

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to those who are here in person, and all those joining us via our Live Stream, and Listen to Church.
- If you are joining us from home, I invite you to gather some bread and wine/juice so you can join us in celebrating Holy Communion this morning.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.

We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.

Turn us to seek your face.

Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

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

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN We Are Called 720

There are no downloads available, but I think you have made music slides for this hymn. If not I will happily choose a different hymn.

GREETING

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026

9:00am Service

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.

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 - might - y God and

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

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

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 -

alone 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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray, Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING Micah 6:1-8 *Reader*

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service. A reading from the prophet Micah.

¹ Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the Lord has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Reader

According to the world’s standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers. A reading from Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe.

²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-11

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Sarah Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY Holy God, Holy and Glorious 637:1-4

1 Holy God, holy and glorious,
glory most sublime,
you come as one among us
into human time,
and we behold your glory.

3 Holy God, holy and beautiful,
beauty unsurpassed,
you are despised, rejected;
scorned, you hold us fast,
and we behold your beauty.

2 Holy God, holy and powerful,
power without peer,
you bend to us in weakness;
emptied you draw near,
and we behold your power.

4 Holy God, holy and only wise,
wisdom of great price,
you choose the way of folly:
God the crucified,
and we behold your wisdom.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

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APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' 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 *Reader*

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

A brief silence.

God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries (especially Global Refugee and Lutheran Social Services). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way (especially *Jan Krueger, Addison Hughes, Johnny Foster and Erica Peterson*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

BRIEFING THE MINISTERS**MEAL****OFFERING When the Poor Ones – OSL Choir****OFFERTORY Brightest and Best of the Stars 303:3**

3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?
Shall we bring incense and offrings divine,
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al-mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

*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.*

Join our prayers and praise with your servants of every age that rejoicing in your light we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God

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.

Blest Are They 728

There are no downloads available, but I think you have made music slides for this hymn. If not I will happily choose a different hymn.

Jesus the Very Thought of You 754

1 Jesus, the very thought of you fills us with sweet delight; but sweeter far your face to view and rest within your light.	3 O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul, O joy of all the meek, how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind recall a sweeter sound than your blest name, O Savior of us all!	4 O Jesus, be our joy today; help us to prize your love; grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home above."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Let us pray,

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

Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

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

SENDING HYMN Oh, Praise the Gracious Power 651:1-3, 6

1 Oh, praise the gracious pow'r
that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith
all strangers far and near:

Refrain

We praise you, Christ!
Your cross has made us one!

2 Oh, praise persistent truth
that opens fisted minds
and eases from their anxious clutch

the prejudice that blinds: *Refrain*

3 Oh, praise inclusive love,
encircling ev'ry race,
oblivious to gender, wealth,
to social rank or place: *Refrain*

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PRAYER CONCERNS
Jan Krueger (Dan Krueger's mother), Addison Hughes (granddaughter of Bob and Mary Dodge), Johnny Foster (Brittany Cisneros' brother), Erica Peterson (Granddaughter of Cheryl Merrill)
IN SUPPORT
Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, missionaries in Japan Kasungu Central, Our Malawi Sister Parish

Be sure to grab coffee and a treat, and come back to the Sanctuary for a budget review meeting immediately following the service today!

Mark your calendar to join us for the Annual Meeting on February 15th immediately following the Worship service! (Must be a member to vote).



YOUTH MINISTRY Kwik Trip gift cards & car wash cards on sale in February! Order forms available in Friendship room. Return completed forms with payment to office or Denise.

Nominating Committee Seeking Candidates—OSL's Nominating Committee is looking for members to serve in several important leadership and representative roles. A number of positions will be up for election at the Annual Meeting on February 15. Please see the newsletter for a full list of openings. If you are interested—or would like to recommend someone—contact Marni Waznik at 715-309-9684 or mwaznik@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT OSL	
Sunday, Feb 1	Worship, 9am 26-27 Budget Review mtg, 10:15am Sunday School, 10:15
Monday, Feb 2	Women in Action, 9am
Tuesday, Feb 3	Grain Bin quilters Retreat, 7am
Wednesday, Feb 4	Grain Bin quilters Retreat, 7am High School Ministry, 5:30pm Confirmation, 6:00pm Choir rehearsal, 6:30pm
Thursday, Feb 5	Grain Bin quilters Retreat, 7am AMers, 9am Vibrant Voices, 1:00pm OSL Bells rehearsal, 6:30pm
Friday, Feb 6	Grain Bin quilters Retreat, 7am

Thank you to the OSL Choir for providing special music during worship!

Blanket Drive—Throughout January, funds collected in our Little church will go to support this blanket drive. Winter has arrived in full and that means cold days and even colder nights. To help our neighbors in need stay warm throughout this season, we will be collecting NEW blankets of any size. Blankets will be collected during January and distributed in February. They can be dropped off in the designated tote in the Friendship Room.

To help keep the OSL Constitution up-to-date, the OSL Council recommended and approved changes to the current OSL Constitution and Bylaws at its November meeting. These changes will be voted on at OSL's annual meeting in February. More information about these changes can be found in the Newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Sarah.

COUNCIL MEMBER ON DUTY
Beth Mason

READER*Marni Waznik***POWER POINT***Joel Seppa***USHERS***Lindsay Barnhart
Larry Barnhart***SOUND SYSTEM***Dale Freberg***COMMUNION
ASSISTANTS***Marni Waznik
Jane Kingzett
Susan Zavada***CAMERA***Luke Radzikinas***ACOLYTES***Michaela Nelson***OSL STAFF****Pastor***Rev. Sarah L. Miller
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Bonnie Christianson-Contributions
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Terry Mason, Treasurer
terrybethmason@gmail.com***FINANCIAL UPDATE**

	Mar - Dec	December
Income	\$327,947.74	\$47,187.22
Expenses	\$276,188.58	\$31,361.63
Over/short	\$51,759.16	\$15,825.59

By attending any service you give consent that your image and the image of all of the people in your group may be portrayed in the livestream and recording. We will not use your likeness in any other promotional material.

To support the work and ministry of OSL:

[Give Online](#)

- OR -

Use the QR code for giving



Connect with us on Social Media

**OFFICE HOURS**

9am—3pm, Mon thru Thurs

Listen to Church

715-430-2720

Dial in to listen live to our 9am worship.