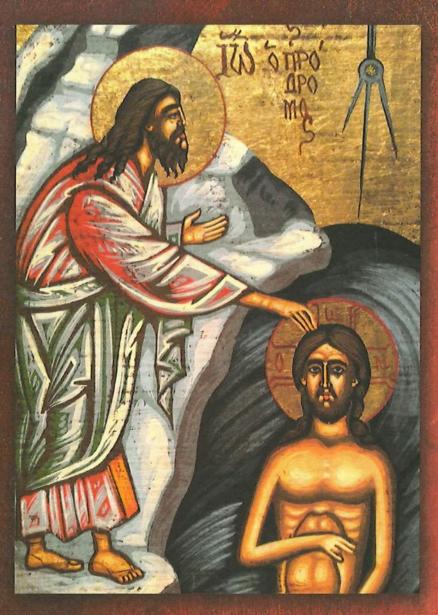
You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased LUKE 3:22



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155 www.stpaulsyork.org

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 185 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

The Nursery, which is accessed from the double doors, front right, is available for any family needing a space away. We are currently gathering names of individuals willing to staff the Nursery.

Our Communion is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Joan Barresse (Steve's mother) and Lew Williams (Julie's father) who recently passed away by Julie and Steve Schedin.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Flowers This Week

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Please wear a mask while in worship and take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew. Occasionally an usher may seat a guest in the red zone.

Communion Procedure:

- Ushers will direct you to the Chancel step alternating pulpit side (left) then font side (right).
- Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host There is no need to hurry.
- We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).
- Return to your pew by the side aisle.

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, Norma Shue, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

January 9, 2022 Baptism of Our Lord Holy Communion 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

Stand turning to face the font

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

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.

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

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.

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

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

ENTRANCE HYMN Baptized in Water (ELW 456)



APOSTOLIC 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.

10:30 A.M. SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (Insert)

PRAYER OF THE DAY.

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. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be your children and inheritors 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. **Amen**

Sit

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:1-7 (back cover)

PSALMONDY Psalm 29 Spoken responsively

¹Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;

worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

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

⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;

the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;

the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶he makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,

and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness:

the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

⁸The voice of the LORD makes the | oak trees writhe

and strips the | forests bare.

⁹And in the temple | of the LORD

all are | crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;

the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹The LORD shall give strength | to his people;

the LORD shall give his people the bless- | ing of peace.

SECOND READING Acts 8:14-17 (back cover)

Stand

HYMN

Remember and Rejoice (ELW 454)



- 1 Re mem ber and re joice, re newed by floods of grace.
- 2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho ly name,
- 3 We pledge our-selves a new to flee the lures of hell,
- 4 God, bless us by your grace; re mind us of your care.
- 5 Re mem ber and re joice, re newed by floods of grace.



of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not We bear the sign e - rase. for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame. cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, jus - tice, peace to in dwell. Re - new-ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer. We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Stan Reep

Stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need (especially **Dr. Julia (Cromer) Stanford, James Young, Peggy Novotny, Rick Lloyd, Deirdre McManama, Drew Herdson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey, Morgan Lanzalotti, Courtney Snell, the family and loved ones of Terry Kaczor).** God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you. The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Sit

ANTHEM

10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir God in Mine Eternity Alan Bullard

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE Stand

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

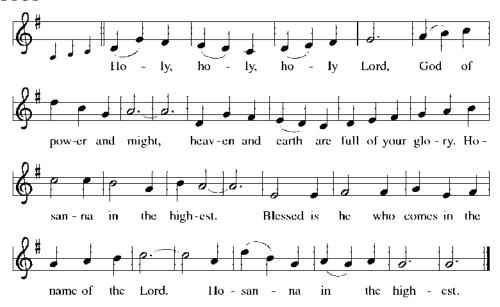
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

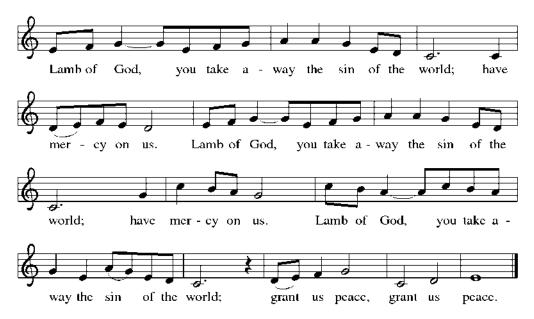
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

FRACTION A brief silence is kept.

AGNUS DEI



Sit The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

COMMUNION HYMN We are Baptized in Christ Jesus (ELW 451)



Stand

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord God, grant that all who have been fed with Bread from heaven may be renewed in the covenant of their Holy Baptism and, following your Son in true faith and obedience, may become your children in name and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

The congregation remains standing until the minsters and servers have left the chancel.

POSTLUDE

This morning we welcome our guest organist Jeremy Zuck. Thank you!

Sunday School for Children

Classes begin today, Sunday, January 9. All children will gather in the nave at 9:15 am for a large group opening including songs and introduction to the story. Children will then be dismissed to their classrooms.

Infant-preschool- room #213 Kindergarten-grade 3 – room #214 Grades 4-6 – room #204

Adult Gathering in Christ Hall 9:15 AM The Small Catechism—Led by Pastor Reep

Beginning on January 9 Pastor Reep will be presenting and leading discussions centered on the parts of the catechism. For many of us it has been a long time since we were in High School. And for others of us we weren't raised in a Lutheran tradition. The hope is that this basic review will help us to engage more with one another and with our children and families by providing a common vocabulary.

CREATE & YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM

Tuesday evenings January 18 through March 22

The Winter Create program will be focused on the Fruits of the Spirit. Each week children pre-school through kindergarten will hear stories and do a craft that include one of the Fruits of the Spirit.

Preschool through Kindergarten will meet with Mr. Cody for music 6:00 till 6:30 and with Miss Kelly for Story and Create 6:30 till 7:00.

Grade 1 through Grade 6 will meet with Miss Kelly for Create 6:00 till 6:30 and with Mr. Cody 6:30 till 7:00.

Please note that the next **Mpuguso meeting** is on Tuesday January, 18th at 6:00 PM.

2022 Flower Chart— The 2022 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the 10:30 AM liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut it, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and to provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

Food Pantry—January

Items needed: Stuffing mix, boxed potatoes, canned potatoes, pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles.

Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a "special" envelope marked "Pantry".

This Week at St. Paul's January 9-16

Church office open Mon—Thurs, 7:30 AM—4:00 PM, Friday 7:30 AM—11:30 AM

Sunday, Ja	nuary 9, The Baptism of Our Lord	Wednesday, January 12		
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	10:30 AM	Bible Study—Christ Hall	
9:15 AM	Sunday School	7:30 PM	GA meeting Community Rm	
10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist—Sacrament of Holy	Thursday, January 13		
	Baptism and reception of new members	6:30 PM	Handbell Choir—Chancel	
6:30 PM	AA meeting Community Rm	Friday, Jar	nuary 14 Newsletter Deadline	
6:30 PM	Confirmation Class—Youth Rm	Sunday, January 16		
Monday, Ja	anuary 10	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	
7:00 PM	Council Mtg—ZOOM	9:15 AM	Sunday School	
Tuesday, J	lanuary 11	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist	
9:30 AM	Pantry	6:30 PM	AA meeting Community Rm	
6:00 PM	Remove and pack away Christmas	6:30 PM	Confirmation Class—Youth Rm	
decorations		Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King Day OFFICE CLOSED		

Congregation Council					
Tristan Ericson—President					
3.7 D 3.7' D					

Tristan Ericson—President Nancy Bennett—Vice-President Kathleen Lemke—Secretary Peter O'Conor—Treasurer Chris Lipp Kathryn Wicker Steve Sche

Kathryn Wicker Dan Garber Alexis Heistand Chris Lipp Steve Schedin Carol Woodbury

Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector		Early: Altar Set-up Late: Altar Clean-up
1/9	Early	Bob Reed	Tony Culp		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Lois Ann Schroeder Kathy Monk
	Late	Janet Fitch	Larry Moore		Carol Woodbury, Sandy Dickensheets, Dan Garber	Tim & Melissa Yakim

In our prayers we remember...

Dr. Julia (Cromer) Stanford, James Young, Peggy Novotny, Rick Lloyd, Deirdre McManama, Drew Herdson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey, Morgan Lanzalotti, Courtney Snell, **the family and loved ones of Terry Kaczor (Tina Llorente's uncle).**

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children's Music Director	Cody Messersmith	cmessersmith.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	Imccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

The Baptism of Our Lord, C 2022 Isaiah 43:1-7 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

"Pastor" she said in a kind tone.

"What I notice about the text this morning is that Jesus was praying."

It is a delight when Bible study participants identify important aspects of the biblical text. This past Wednesday morning was no exception. Those who attend the weekly study gain insights and share them generously with one another and with me, the one who will be preaching on the text in the not so distant future. As one astute member put it "At the Jordan River there is more than a baptism."

The heaven was opened.

The Holy Spirit descended.

The voice came.

These three things took place while Jesus was praying; the heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends, the voice comes. We often think of them taking place as he is being baptized. The writer Luke tells it differently. He highlights a detail often lost, after the baptism while Jesus is praying, it is then that the heavens are opened, the Holy Spirit descends, and the voice of God announces that Jesus is God's Son, the beloved with whom he is well pleased.

With Luke we encounter Jesus in prayer repeatedly. Jesus is in prayer prior to or during significant moments in his life and ministry. When Jesus is praying we should be taking note, as important things are happening or are about to take place.

Jesus in prayer; before choosing the twelve disciples.

Jesus in prayer; on the Mount of Transfiguration, confounding Peter, James and John.

Jesus in prayer; before teaching the disciples to pray the "Our Father.

Jesus in prayer; on the Mount of Olives prior to the kiss of betrayal and his arrest by the local authorities.

Jesus in prayer; from the cross, praying "Father forgive them for they know not what they are doing."

Jesus in prayer; at his last breath "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

But it began with Jesus in prayer; at his baptism in the Jordan River.

"Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him, and a voice came."

Year after year I plan what I think will be a brilliant festival service for this feast day. Drawing upon the wisdom of liturgical scholars past and present and I imagine that we will in some way or other lift this New Year's holy day to new heights. Making it memorable, impressing those gathered in such a way that that when you take your leave, you would

be so impressed by what you have said and done that your entire day, week, or even the month will stir us up in Christian faith for more ardent devotion, service, and charitable generosity. The reality however is that; Christmas is just two weeks behind us, the exhaustion of December's celebrations, lack of rehearsal time, colds and weary travelers and a looming Lenten season, they leave little energy and limited personnel; and so my planning gets altered, I have no choice but to approach the day in simplicity and prayer.

Simplicity and prayer perhaps is the more faithful approach to today. To give God thanks for Baptism, to welcome Delaney Rose Duvall and Olivia Lauren Krone into God's family through the Word and Water of Holy Baptism, and to acknowledge that such a day is only possible through God's generosity, grace, gift given in Jesus. For it is through Christ Jesus that God tore open the heavens and came to earth to live among us, to teach and heal and comfort and pray. It is through the Spirit of the Resurrected One that those outside the promise to Abraham are made part of God's family and are welcomed, forgiven, and are promised new life. It is through the voice of God proclaimed in Scripture, sermon, sacrament and song that we know that we are precious and honored and loved; today, for a week, a month, a year, a lifetime, eternity. It is a far larger thing than I grasp on most days.

Sometimes I am so caught up in an event that I miss so much that is going on, the bigger picture eludes me. This is becoming more of the norm for our society as people view events through the screens of their electronic devices. They are so caught up in capturing an edited version that they miss the big picture. This narrowing of our focus started with things like football games being televised.

There is a big difference between attending a game and watching a game where the network and the camera crews relay what they think is important to you. At the game you take it all in, the experience, those around you, behind, in front, beside; the aromas of food and drink and perfume; the sounds of those cheering and the melodic strains of the band. The noise, the commotion, the comments that come from the announcer and the people next to you with whom you may or may not agree!

That's partly why I still like to see movies at the theater where the community weighs in where there is palpable fear and spontaneous laughter.

Today Luke wants us to witness more than Baptism. He wants us to see God at work tearing open the heavens, descending like a dove and crying out to us the relationship with his Beloved Son. This of course all takes place while Jesus is at prayer.

In Advent we sing: O Savior, rend the heavens wide. At Pentecost we sing: Spirit of God, Descend upon my heart. Listening for God's voice we sing: Lord speak to us that we may speak in living echoes of your tone.

In simplicity and prayer we experience the abundance of God's Baptismal grace. Gathered together in faith and hope we confess that there is a bigger picture, a brighter light, a community in which we share food and drink, confess, and sing, comment and question, knowing that God opens heaven, pours forth his Spirit and announces that we are precious, honored and loved. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

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. ²When 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. ³For 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. ⁴Because 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. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I 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— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Psalm 29

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The 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). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

As 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."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and 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."