

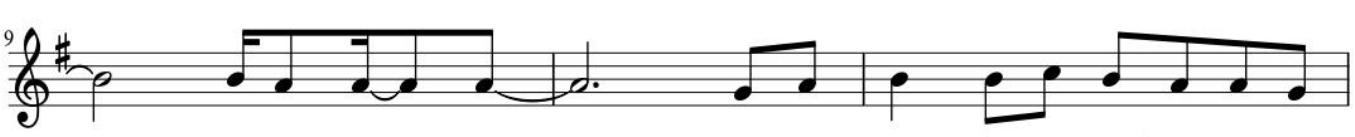
## Give Us Clean Hands

Charlie Hall

in

4 

7 

9 

12 

15 

17 

20 

12

that seeks Your face, oh God of Jacob.

19

#### \*TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*PEACE

*Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not share the peace with touch.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

#### \* SENDING HYMN

Trees of the Field

Em B7 Em

B7 Em D7/F#

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the

Em B7 Em B7 Em

shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will

B/F# F#m Em/G B7 Em *(hand claps)* D7 G

clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the

C/G      G      D

clap their hands, the trees of the field will

clap their hands while you go out with joy.

BREAK FOR REFRESHMENTS AND RETURN TO THE SANCTUARY

ANNUAL MEETING

\*BENEDICTION

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  
 + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Shout to the Lord

ELW 821

--- ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* UPCOMING HAPPENINGS  
at SAINT PAUL ---

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION – JANUARY 25, 2026**

We gather for a single youth-led Service of Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. on January 25, with the Annual Meeting immediately to follow. At the end of the service, please take a moment to get refreshments and then return to the sanctuary.

**ARLINGTON EATS**

Arlington Eats posted a year-end wrap up on Facebook - you can see the highlights below. Thank you for your consistent giving to this important work!

**Snapshot of what we accomplished in together in 2025**

- 1500 households served, with nearly 20% new in 2025
- 2,325 Home deliveries
- Over 1,000,000 pounds of food distributed, over 40% of which was fresh produce!
- 830 children served
- 3,388 total people served

**January Spotlight Items**

- Stock/bullion
- Pasta sauce
- Coconut milk
- Crackers
- Granola bars
- Cereal (especially Cheerios)
- Dish soap
- Baby Wipes

**ST. PAUL BIBLE STUDY | Thursday Evenings, 7-8pm by Zoom**

All are invited to join our bible study! We will gather on Thursday evenings on Zoom from 7-8pm. Each week, we will study the upcoming Sunday's lectionary texts, which are the bible readings we hear in worship. To access the readings and Zoom link, please see St. Paul's Weekly Update email. If you are not a subscriber, you can sign up on our website or email Pastor Larsen for the Bible Study Zoom link <[stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com)>.

**SPRING POTLUCK EVENTS**

The Community meals that we have been sharing have been really lovely, and we want to make sure that everyone can mark their calendars for our upcoming times.

**February 15:** 9:30am     "Fat Sunday" Breakfast. Bring a dish to share as we celebrate before our Ash Wednesday.

**March 7:**     5:00-6:00     Musical Performance  
                  6:00:         Community Potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall

**April 11:**     6:00         Community Potluck

**May 2:**         6:00         Community Potluck

## THE COMING WEEK and BEYOND AT ST. PAUL

Thursday, January 22	7:00pm	Bible Study on Zoom
Sunday, January 25	9:30am	Service of Holy Communion led by St. Paul youth
	10:35am	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Please get refreshments and coffee and return to the Nave for the meeting.

Thursday, January 22      7:00pm      Bible Study on Zoom



# SAINT PAUL

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

[www.stpaularlington.org](http://www.stpaularlington.org) | 781-646-7773

### Staff

The Reverend Don Larsen, *Transition Pastor*  
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*  
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and Families Director*  
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*  
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*  
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

[stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com)  
[anazecicjeffers@gmail.com](mailto:anazecicjeffers@gmail.com)  
[stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com)  
[parishadmin@stpaularlington.org](mailto:parishadmin@stpaularlington.org)

### Church Council and Officers

Kerri Frick, *President*  
Sandy Walker, *Vice President*  
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*  
Elizabeth Heichler, *Secretary*  
Mark Olson, *Financial Secretary*  
Kristen Anderson  
Eric Carlson  
Dave Hering  
Kathleen Kean  
Kevin Kreutter  
Pierson Oliver  
Taryn Walsh

### Committees

Altar Guild  
Faith Formation Committee  
Intern Committee  
Social Ministry Committee  
Nomination Committee  
Worship & Music Committee  
Finance Committee  
Audit Committee  
Usher Committee  
Transition Committee

Chairperson  
Kelli Oliver  
Bev Hjorth  
Kristen Anderson  
Janice Sniffen  
Taryn Walsh  
John Christiansen  
Eric Haugen  
Eric Haugen  
Dan Ries & Andy Airasian  
Peter Hedlund & Sandy Walker



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



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