



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3600 25th St, Columbus, IN 47203

Phone: (812) 372-1256 Web site: www.flccolumbus.org

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday

Facebook: First Lutheran Church (Columbus, IN)

CASUAL WORSHIP

January 15, 2023 - 11:15 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S HOUSE!

We are so glad to have you with us this morning! There is an extended time of praise and worship at the beginning of the service, and we want you to worship your Lord as you feel comfortable. All forms of worship are acceptable, such as singing, clapping, standing, sitting, kneeling, and dancing. Please worship your God in a way that draws you closer to Him!

Rev. Paul Swartz is a Lutheran Pastor in "Re-Firement." He has served churches in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana; developed a new congregation; served as an Assistant to the Bishop of the Ohio Synod, LCA; is an Emeriti Board member of his alma mater, Wittenberg University, and is the author of several journal articles.

The Lily Endowment awarded him a Clergy Renewal grant that enabled him to study and trace Luther's steps in Germany. He is enjoying combining his vocation with his avocation stamp collecting and is anxious to complete a book on Martin Luther, "A Life Stamped, Cancelled and Delivered" which will be "illustrated philatelically" from his vast world-wide Luther/Reformation Collection. That project was sidelined when its research began to reveal striking similarities between the reformer and The President which led to this publication. Having a son, now deceased and a daughter, Paul and his wife, Betty of 57 years, reside in Carmel, Indiana.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER:

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

- ¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
- ³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
and my reward with my God."
- ⁵And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says,
 "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;
 I will give you as a light to the nations,
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
 the slave of rulers,
 "Kings shall see and stand up,
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

WORSHIP & PRAISE

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be
 saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both
 their Lord and ours:
³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in
 Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every
 kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not
 lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also
 strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God
 is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

WORSHIP & PRAISE

TIME OF OPEN PRAYER

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

GOSPEL READING: John 1:29-42

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who
 takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks
 ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with
 water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit
 descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but
 the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend
 and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have
 testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus
 walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this,
 and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What
 are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are
 you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying,
 and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the
 two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first
 found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated
 Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of
 John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

SERMON

Rev. Paul Schwartz

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**Confession:**

P. As you are willing, repeat this prayer after me:

Almighty God, I have sinned against you, in thought, word, and deed—by what I have done, and by what I have left undone.

I have not loved you with my whole heart.

I have not loved my neighbor as myself.

Forgive me. Renew me. Lead me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Forgiveness:

P. The Lord has already embraced us in complete forgiveness. Otherwise, we would not be able to make this kind of confession. We stand here, forgiven. We are free men and women, boys and girls—through the loving embrace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**

COMMUNION LITURGY:

P. 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.

THE 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.

HOLY COMMUNION:

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.

As you approach the altar rail, please keep a good space between yourself and others. The floor is marked where you may stand or kneel.

**BENEDICTION:**

P: Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING WORSHIP & PRAISE**SERVING FIRST TODAY**

Pastor: Rev. Paul Schwartz

Greeters/Usher: John & Mary Ellen Wyman, & Dave Stocks

WOUNDED HEALER PRAISE BAND

Erika East, Annette Hull, Jennifer & Mike Langevin, Matt Pillar

Today's altar flowers are given by Jenny Boggs in honor of Sarah's birthday and in honor of her mom's wedding anniversary.