

**February 27, 2011 | 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

**The Readings from Scripture**

**The First Reading**

**Isaiah 49:8–16a**

*The Lord shows motherly compassion for God's suffering people. Even if a nursing mother could under rare circumstances forget her child, God will never forget us.*

A reading from the book of Isaiah:

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD:

In a time of favor I have answered you,  
on a day of salvation I have helped you;  
I have kept you and given you  
as a covenant to the people,  
to establish the land,  
to apportion the desolate heritages;

<sup>9</sup>saying to the prisoners, "Come out,"  
to those who are in darkness, "Show yourselves."  
They shall feed along the ways,  
on all the bare heights shall be their pasture;

<sup>10</sup>they shall not hunger or thirst,  
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down,  
for he who has pity on them will lead them,  
and by springs of water will guide them.

<sup>11</sup>And I will turn all my mountains into a road,  
and my highways shall be raised up.

<sup>12</sup>Lo, these shall come from far away,  
and lo, these from the north and from the west,  
and these from the land of Syene.

<sup>13</sup>Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;  
break forth, O mountains, into singing!  
For the LORD has comforted his people,  
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

<sup>14</sup>But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me,  
my LORD has forgotten me."

<sup>15</sup>Can a woman forget her nursing child,  
or show no compassion for the child of her womb?  
Even these may forget,  
yet I will not forget you.

<sup>16</sup>See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.

The Word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 4:1–5

*We are servants and stewards of Christ whose primary responsibility is to be trustworthy. We do not stand over others as their judge, but we stand under Christ to whom we will be held accountable.*

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians:

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. <sup>2</sup>Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. <sup>3</sup>But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. <sup>4</sup>I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup>Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

The Word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

Matthew 6:24–34

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to trust in God rather than material wealth.*

*The Holy Gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter*

<sup>24</sup>No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. <sup>25</sup>Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup>But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup>So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

**The Gospel of Our Lord.**

*(Please be seated)*

## ***Prayers of Intercession***

As God's beloved children, let us pray that the light of Christ shine on the nations, the church, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

That the baptized may be servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries we celebrate in this assembly. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

That the leaders of nations, states, cities, and towns extend compassionate care to those without food, clothing, or shelter. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

That our gratitude for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field lead us to treasure each day, care for the earth, and seek the welfare of generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

That like a patient mother you comfort all those who suffer with illness, grief, worry, or anxiety (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

That as we strive first for your kingdom, you feed us at your bountiful table and deepen our faith in your provident care. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

That you gather us with all your holy ones, who treasured the riches of your grace and whose names are inscribed on the palms of your hands.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and hopes, God of mercy and justice, for we pray in the name of Christ, the light of the world.  
**Amen.**

***Easter Flower Tulip Order***

We will be taking orders for tulips to be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you wish to sponsor a plant they are \$7.50 per pot. The last day to place your order will be April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Please complete this form and turn it into the church office or place in the offering plate along with your check.**  
Checks should be made out to **St. Paul's**.

***Plants may be picked up after the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday.***



\_\_\_\_\_ Tulips # of plants (\$7.50 each pot) Colors will vary.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

to beautify God's house **or**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

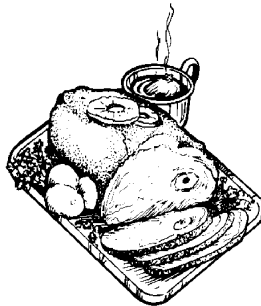
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will be picking up my plant (s) following the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am donating the plant (s) to the church

\_\_\_\_\_

***ASP HAM DINNER MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> 2011 | 3 - 7 PM***

Please join us for the Annual ASP Ham Dinner to be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Proceeds benefit the Appalachian Service Project home repairs ministry. Questions? Please contact Ron Rodenberger 679-6777.



**St. Paul's Prayer List ~ Weekly update to the February Vision**

Amanda Martin – *Infant-Hershey Med. Ctr.*  
Carl Thomas – *Brother of Henry Thomas*  
Regina Stifter - *Friend of Janet Hill*

Judy Shupe – *Friend of Edith Stevens*  
Lewis Fluck – *Father of Anne Gable*  
Jeanette Terpoilli

**For the complete prayer list** ~ please look in the current edition of the Vision Newsletter. The Sunday bulletins only list updates to the complete list in the Vision.

**The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God** and in loving memory of Mother Elaine Bitto presented by Karen Creggan.

**The Sanctuary Lamp is given to the glory of God** and in honor of all who are sick or suffering presented by Chris and Nicole Oswald.

**Capital Improvement Fund** ~ We have currently received a total of \$62,338. in our Capital Improvement fund toward our goal of \$225,000. Pledges amount to \$64,914.

<b>Elevator Fund</b> ~	Gifts Received Previously	\$25,250.00
	Gifts Received week of 2.27.11	\$3,090.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,380.00</b>

**Victory House** ~ Join us next time, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 as we volunteer at the Victory House. For more information please contact Laura Foreman at 267-923-8895.

**Lunch Bunch** ~ Are you ready for Spring? Join the Lunch Bunch on **Wednesday, March 9, 11:30 am**, in Church Fellowship Hall. We will be entertained by "Hobo Queen," Betty Roberto. She will share her stories and adventures of the Railroad Hoboes. Hobo King, Karl Teller, will be joining her. Let's fill the room and give them a warm welcome. Bring a friend. The more the merrier. Just a reminder, soup and dessert will be provided. Just bring your sandwich and your mug. If you are a Redner's shopper, use your save-a-tape card and bring your entire register tape to lunch bunch.

**Peter Becker Community 2011 Flower Show!** ~ Please join Peter Becker community for their 2011 flower show on March 17-19<sup>th</sup> 2011. Their theme this year is "Gulliver's Travels". Please see the flyer in this bulletin!

**Capping of Wood Trim** ~ The outside wood trim and crown molding on the church is complete and the damaged cupola has been removed from Fellowship Hall's roof.

**Elevator Project Update** ~Laid block for elevator shaft (ground floor)

**Upcoming Women's Event** ~ Ladies reserve the date of Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. You are invited to a spring program in the Fellowship Hall from 9-12:15. Look for a poster and sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fish tank hallway. We will be going to the Gilbertville Tea Room at 1:00 PM with the first 30 ladies who sign up. Program is free. Tea room cost is \$24.00/person.

**Sponsors needed for the Bulletin and Sanctuary Light** ~ A donation of \$20 for either sponsorship helps to defray this weekly expense. This is a great way to remember someone special and to help St. Paul's. Please sign up with what you would like written in the bulletin on the board in the fish tank hallway.

**~ This Week at St. Paul's ~**

<b>Sunday</b>	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Youth Club 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4:15 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM
<b>Monday</b>	Lutheran Chicks	12:30 PM
	Cub Scouts	6:30 PM
	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:30 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	Bible Study – <i>off site at home of Bonnie Bonser</i>	1:00 PM
	Bible Study – <i>off site at home of Bonnie Bonser</i>	7:00 PM
<b>Friday</b>	ASP Dinner Set Up	6:00 PM
	Cub Pack Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	ASP HAM DINNER	3:00 PM
<b>Sunday</b>	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Junior Youth Club grade 7 and below	11:00 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Confirmation Ministry	4:30 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM	

**~ Today's Worship Assistants ~**

Altar Guild	8:00 AM	Sandy Landis	
Assistant	8:00 AM	Nancy Yerger	10:30 AM Debbie Turofski
Ushers	9:15 AM	Rich & Traci Kressley	
	10:30 AM	Alan Richard, Don Dulin & Charlie Roth	
Monday		Sandy Bergey and Claude & Jean Croisette	