

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

5900 Applebutter Hill Rd. Coopersburg, Pa 18036

610-965-9500 e-mail: bluechch@ptd.net Website: stpaulscoopersburg.com

Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; [jjtrev1@verizon.net](mailto:jjtrev1@verizon.net)

Blue Church Cemetery – 484-201-5048; e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

**The Third Sunday after the Epiphany ✠ January 27, 2019**

PRELUDE – "BE THOU MY VISION" – LLOYD LARSON  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

**Amen.**

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination*

Mighty and loving God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope and love. Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the LORD is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever. **Amen.**

## HYMN #641 ALL ARE WELCOME

### GREETING

The boundless grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light 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 his 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-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

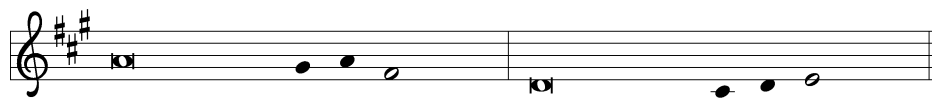
Let us pray...Blessed LORD God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our LORD.

**Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

PSALM 19 *Sung responsively* Tone #3



The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,  
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.  
**2One day tells its tale | to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**  
**3**Although they have no | words or language,  
and their voices | are not heard,  
**4their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to  
the ends | of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**  
**5**It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.  
**6It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of | it again;  
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**  
**7**The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom | to the  
simple.  
**8The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;  
he commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to  
the eyes.**  
**9**The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.  
**10More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine  
gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**  
**11**By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is | great reward.  
**12Who can detect one's | own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**  
**13**Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not  
get dominion | over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great  
offense.  
**14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be  
acceptable | in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.**

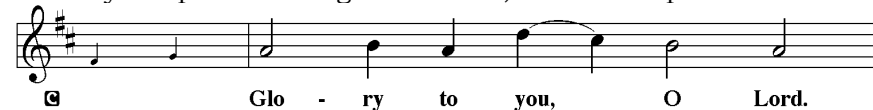
SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31A

VERSE



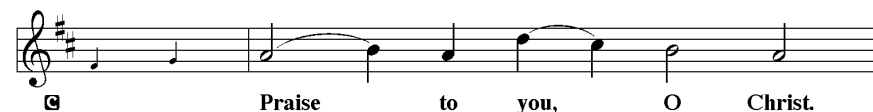
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter.



HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 4:14-21

P: The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #710

*LET STREAMS OF LIVING JUSTICE*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD. He was  
conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the  
virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will  
come again 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.**

THE PRAYERS

*Response: "hear our prayer."*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING – “KEEPER AND SUSTAINER” – KEITH WILKERSON

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...God of all creation,  
**all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.*

### 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**

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

## 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.

## HOLY COMMUNION - #496 *ONE BREAD, ONE BODY*

### BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### PRAYER

Let us pray...We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD.

**Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## HYMN #650 - *IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE- "IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST" – DAVID DAHL

☩                      ☩                      ☩

Liturgical music reprinted from **Lutheran Book of Worship**, © 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg-Fortress, license #15175-L. All rights reserved. Psalm 19 is reprinted from *Psalter for Worship Year C* copyright 2008 Augsburg Fortress. Copying of any music in this bulletin prohibited without written permission.

### WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. "God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond." –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY:** *The glory of the Lord is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of the glory of God. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.*

### ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

**NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10:** The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that the joy of the Lord is their strength.

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:12:31a:** The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

**LUKE 4:14-21:** Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

---

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY:** If one suffers, all suffer together.

*(1 Corinthians 12:26)*

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:** Lord Jesus, you have anointed us with your Spirit to bring good news to the poor. Fix our eyes on you alone so that we may proclaim your freedom for all who are oppressed. Amen.

---

**PLEASE NOTE:** - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

---

**BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering:** Ron Fried, Joel Hammond, Linda Kulp, Mary Levy, Christine Robins, Carol Stoudt Irm

*Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.*

---

### LEADING OUR WORSHIP

<b>CELEBRANT</b>	The Rev. James Hammond
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
<b>GREETERS</b>	Mike & Paula Clark
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Amy Ortwein
<b>LECTOR</b>	Amy Ortwein
<b>CANTOR</b>	Gwen Gibiser
<b>USHERS</b>	Roger & Edie Knappenberger
<b>CHURCHTIME NURSERY</b>	Cathy Link

**ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY** Anne Nichols  
**CHURCH COUNCIL REP** Roger Knappenberger

---

---

**CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD**

---

**TODAY:** 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal.  
9:30 AM Christian Education.  
10:30 AM Worship.  
**Annual Congregational Meeting.**

**WED.:** 9 AM Quilting.

**SAT.:** 10 AM Valentine's Day Card Signing Party at Blue Church.

**NEXT SUN.:** 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.  
9:30 AM Christian Education.  
10:30 AM WORSHIP/SCOUT  
**SUNDAY/'SOUPER' BOWL SUNDAY.**

*COMING EVENTS - mark your calendar!*

**FEB. 9<sup>th</sup> - 3 - 6 PM - "ROCK THE CROCK" FUN EVENT AT BLUE CHURCH WITH ENTERTAINMENT.**

**FEB. 11<sup>TH</sup> - 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting.**

---

**WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:**

**ALTAR FLOWERS...**by Anne Nichols in honor of Jeff Nichols' Birthday.

**BULLETINS...**by Joyce Christman in memory of Family and Friends.

**SANCTUARY LAMP...**by Bill and Kathy Exner

**COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...**

---

**THE COAT DRIVE IS UNDER WAY.** Don't throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them. You can bring in coats for drop off in the bin in the narthex.

---

***The Sheets to sponsor Altar Flowers, Bulletins, the Sanctuary Candle, and the monthly Communion Wine for 2019 are on the bulletin boards in the Narthex. Please make sure to sign the appropriate chart.***

---

**Valentine's Day Card Signing Party:** Blue Church Fellowship Hall, [Saturday, February 2](#), at 10 a.m. Benefits the clients at Valley Manor Nursing Home, Coopersburg. Please bring a snack to share. Valentine's provided, however, if you would like to bring valentines that is fine too. Client's particularly like

animal valentine's. Everyone welcome! Coordinator-Sherry Farrell [610-216-6612](tel:610-216-6612) (inclement weather date, [Saturday, February 9](#))

---

**"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Please help by donating non-perishable food items (you can put them in the box located in the narthex), or by donating cash which will be collected after worship on that day.

---

**'ROCK THE CROCK' EVENT AT BLUE CHURCH, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> FROM 3 PM - 6 PM.** We are in need of crock pots with your favorite slow cooker meal (or side dish) for St. Paul's 'Rock the Crock & Bake Sale. **Sign up sheets are on the bulletin boards in the narthex.** This will be a fellowship event with live music entertainment from Greg Storat & the Last Train Home band. Money from the Bake Sale will support efforts of the Music Ministry at Blue Church. Please have all crocks or side dishes at Blue Church and "ready to rock" by 3:00 pm Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

---

**BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

	<u>DEC.</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$13,337.10</b>	<b>\$ 89,655.97</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$14,368.75</b>	<b>\$167,516.87</b>
<b>(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(\$ 1,031.65)</b>	<b>(\$ 77,860.90)</b>

---

**ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES**

	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$54,500.00</b>
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND</b>		<b>\$10,071.62</b>

---

***Stewardship Snippet***

***Jan. 27, 2019***(3<sup>rd</sup>Sunday after the Epiphany)

***Psalm 19:9b, 10***—The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey.

*Stewardship is all about priorities and values. What do we prize above all else? Faithful steward/disciples value the teachings of God that guide us to fulfilled lives.*