

January 14, 2024

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Opening Hymn: 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty *LSB 901*



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be



en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee



Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the



is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650-80  
Text and tune: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** Amen.

# Service of the Word

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 186

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 187

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*1 Samuel 3:1-20*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from 1 Samuel, chapter 3.

<sup>1</sup>The young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. <sup>3</sup>The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup>And the LORD called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup>And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” <sup>11</sup>Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

<sup>15</sup>Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>17</sup>And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” <sup>18</sup>So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”

<sup>19</sup>And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all nations!

**Extol him, all peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

**bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

# Epistle

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

**A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 6.

<sup>12</sup>“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. <sup>13</sup>“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” <sup>17</sup>But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup>for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 190



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:43-51

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

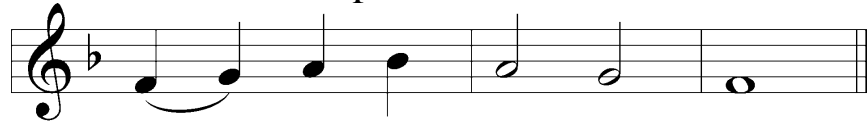


**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of

Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” <sup>47</sup>Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” <sup>48</sup>Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” <sup>49</sup>Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

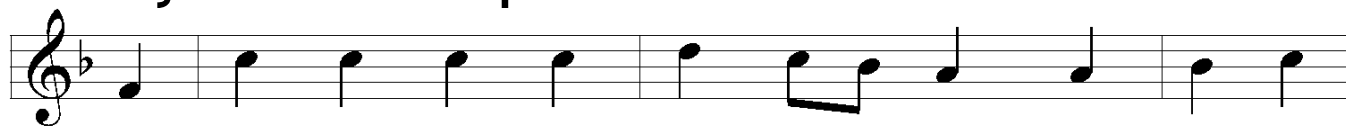
**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

# Sermon Hymn: The People That in Darkness Sat

LSB 412



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring  
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
 na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their  
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
 har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.  
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r  
 Shall over all extend;  
 On judgment and on justice based,  
 His reign shall have no end,  
 His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
 And make us Thine alone,  
 Who with the Father ever art  
 And Holy Spirit, one,  
 And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.  
 Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Chris Streeper



*Stand***Offertory***Psalm 51:10-12 LSB 192*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit***Offering**

*Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.*

# Hymn: Here I Am Lord

Verses sung by soloist; all sing refrain



*Solo:*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est



made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

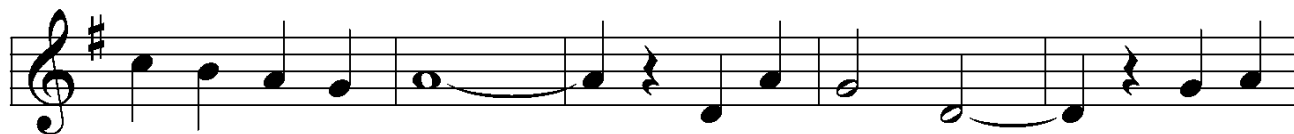


Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?



*Refrain*

All: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

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

O Lord, put a new song in our mouths. Lead us out of all deceit and into the confidence of Your truth. Let us proclaim Your wondrous deeds of faithfulness and salvation in Christ without fear or hesitancy. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** King of Israel, as You once called Samuel, Philip and Nathanael into Your service, be pleased now to call men into Your holy ministry. Give them a delight in Your Holy Scriptures, that their witness would lead many to follow Jesus, the Son of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord, You call fathers, mothers and children to serve in their households. Let them serve eagerly, each according to their station, trusting that such love honors You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, let all the nations and peoples of the earth ascribe to You the glory due Your name. Hear our prayers for all rulers and leaders, especially for Joseph, our president, and \_\_\_\_\_, our governor, together with all legislators and judges. Direct them by Your Word and Spirit, and establish them in saving faith. Lead them in their offices to govern wisely for the good of their people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O God, behold in mercy all for whom we pray [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Bring healing, comfort, strength, patience and certainty to all in need. Receive our thanks for Your constant watch and merciful kindness. In every sorrow and every joy, do not let our eyes be drawn from the greater marvel of Your kindness in Christ Jesus, by whose grace and forgiveness alone we receive every blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Holy Lord, mighty God, You have shown us the face of Your mercy in Your Son, through whom all nations may find unity and life. Hear the prayers of Your people and grant what is needful to us and those for whom we pray, that trusting in Your mercy, our hearts may find perfect peace and rest; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.

## Concluding Collect

**A** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

*Psalm 103:1 LSB 202*

- A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 202*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn: 397 As with Gladness Men of Old

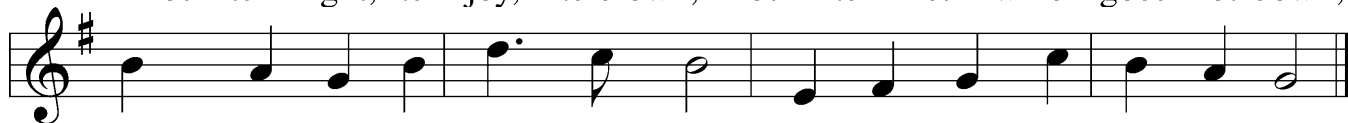
*LSB 397*



- 1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,  
 3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;  
 5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
 There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
 So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
 And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last  
 Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.  
 So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.  
 All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
 Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.  
 There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.  
 Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL**

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School
Today		NO Communion
Monday		NO Confirmation
Tuesday		NO Walk-In Communion
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Executive Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Bible Study Resumes
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Quilters
Thursday	11:00 AM	Young Family Fellowship

**LWML BAKE SALE** is coming up on Sunday, February 11th. The LWML is requesting your delicious bakery items! Please sign-up at the Welcome Center to bring your baked goods that will be sold between and after the late services. Thank you!

**THANK YOU** goes out to the congregation for all the get-well cards, Christmas cards and prayers for Pastor Murawski and Susan. They are doing better.

**YOUTH GROUP** Grades 6-12 meet every other Wednesday here at SPVC at 6:30 PM.  
**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024. Questions? Please contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

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**SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE, ISRAEL & FOREIGN MISSIONS** We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners who suffer calamity in these areas. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

**ARE YOU DOING YOUR PART?** This is perfect time of the year to pay attention on how you are being a good steward of your church here at St. Paul. With colds, flu and covid, we ask that you please tidy up all your personal spaces in this season.

**YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP** Join us on Thursdays as we will meet in the church basement from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM for light lunch and playtime for kids! (Please bring your own lunch.) Kids of all ages are welcome. There is potential for this group to blossom into a homeschooling group, as we have several homeschooling families at St. Paul! If you are interested in this or have any other questions, contact Sarah Moser.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** the 2024 Jan-March devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take a copy home today.

**GENTLE REMINDER** You are welcome to take home your Worship folders, otherwise, you may place all worship folders in the blue plastic tub in the Narthex Hallway. **We do recycle the black combs** for the Large Print bulletins. **(PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOUR USED TISSUES IN THIS TUB.)** Thank you.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

**WIGGLE BAGS** Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities kids may engage and participate in the worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that “big church” is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the “Used Wiggle Bag” plastic bin after the Worship Service. We continue to be thankful for Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

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### **COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES**

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

#### **“Walk-In” times at Church:**

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

#### **Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:**

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

**TITHES & OFFERINGS** are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about “bill-pay” options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) and click on “Give Online” - you’ll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

**IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS** watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org)) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

**WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND** 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

**PASTORAL CARE** Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** can be sent to [prayer@spvc.org](mailto:prayer@spvc.org) (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

**ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE** If your mobile app needs updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

### January 2024

	SERVICE	January 7 SUNDAY	January 14 SUNDAY	January 21 SUNDAY	January 28 SUNDAY
		Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion
ELDER	8am	Tim Wadle/Dave Hesketh	Steve Kato	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic	Dave Hesketh	Jim Jackson
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Mike Scahel	Jim Sherry	Steve Kato
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	Erich Gottl	Rich Proeschel	Joe Bennet
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	Steve & Colleen Kato	David & Mackenzie Duran
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Joe Bennet	Barb Pijor	Rich & Jenny Proeschel
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393		
	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164	David Hesketh 330-410-6150		



## Prayers for Worship

### On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

### Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

### After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

### Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

### For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.