

You are my Son,
the Beloved;
with you
I am well
pleased

LUKE 3:22



Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025
9:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Building Disciples - Growing in Faith
Serving in Christ's Name

The Reverend Gwenn L. Trout, Interim Pastor

6839 Wertzville Road, Enola, PA 17025
(717) 697-9675 / StPaulsEnola@yahoo.com
www.StPaulsEnola.org



Welcome to all – especially visitors. **It is no accident that you are here today!** You are an answer to our prayer. We have been praying for you, and believe that God has brought you here because God wants to touch your life. We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ!

Large print and children's bulletins are available in the Narthex or from an usher.

Holy Communion: All God's Children are welcome to come to God's Table! It is at the Table we receive Christ's body and blood through the bread and wine. This holy meal renews and nourishes our spirit. Come and eat. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.

The prefilled glasses are grape juice.

Please remember to write any prayer requests for today in the prayer book in the Narthex.



~ THE GATHERING ~

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, CONCERNS

PRELUDE

The congregation stands and faces the baptismal font.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters,

C: and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

P: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into

freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

C: By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

P: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

C: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

P: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #304 "Christ, When for Us You were Baptized"

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other.

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Grace to you, and peace, from God who shines among us.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

(continued next page)



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

~ THE WORD ~

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

(continued next page)

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 29 (*read responsively*)

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory
thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the Lord
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips
the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰ **The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹ O Lord, give strength to your people;
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

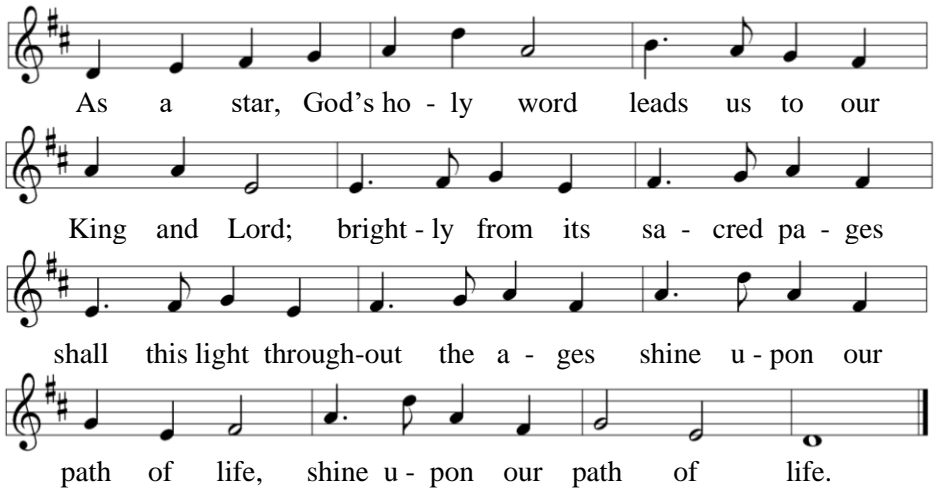
¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had
accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The
two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy
Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they
had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter
and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are comfortable to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



As a star, God's ho - ly word leads us to our
King and Lord; bright - ly from its sa - cred pa - ges
shall this light through-out the a - ges shine u - pon our
path of life, shine u - pon our path of life.

Text: Nikolai F.S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. *Service Book and Hymnal*, 1958, alt.
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL, BLAA, Danish, 1830
© 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Gwenn L. Trout

Please stand as you are comfortable to proclaim the word of God in song as the hymn is introduced.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #305 "When Jesus Came to Jordan"

Please be seated.

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

The presiding minister addresses the congregation.

P: Dear Christian friends: Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the God of all creation in thanksgiving for what God has done and continues to do for us. On this day in which we celebrate Christ's baptism, we pause together to remember our own baptisms and to affirm our vocation as Christians in the world.

The following persons have been elected to positions of leadership in this congregation for 2025:

Jeff Achenbach	Nick Cekovich	Deb Enders
Chris Frampton	Keith Gilbert	Dan Loope
MaryJane McMillan	Heather Verchick	

We give thanks for their willingness to serve, and rejoice now that they will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the positions to
which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister addresses the congregation.

P: People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in
the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: Will you endeavor to pattern your lives on the Lord Jesus Christ, in
gratitude to God and in service to others, all the days of your lives?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have
knit us your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ,
and blessed each of us with unique gifts, calling us into specific
occupations, relationships and activities using those gifts. Through
the waters of baptism, renew us to serve this world in all its need.
Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our
Christian vocation of witness to the world and service to others;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: I now declare you installed as Council members of this
congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and
your deeds in peace, ✝ that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

C: Amen.

Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister prays on behalf of the congregation.

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for
God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Almighty God, we rest in the promise that we are your beloved.
Help us to recognize the ways in which you love all your people,
despite our differences. Inspire us to join with Christians around the
world in living out our Baptismal promises. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over
the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to

care for the precious gift that is water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. Especially be with those affected by wildfires in California, and bless and protect all firefighters and first responders. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery, especially Kody, Jay, Bill, Elizabeth, Jerry, Doug, Jordan, Christian, Terrie, Naoma, Boden, Andy, Andrea, Doris, Stew, Jim, Linda, Barbara, Stew, Alice, Shirley, Judy G., Earl, Barb, Tim, Bob, Pastor Anne, Pastor Pam, Jack, the loved ones of Arlan, and those we name before you now, aloud or in the silence of our hearts. (pause) Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of diversity and racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip us to use our gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace and glory,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

P: In the waters of the font, God has made us one with Christ who is our life, our hope, and our salvation. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with your neighbors, then remain standing as you are comfortable.

~ THE MEAL ~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW #302 "As With Gladness Men of Old" (Stanza 3)



As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,
all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the prayer.

A: Let us pray.

C: Merciful God, as the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, receive the treasures of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, that we may be a light to all nations; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister greets the congregation and invites all present to give thanks.

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: Blessed are you, O holy God: You are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: As children of God we are bold to pray:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

As the bread is broken, the presiding minister addresses the congregation:

P: The light of Christ came into our world and shines in the darkness. Come now to feast at Christ's table.

As the table is prepared the congregation sings:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Come forward to receive communion at the direction of the ushers, organ side first, and return by the side aisles.

COMMUNION HYMNS

**ELW #322 "Oh, Love How Deep"
ELW #581 "You Are Mine"**

When all have communed, please stand as you are comfortable.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the congregation in prayer.

A: Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

~ THE SENDING ~

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BENEDICTION

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

P: The Spirit of the triune God ✚ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #543 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the congregation into mission.

A: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Our prayers and the comfort of the Christian faith are extended to Shirley Wiest and family on the recent death of her husband, Arlan. Services were held here at St. Paul's on Friday, January 10. Please keep Shirley and family in prayer.

Shirley Wiest, Legend at Silver Creek
425 Lambs Gap Road, Room 115, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Offering: Please place your offering in the collection plates near the doors. Your ongoing financial support to our congregations is vital in our ongoing ministries and to cover monthly expenses.

About today's lessons: *Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

Name tags: please continue to wear them for worship and fellowship hour!

Adult Sunday School: Join us in the upper Sunday school room where we will be discussing the book "If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk" by Jon Pavlovitz.

Children's Sunday School meets TODAY, February 9 and March 9. Additional dates will be announced once determined.

Upcoming

Jan. 13: Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 9: "Souper" Bowl Sunday (see below)

March 1: Family Fun Night

Souper Bowl Sunday: Bring in canned goods for donation to New Hope Ministries Enola. Currently, they need canned soup. We will collect these items now through Sunday, February 9th.

Annual Report: All committee chairs – please have your submissions for our annual congregational report to the church office by January 24.

Facilities Use: We have a renter who will be using the kitchen various days/hours each week. The exterior door code has been changed. Kitchen use is coordinated through Ann in the church office. If you need the code or have any questions, please contact her.



Scan the QR code with your phone (using the camera or download a QR reader app) to make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations from your bank account, debit card, or credit card.

WE NEED worship assistants! Please let Pastor Gwenn or Ann in the church office know (stpaulsenola@yahoo.com / 717.697.9675) if you would like to begin helping in any capacity. We especially need communion set-up/clean-up helpers. Thanks to everyone who contributes to our worship services each Sunday!

Former Zion members: If we have your email, you were added to the *Epistle* email distribution list and were sent the *Epistle* earlier this week. If you did not receive it, and would like to, please tell Ann in the church office (stpaulsenola@yahoo.com). If you would rather *not* be on the distribution list, please let her know that. Thanks!

Thank you to those assisting with worship

Assisting Minister: Debbie Loope

Lector: Seana Miller

Musician: Micki Kautz

Ushers: Steve Hoffmaster & Drew Kugler

Counters: Chris Frampton & Trudy Getz

Altar Guild: Keith Gilbert / MaryJane McMillan

Building Lock-up: Chris Frampton

Technology: Nick Cekovich / Doug Bowers

	Jan 19	Jan 26	Feb 2	Feb 9	Feb 16
Asst. Min.	Nick C.	Keith G.	John F.	MaryJane	Nick C.
Lector	Phyllis A.	Wendy C.	McKenna S.	Seana M.	Emily B.
Musician	David B.	David B.	Micki K.	Micki K.	David B.
Ushers	Steve. H. Drew K.	Steve H. Drew K.	Mike P. Darrell M.	Mike P. Darrell M.	Mike P. Darrell M.
Counters	Chris F. Trudy G.	Chris F. MaryJane	Nick C. Judy C.	Nick C. MaryJane	Nick C. Trudy G.
Altar s/u	Amanda	Keith G.	Amanda	Keith G.	Amanda B.
Altar c/u	MaryJane	Judy C.	MaryJane	Judy C.	MaryJane
Lock-up	Chris F.	Chris F.	Nick C.	Nick C.	Nick C.
Tech	Nick C. / Doug B.				

COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hymns and liturgies (ELW Holy Communion setting one) from Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS016953. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. One License Annual License #M-401694.

The Rev. Gwenn L. Trout, Interim Pastor

Cell: 717.602.9913; pastorgwenn@verizon.net

Ann Gottlieb, Office Manager: 717.697.9675

Office Hours: T/Th 9am-3pm

Congregation Council

Jeff Achenbach	484-387-9653
Nick Cekovich	717.756.7487
Deb Enders	717-576-8228
Chris Frampton	717-319-0382
Keith Gilbert	717.756-4313
Dan Loope	717-877-1397
MaryJane McMillan	717.580.1762
Heather Verchick	717.377.6122