

**Welcome to Worship
at
Whitnall Park Lutheran Church**



**Sunday, January 18th, 2026
Second Sunday of Epiphany
8:30 and 10:30 am Worship**

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself as you leave worship today.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are invited to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating.
meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection
I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

CALL TO WORSHIP **302 As with Gladness Men of Old Vs 2**

- 2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose
mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given
ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things
we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you,
and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and
made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the
name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you
with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts
through faith.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *301 Bright and Glorious Is The Sky*

- 1 Bright and glorious is the sky, radiant are the heavens high
where the golden stars are shining. All their rays to earth inclining
beckon us to heav'n above, beckon us to heav'n above.
- 2 On that holy Christmas night through the darkness beamed a light;
all the stars above were paling. all their luster slowly failing
as the wondrous star drew nigh, as the wondrous star drew nigh..
- 3 Sages from the East afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.
- 4 Him they found in Bethlehem, yet he wore no diadem;
there they saw a maiden lowly with an infant pure and holy
resting in her loving arms, resting in her loving arms.
- 5 Guided by the star, they found him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us, which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.
- 6 And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing, is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE *Page 138 Setting 3*

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE 314 *Arise, Your Light Has Come! Vs 1*

1 Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 49: 1-7*

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist,

the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God." ⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40: 1-11

I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

¹ I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

² The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.

³ The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴ Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

⁷ And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me: 5

⁸ 'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.' "

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

¹⁰ **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹ You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW 174 Celtic Alleluia*

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel ***according to John 1:29-42***

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'

³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One." ³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter). The is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 420 *By All Your Saints Vs. 1, 7, 12*

- 1 By all your saints still striving, for all your saints at rest,
your holy name, O Jesus, forevermore be blessed!
For you arose victorious that they might wear the crown
and share the light of glory reflected from your throne.
- 7 We praise you, Lord, for Peter, so eager and so bold,
thrice falling, yet repentant, thrice charged to feed your fold.
Lord, make your pastors faithful to guard your flock from harm,
And hold them when they waver with your almighty arm.

12 Lord, your abiding presence directs the wondrous choice;
The lot falls to Matthias, the faithful now rejoice.
May we as true apostles your holy church defend,
And by your parting promise be with us to the end.

APOSTLE'S 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

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, all of humanity, and the well-being of the earth.

a brief silence.

A: Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Creating God, sustain this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, or illness Bring an end to injustice, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN 465 *As the Grains of Wheat*

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were
gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people
from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . .

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 the 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 Setting One Pg 108*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life; Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in His death and resurrection. We look with hope for His coming.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or at the rail in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements.

We receive the Lord and share in this holy meal; One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

COMMUNION SONG 195 *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS *312 Jesus, Come! For We Invite You* *336 Lamb of God*

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE 207 *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us now to love and serve all those in need and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, \ddagger guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN 539 *Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus, among us with your grace,
that evil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
- 2 Abide, O dear Redeemer, among us with your word
and thus now and hereafter true peace and joy afford.
- 3 Abide with heav'nly brightness among us, precious Light;
your truth direct and keep us from error's gloomy night.
- 4 Abide with richest blessings among us, bounteous Lord;
let us in grace and wisdom grow daily through your word.
- 5 Abide, O faithful Savior, among us with your love;
grant steadfastness and help us to reach our home above.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

C: Thanks be to God.

