

To those under the law . . .
outside the law . . .
the weak . . . to all

1 Corinthians 9:20–22

Fifth Sunday After The Epiphany

**February 4, 2024
10:00AM**



WELCOME, FRIENDS AND GUESTS!

WELCOME! A cordial welcome is extended to all who have come to worship with us today. May God's loving presence fill us with joy and hope as we prepare ourselves to follow Christ. If you are a guest or visitor with us, please be sure to introduce yourself to Rev. Jonathan Priest and sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again.

SERVING YOU TODAY

<i>Preacher & Celebrant</i>	<i>Rev. Jonathan Priest</i>
<i>Assisting Elder</i>	<i>Alex Lew</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Amy Kao</i>
<i>SA Teacher</i>	<i>Nina Davis</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Simone Schaefer, Aeris Ungson</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Ernestine Gutter</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Hiroaki Murata & Megumi Amano, Rhonda Short, Rev. Jonathan Priest</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Gerda Beisel, Margaret Finley, Judy Law, Rhonda Short</i>

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by **Earl Lene De Santiago** in honor of and to express her gratitude to our WPLC Octogenarians. *Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

Divine Service, Setting One
Lutheran Service Book, page 151

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING HYMN

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LSB 398, Sts. 1, 2, 5

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.
- 5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

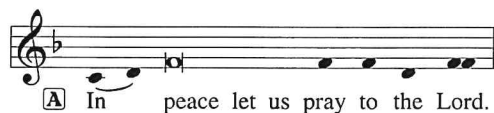
- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE





C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



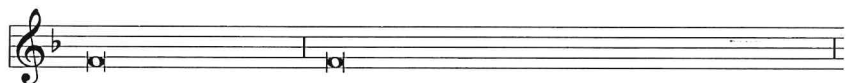
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



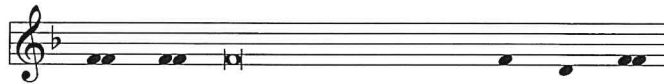
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

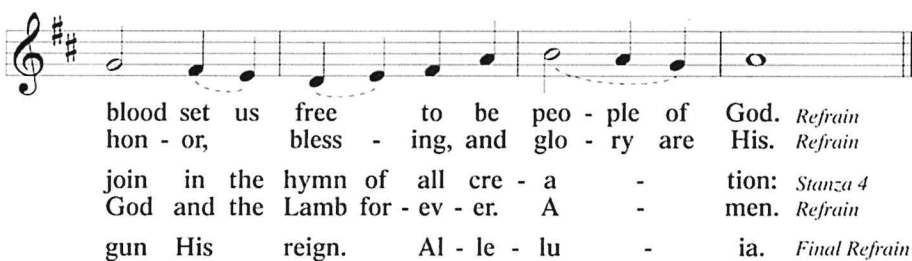
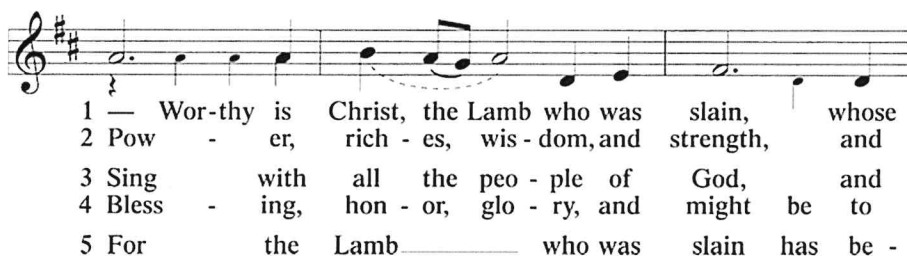


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE *This Is the Feast*



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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

Isaiah 40:21-31

Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 9:16-27

If I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

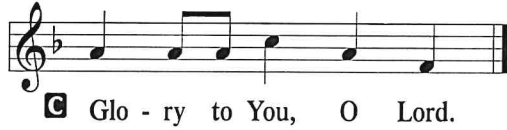
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:29-39

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

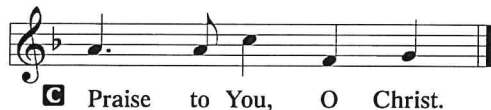


Immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

SERMON HYMN

O Son of God, in Galilee

LSB 841

- 1 O Son of God, in Galilee
You made the deaf to hear,
The mute to speak, the blind to see;
O blessed Lord, be near.
- 2 O listen to the silent prayer
Of Your afflicted ones.
O bid them cast on You their care;
Your grace to them make known.
- 3 The speechless tongue, the lifeless ear
You can restore, O Lord;
Your "Ephphatha," O Savior dear,
Can instant help afford.
- 4 Meanwhile to them the list'ning ear
Of steadfast faith impart,
And let Your Word bring light and cheer
To ev'ry troubled heart.
- 5 Then in Your promised happy land
Each loss will prove a gain;
All myst'ries we shall understand,
For You will make them plain.

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SERMON

"Following Jesus"
Text: Mark 1:29-39

Stand

NICENE CREED

**All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of
Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of
God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God,**

Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

Sit

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please fill out a **Welcome-Worship Registration Card** (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate. Please read and fill out the Communion Registration side of this card if you will be partaking of the Lord's Supper.

MUSICAL OFFERING

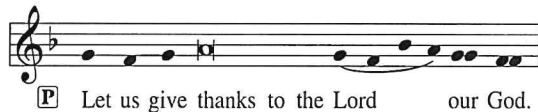
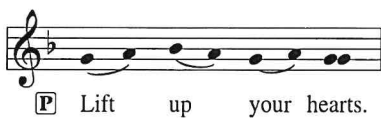
PIANO: Sheldon Lee, 3A Grade student plays
Rondo

GRADE 5A SINGS *Brothers and Sisters*

Stand

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

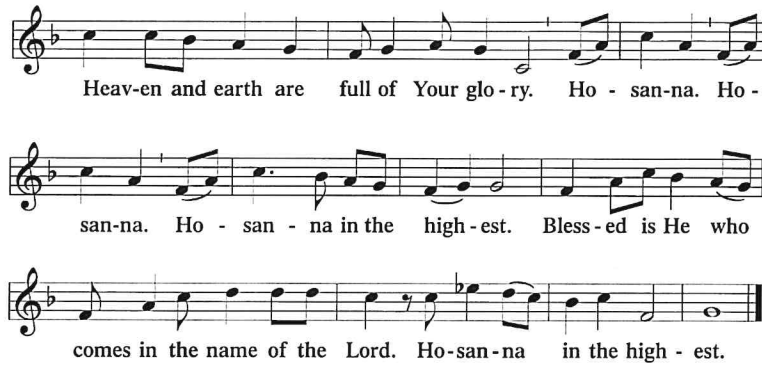


PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.
- P** Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

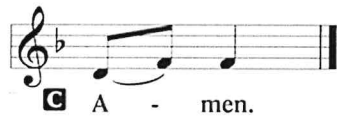
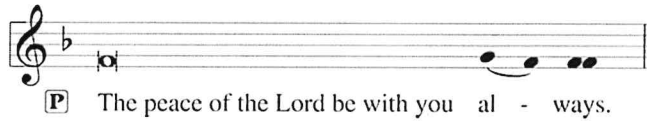
THE LORD'S PRAYER

- 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

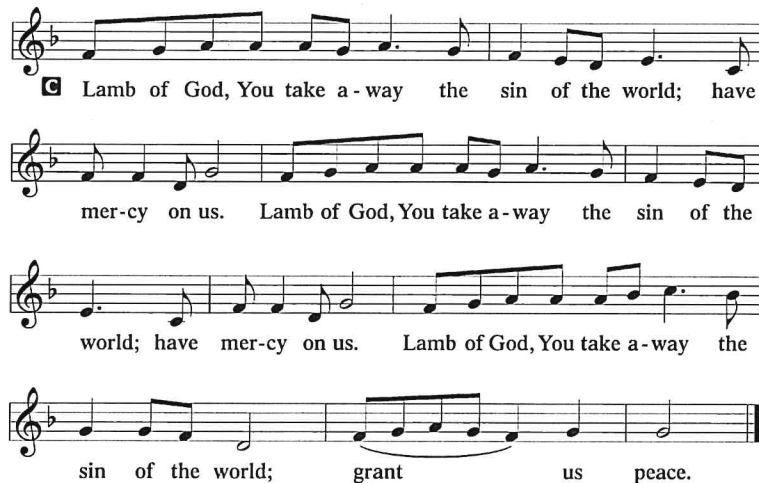
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI



AGNUS DEI



Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Regarding our Holy Communion practices this morning:

- We ask that you who are communicant Lutherans prepare to receive the Lord's Supper by reading the Communion Registration side of our Welcome-Worship Registration Card. If communing, please sign both sides of the card and either hand it to an usher when you go up to commune or place it in the collection plate during the Offering.
- The consecrated wine may be received by common cup (the chalice) or individual chalices. **White grape juice is provided in the chalices in the inner circle of the tray for those who are unable to consume wine.**
- If you are unable to come to the altar rail for Communion, please let the usher know, and Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION

What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
 And when from death I'm free,
 I'll sing His love for me,
 And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 And through eternity I'll sing on.

Public domain

Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

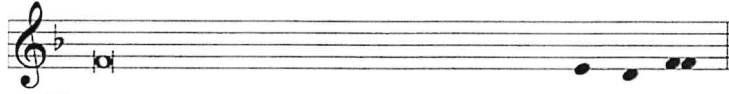
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Father, We Thank Thee

LSB 652

- 1 Father, we thank Thee who hast planted
Thy holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal
Jesus, Thy Son, to us imparts.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy pleasure,
Didst give us food for all our days,
Giving in Christ the Bread eternal;
Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.
- 2 Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mercy,
Save it from evil, guard it still,
Perfect it in Thy love, unite it,
Cleansed and conformed unto Thy will.
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,
Was in this broken bread made one,
So from all lands Thy Church be gathered
Into Thy kingdom by Thy Son.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14

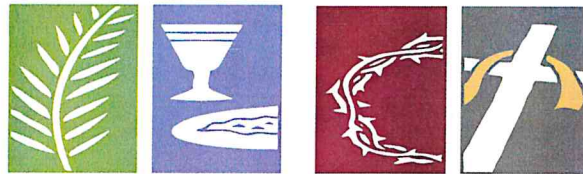
This year's Lenten emphasis is to look at our lives in view of God's amazing grace toward us through the sacrifice of His Son for us on the cross. Our six Midweek Lenten Services begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14, at 8:30AM and 7:00PM. The Ash Wednesday evening service will be preceded by a congregational dinner at 6:00PM, hosted by teacher Dan Holt. All are invited to attend the dinner and the service.

If you cannot attend our Ash Wednesday Evening Service, you are invited to attend West Portal Lutheran School Lenten Chapel Service in the Church at 8:30AM.

NOTE:

There will be two services on Ash Wednesday, both with the imposition of ashes and the Lord's Supper:

- A service during the day at 8:30AM, and
- The evening service at 7:00PM.



Ash Wednesday, February 14
8:30AM & 7PM
"A Call to Return"
Joel 2:12-19

Lenten Midweek 3, March 6
7PM
"Return from False Witness"
Matthew 26:57-68

Lenten Midweek 1, February 21
7PM
"Return to Prayer"
Matthew 26: 36-46

Lenten Midweek 4, March 13
7PM
"Return from Denial"
Luke 22:54-62

Lenten Midweek 2, February 28
7PM
"Return from Betrayal"
John 18:11

Lenten Midweek 5, March 20
7PM
"Return to the Kingdom of God!"
John 18:28-38

PARISH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**Wednesday Morning Bible Study
In-Person and On-Line**

Pastor Binz is leading an in-person and on-line Bible Study on Wednesday mornings, starting at 11:00AM in the church library. If you would be interested in joining the class on-line, please contact Pastor Binz, pastorbinz@wplsf.com so that he can provide you with the link for joining the class. No Bible Study on Wednesday, February 7.

Sundays, 9:00AM

Bible Study - Led by Pastor Binz at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. Rev. Priest will lead Bible Study on Sunday, February 4th.

Children's Sunday School -All children in grades K-8 are invited to join us each week as we learn more about God through His Word, the Holy Bible. Each Sunday children first gather in the Church Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and then go to the Church Library. At 9:55 a.m. all children are picked up at the Church Library. If you have questions please contact Edward and Rebecca Chan at outreach@wplsf.com

ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX:

- *Portals of Prayer* for January – March
- February PortaLight
- Current issue of the *Lutheran Witness*
- Bulletin for today—regular size print and large size print

Please help yourself to any or all of the above listed items.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available. If you know of someone who could use one, please ask an usher for a large print bulletin—the order of service, words to the hymns, and the announcements are printed in these bulletins.

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES are now available for your use during the Worship Service. If you would like to use one of these hearing devices, please see an Usher to check one out! There are two choices for the earpiece: an Ear-Bud or an Ear-Cuff. Following the Service PLEASE return the Hearing Aid to the ushers.

[We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Rhelda Evans Latimore whom the Lord has called to His side this past week.](#)

Pastor Binz is on vacation from February 3rd to February 8th. Please keep him in your prayers.

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS IN THE DIGITAL AGE WORKSHOP



Gain confidence and learn strategies to have more meaningful spiritual conversations with others. Your presenter, Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies, Regional Director, North America, will guide you through research-based insights and give you tools that will help you more comfortably engage in spiritual conversations.

**Live Event (in-person only)
Saturday, February 24, 2024
10:00 am - 2:00 pm PST (doors open at 9:30 am)
Address:
Grace Lutheran Church
617 W Orangeburg Ave, Modesto, CA 95350
Refreshments and lunch provided
ALL FREE**

**To register please contact May Luu in the church office,
415-661-0242, may.luu@wplsfc.com**

Altar Flowers

Flower Charts for the year 2024 are now posted in the Narthex. This is a very special way to help decorate the Altar, and to commemorate events or to remember loved ones. Flowers may be taken home or are delivered to our sick and shut-in members. Please call May Luu or Angie Holt in the church office, 415-661-0242, if you have any questions. The cost of a floral arrangement is \$55.00 through Mystic Garden on Ocean Ave. We encourage you to sign up on the new Flower Chart.

Your tithes and offerings support the mission and ministries of West Portal Lutheran Church. If you wish to make an online donation, please use the QR code below. PayPal deducts a small fee from these donations, or you may add a nominal amount to your donation by checking the box to help cover the fees.



1 Corinthians 9:25 – “Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.” Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit, for the desires of the flesh are at war with the desires of the Spirit. Having received new life in Christ by His grace, He now calls us to follow Him deliberately, with self-control and intention.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Salvation Army Toy Drive. Members were able to take angel gift tags to purchase gifts based on the child's wish list. In addition, we were able to collect over \$200 in donations. The additional money will be sent to Salvation Army. We appreciate your generous donations which made this toy drive a success. Salvation Army also sent a note of appreciation for supporting their organization.

Grace Man, Director
Christian Service Committee

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK:

SUNDAY (2/4)

9:00AM Sunday School/Bible Class

10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper

WEDNESDAY (2/7)

11:00AM No Midweek Bible Class

(Pastor is away.)

THURSDAY (2/8)

3:30PM No Confirmation Class

(Pastor is away.)

FRIDAY (2/9)

Lunar New Year holiday, Church Office and School are closed.

SATURDAY (2/10)

5:00PM Worship-Lord's Supper

NEXT WEEK:

SUNDAY (2/11)

9:00AM Sunday School/Bible Classes

10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper

11:15AM Choir Practice

ASH WEDNESDAY (2/14)

8:30AM Ash Wednesday Service

Lord's Supper

11:00AM No Midweek Bible Class

6:00PM Congregational Dinner

7:00PM Ash Wednesday Service

Lord's Supper

THURSDAY (2/15)

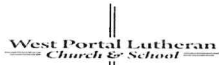
3:30PM Confirmation Class

SATURDAY (2/17)

5:00PM Worship-Lord's Supper



LET US PRAY TO THE LORD GOD for those who are ill, home-bound, or recovering from recent hospitalization: Vincent Ammann, Beatrice Priest's father; Elfriede Bonfert; Paul Brase; Charlene Bruggemann-Wong; William Chen; Angie Cheung, Helen Bok's sister-in-law; Bill Eves, Virginia Ferry's cousin; Jimmy Fong, Evelyn Fong's father; Karen Goeglien, Bob Bok's cousin; Ted Jones; Annissa Ma, Julia Tom's dear friend; Jan Lundquist; Susie Marzolf; George Mogyorossy, Gilbert Mogyorossy's father; Sigrid Rogge; Art Spleiss, Ruth Stresow; Lisa Westermann; Cheryl Wong; Marilyn Wong; Franklin Yee.



Worship Services
Saturday, 5:00PM
Sunday, 10:00AM

Bible Classes
Wednesday, 11:00AM
Sunday, 9:00AM

Sunday School
Sunday, 9:00AM

CHURCH
200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-661-0242
www.
westportallutheran.org

SCHOOL
Sloat Campus
200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-665-6330

Sunset Campus
3101 Moraga Street
San Francisco CA 94122
415-731-3000
www.wplsfc.com

Rev. Curtis Binz,
Senior Pastor

Ms. Sherise Lee,
Principal

Mrs. Sherilyn Jew,
*Assistant to the Principal-
Teaching, Learning, Curriculum*

Ms. Amy Kao
Music Director

Our Stewardship of Worship Last Week

Saturday, 5:00PM Service
In Person 11
Sunday, 10:00AM Service
In Person 112
On-line 74
Total 197

Communed Saturday 11
Communed Sunday 61

Sunday Bible Class 12
Wednesday Bible Class 11

2/4/24
10:00AM