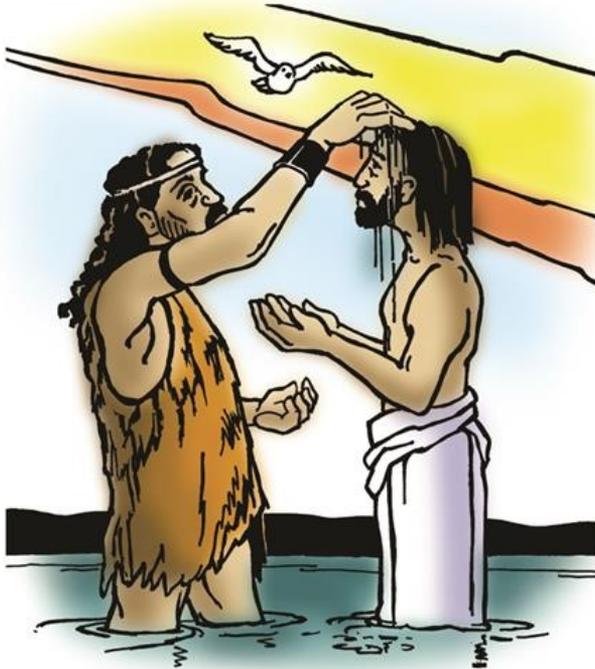


PETERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 10, 2021
1st Sunday of Epiphany



Our mission is “to Know Christ,
to Grow in Christ,
and to Show the Love of Christ.”

Welcome to Petersburg Lutheran Church

Our mission is "To Know Christ, to Grow in Christ,
and to Show the Love of Christ"

We are glad you are here!

Prelude Music

Pianist: Lila Trask

Welcome and Invocation

Pastor Eric

Opening Hymn "Beautiful Savior"

ELW # 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Confession and Forgiveness

Presider: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Presider: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 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 and self-examination.

Reconciling God, **We confess that we do not trust your abundance. We place our hope in ourselves and rely in our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We have abused your good creation for our own benefit. We do not always welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Your sins are forgiven for Jesus sake. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

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

Lord have mercy

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.

Lord have mercy

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy array.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, upon many waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is powerful,
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars,
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ **He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sir'ion like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness,
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forests bare; and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for ever.**

¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

"We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus"

ELW # 451



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap-tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Pastor Eric

Hymn "I Was There To Hear Your Boring Cry" ELW #732



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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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 The People

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.

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them and throughout this week we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Announcements

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Sending Response

We are welcomed into God's love,

Just as we are

We are sent into God's world,

To be a reflection of Christ.

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

ZOOM FELLOWSHIP TIME

Join us Today (Jan 10th) for fellowship time on ZOOM. Please log in using the information below. You can join online by [Clicking Here](#) Password: 874950 or Call: 1 253-215-8782 ~if busy call 1 669-900-9128 At prompt enter Meeting ID: 846 0569 4721

Prayers for Health & Healing

Tom Parker Tim Fisk Roald Norheim Kay Schwartz

Randy and Shannon Payne Ted Smith

Irene "Ikie" Roundtree Chris & Paul Van Ettinger

Prayers for those Serving our Country

Jesse Anderson serving in Bangor, WI

Ryan Beale US Marine, serving in San Diego, CA

Dave Chapman serving in Honolulu, HI

Shania Dahlberg serving at Camp Pendleton, CA

Jon Floyd serving in San Diego, CA

Trinity Dunham Parker serving in Bangor, WA

Michael Gardner serving in Fort Meade, MD

Alan McCay USCG, serving in Port Angeles, WA

Erik Paulson US Marines, serving in Pensacola, FL

Michael Serafini serving at Ft Irwin, CA

Shane Small US Army Ranger, Ft Richardson. AK

Kevin Thyne serving in South Korea

Peter Vermeer USCG, serving in Connecticut

Prayers for Our Church Council

Church Council: Desi Burrell, Ginger Evens, Secretary;

Susan Holmes, President; Leesa Murph, Youth; Tom Parker,

Liv Perschon, Vice President; John Small; John Swanson;

Chris Van Ettinger, Treasurer

Holy Communion

We will be celebrating Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month. Our next communion will be next Sunday on January 17th.

Viewing Facebook Live Worship Services

You can still view our worship services on Facebook even if you do not have a Facebook account. Click [HERE](#) or go to PetersburgLutheranChurch2018+. Just ignore the sign in/log in prompt.

Your Offering

Thank you for continuing to bring your offering to church and mailing it in. Some have started to contribute electronically by giving from their checking account or a credit card. You can access the secure giving site through our web page click [HERE](#) and clicking the words GIVING along the top of the web page. You can also go directly to the secure site by clicking [HERE](#) .

Your Offerings

Offering Month to Date \$4686

Offering Year to Date \$ \$4686

Monthly General Budget \$20, 162

Lectionary Bible Study on ZOOM

Join us for the Lectionary Bible Study on ZOOM at 10:00 am Thursday Morning. [Click HERE](#) to join us on ZOOM. Your audio and video will be muted automatically when you join. To dial in by phone call 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 414 101 024

Christ in Our Home Devotional Booklets

The devotional booklets for January –March 2021 were shipped the middle of November but have been delayed in the mail due to a large increase in mailings and COVID-19. Till they arrive you may sign up to receive the devotions by email by [Click Here](#)

Petersburg Lutheran Church Office Administrator Opening

Petersburg Lutheran Church is looking to hire a part time 20hr per week Office Administrator with strong interpersonal skills, ability to maintain confidentiality, computer literate, maintain records, relate to the public via phone, email and personal contact. For full job description contact the church office at 907-772-3144 or email plcakoffice@gmail.com. Salary based on experience \$13.00 - \$18.00 hour.

Prince of Wales Ministry Update

The Prince of Wales Ministry is on pause and no additional funding is needed. The Synod is assessing next steps. We haven't sent anyone to the island since before the pandemic and will not be sending anyone in the near future. Synod staff is working on a final report of the ministry for our records. It was a really good experiment and we learned a lot. We created solid relationships with the Presbyterians and with a couple other folks interested in a Lutheran expression of church. At this point, there isn't enough interest on the island to sustain a ministry. There are possibilities that we may enter a joint ministry in the future with the Presbyterians (as I said we have strong relationships with them now) but the ball is in their court for next steps.

The **Prince of Wales Ministry** was scheduled to receive the 3% benevolence gift in February. Because of this change in status the Church Council considered several other ministries to support in 2021 and selected to support the ministry of **Dillingham Trinity Lutheran Church in Dillingham, AK**. They are currently being served for free by a retired pastor, while working to fix up their parsonage so that they may eventually call a new pastor. They are unique in their area as they are the online mainline congregation in the remote town. It is a hub for the entire SW area and serves both native and non-native populations.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the PLC congregation will be held on Sunday, January 24th after worship.

The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, January 10th.

January Prayer Partner: Trinity Lutheran Church, Palmer

January Mission Support: Moringe Sokoine Secondary School, Monduli, Tanzania

Salvation Army Pantry: baked beans

Bulletin Cover Art

We are looking for people who are interested in submitting a picture or artwork for the bulletin cover relating to the scripture lessons for that Sunday. You can find the coming week's scripture lesson at the bottom of the last page of the bulletin. If you would like to look further ahead, please contact the church office and we will send you the scripture lessons for the coming weeks. 772-3144 or plcakoffice@gmail.com. Thank you!

Viewing Facebook Live Worship Services

You can still view our worship services on Facebook even if you do not have a Facebook account. Click [HERE](#) or go to PetersburgLutheranChurch2018+. Just ignore the sign in/log in prompt.

Administration Building Foundation Repair

At the congregational meeting on 11/29 it was approved to proceed with the foundation repair by hiring “Steelhead Enterprises”. The final cost is not known at this time due to all of the unknowns involved. However, an estimate of \$200 is on the table. A fund has been set up to receive gifts for this project. If you are interested in giving a gift toward this project, please write in the memo field of your check: ‘foundation repair’. We are grateful for the \$25,800 already received for this project. If sufficient gifts are not received it was approved to take up to \$17,000 from savings to help fund this project.

	This Week:	Next Week:
Musician	Lila Trask	Sue Paulsen
Reader	Alana Corl	Don Bieber

Coffee Order

An order for Mt. Meru coffee will be placed this week. If you have not already done so, please contact Grant Trask to place your order. 772-3775 or trask@gci.net

January Prayer Partner

Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Palmer, Alaska

The first pastor (Pastor Elliot D. Hull) was called in the fall of 1985. He knocked on doors inviting people to worship and the first service was held on February 2, 1986.

On November 8, 1987, the church was officially formed and the name Trinity Lutheran was chosen for it. Then, due to the economic recession of the 1990's, Trinity was offered the Colony Barn Plaza in exchange for the payment of the building's back taxes. Trinity accepted the building in 1991 and also purchased adjacent lands. In 1994, the building was renamed Trinity Barn Plaza and began a preschool and space to minister to the needs of the disabled, sick, and youth of Palmer.

3% Monthly Missionary Support

Each month Petersburg Lutheran gives 3% of the offerings received to a special ministry identified by the Church Council and approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

The January offering goes to Moringe Sokoine Secondary School located in Monduli, Tanzania. It is run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. The school is a boarding school with approximately 400 students - both boys and girls. Tanzania is starting to provide secondary education for free, but the quality is lacking.

Secondary schools are taught in English, where primary schools are taught in Kiswahili. In addition to these languages, most Tanzanians also know the language of their individual tribes. Thus, most Tanzanian secondary students are fluent in at least three languages.

This Week at Petersburg Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 10th

8:30 am... Adult Bible Class, Sunday School Room in HCH

10 am... Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

Thursday~10 am... Lectionary Bible Study on Zoom
3:45pm...Executive Meeting

Sunday, January 17th

10 am~ Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

Petersburg Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric Olsen ~ plcakpastor@gmail.com

406 Excel Street PO Box 709 ~Office: 772-3144

Sermon audio/video:

<https://www.petersburglutheran.com/sermons-2/>

Service is broadcast on 88.5 FM Radio

Follow us on Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+



Birthdays This Week

Mon. Jan. 11: Patty Biggers

Wed. Jan. 13: Pat Moulton, Taylor Norheim

Thurs. Jan. 14: Elizabeth Walsh, Trevor Volk

GOSPEL MESSAGE

January 10, 2021

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

A Hitch in the Story

Was it wildfire nerve? Unchecked audacity? Holy purpose? The hammering of parents' expectations? Maybe the privilege of being kin to Jesus? Or was it eccentricity as peculiar as his diet and wardrobe? What desire drove John to the wilderness, into the water of the Jordan? What ignited his fiery proclamation of repentance and forgiveness? What current pulled crowds from city and country into the water?

One can say, rightly, that it was ordained by God, compelled by the Holy Spirit, predicted by an angel. Yet there is a hitch in the story. Four easily missed but utterly important words gum up the works of any timid or tidy explanations: "I am not worthy" (Mark 1:7).

Something in John's four words opens the baptismal story to torrents of wonder, floods of hope, drenching relief and recovery.

For some years the two friends had been together through what we often call the thick and the thin. They knew this and that, bits and pieces, the here and there of one another's lives. And not only the trivial. They probed each other's shadowed corridors and crumbling edges. Still, there were secrets, withholdings. One day, for reasons wrapped with nothing but the ragged swaddling of unaccountable grace, one said to the other, "It has been such a long, lonely journey, carrying a suitcase filled with secrets, the shames and deceptions I've folded and packed." Then he began to tell. To confess. A repenting, a turning. His friend's eyes filled with tears that watered his cheeks and dripped into his lap. All he could say through the flood was, "I love you all the more."

Born literally of grace, breaking the dam of John's four words, "I am not worthy," is one stronger word, the word of the more powerful one: *forgiveness*. To John and to us who say, "I am not worthy," Jesus answers, "Yes, yes, yes, you are."

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Next week's readings: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51