

March 1, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Welcome, Friend!

You Have Come to the Right Place!

Jesus Loves YOU!

WELCOME

Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future. For more information, please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373 or 414-254-6093.

EXACTLY WHAT I NEED – FAITH

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY

I recognize that I need to be saved. When Jesus said, “No one can enter the kingdom of God,” that included me. I do not deserve God’s blessing. But long ago, God declared that I would be blessed by a descendant of Abraham who turned out to be Jesus. The blessing is salvation. I receive that salvation by faith in Jesus as my Savior. The good news is that faith is also God’s gift, imparted to me through the gospel.

As I Prepare for Worship

“I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’”

Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.

After Worship

How can I thank you, Father, for allowing me to worship in your house today! I have heard the promises of your love in the gospel. I have praised you, confessed you, and prayed for your blessings. I have been strengthened by the witness and worship of others. Keep my faith strong as I live out the tasks of my life, take away my doubts and fears, and give me courage to share the good news of your Son wherever I go and however I can.



Please notify Pastor Kimbrough of any additional prayer requests you may have.


Our Mission Statement

(Our Purpose as a Church)


Our mission here at St. Philip's Lutheran is outlined for us in Matthew 28:19: 'Go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them and baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' Making disciples includes proclaiming God's Word in its truth and purity, strengthening the faith of those under our care, and reaching out to the people of our community, (including our unchurched friends and relatives). Let us pray for and work together toward this goal.

868 By Faith


CW 868 sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 By faith we see the hand of God
 2 By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth
 3 By faith the proph - ets saw a day



in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,
 with the pow'r of his prom - ise in their hearts,
 when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear



in the lives of those who prove his faith - ful - ness,
 of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,
 with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death



who walk by faith and not by sight. v. 2
 a place where peace and jus - tice reign. *Refrain*
 and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. v. 4

Refrain



We will stand as chil - dren of the prom - ise; we will fix our



eyes on him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

- 4 By faith the church was called to go
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in ev'ry corner of the earth. (Refrain)
- 5 By faith this mountain shall be moved
and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon his name. (Refrain)

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Stuart Townend, b. 1963
Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953
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Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Congregation: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Lord Have Mercy (*sung*)

L: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

L: Christ, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

L: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

L: Amen.

C: Amen.

Pastor: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Taste and See (*sung*)

L: Oh taste and see that the Lord is good

C: Oh taste and see that the Lord is good.

L: Blessed are they who take refuge in him

C: Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

L: Your word, oh Lord, is eternal.

C: Your word, oh Lord, is eternal.

L: It stands firm in the heavens.

C: It stands firm in the heavens.

L: Your faithfulness continues.

C: Your faithfulness continues.

L: Forever

C: Forever

L: And ever

C: And ever

L: Amen

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 12:1–8

The Lord gave Abram the gift of faith to believe the promise that one of his descendants would be a gift for the whole world.

¹The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

²“I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

³I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

⁶Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷The LORD appeared

to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 121

Verse 1

**I lift my eyes and see,
I need not be afraid.
All my help comes from the Lord,
who the earth and sky has made.**

Chorus

**He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before.
He will sustain you, through this journey
From now and evermore.**

Verse 2

**The Lord will never sleep
My steps He has ordained
For the One who holds the night
Is the Sovereign of my days.**

Chorus X2

Second Reading

Romans 4:1–5,13–17

Abraham is an example of how salvation is received as a gift through faith.

¹What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? ²If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. ³What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

⁴Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. ⁵However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

¹³It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 3:16

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

By sharing the good news of God's love for the world, Jesus gave the gift of faith.

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day – God So Loved

**Come all you weary, come all you thirsty.
Come to the well that never runs dry.
Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.**

**Come all you sinners, come find His mercy.
Come to the table; He will satisfy.
Taste of His Goodness, find what you're looking for.**

REFRAIN:

**For God so loved the world that he gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.**

**Bring all your failures, bring you your addictions.
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.
Jesus is waiting there with open arms.**

REFRAIN

**The power of hell forever defeated
Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom,
For God so loved, God so loved the world.**

**Praise God, Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, Praise Him for the wonders of his love.**

**Praise God, Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, Praise Him for the wonders of his love, his amazing love!**

**For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only Son to save
REFRAIN**

**Come all you sinners, come find His mercy,
Come to the table; He will satisfy.
Jesus is waiting, God so loved the world.**

Sermon Text – John 3:1-17

Sermon Theme – “What Does It Mean to Be BORN AGAIN?”

1. The Need for This NEW BIRTH Verses 1-3
2. The Nature of This NEW BIRTH Verses 4-5
3. The Evidence for This NEW BIRTH Verses 6-8
4. The Basis of This NEW BIRTH Verses 14-17

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.



Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, especially Belinda, Judi, Joyce, Johnnie, Kitty, Natasha, Carolyn, and Twynette. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Closing Hymn – I Love to Tell the Story

CW 746 sts. 1, Ref, 2-3



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 Christ Je - sus, pure and ho - ly, with - out a spot or stain,
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
by wick - ed hands was tak - en, was cru - ci - fied and slain!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;
And now the work is fin - ished, the sin - ner's debt is paid,
And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
be - cause on Christ the Right - eous the sin of all was laid.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text (sts. 1–3): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain
Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835–1912
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

www.wels.net

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

Lay Reader

Thomas McNeal

Piano

Abigail Berg

Praise Band

Erskin Henderson, Hayley Moldenhauer
Thomas Moldenhauer, Jack Wright

In Our Prayers

Judi Tevich

Kitty Henderson

Belinda Whitley

Natasha McCants

Joyce Vernon

Johnnie Patterson

Twynette Brazzelle

Carolyn Schallert

Next Week: March 8, 2026

Piano: Naomi Porth

Lay Reader: Thomas McNeal

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Wednesday, March 4

Prayer and Bible Study 6:30PM
Pastor will send out link.

Saturday, March 7

Spring Forward
Turn clocks one hour ahead at bedtime.

Sunday, March 8

Bible Class 9:30AM
Worship with communion 10:30AM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Pastor Kimbrough's Retirement

Pastor Kimbrough's final service as our pastor at St. Philip's will be **Sunday, June 14th**. Please join us for a luncheon and cake reception following our worship service to thank him and wish him our best as his retirement becomes official. More details will follow soon.

CALLED HOME:

Please keep the family of Joseph McCants in your prayers at the loss of his brother, Julius Lamont Welch. Northwest Funeral Home will be assisting the family. The visitation will be at 10AM on Monday, March 2nd with the service to follow at 11AM. Visitation and the service will take place at Northwest.

RESULTS FROM LAST SUNDAY’S VOTE ON PASTOR OPTIONS

This past Sunday (2/22/2026), St. Philip’s congregation officially chose option #1 of the 3 options that were shared with us by District President, Dan Leyrer on 2/8/2026: That option is to have Seminary/Jump Program student, Keri Jackson, assigned to St. Philip’s Lutheran Church as our new pastor.

Next steps:

On April 1 or thereabouts, St. Philip's will receive a district-wide broadcast email from the District President with instructions on how to officially request a pastor candidate from WLS/PSI.

When Keri completes his PSI training, my assignment of him to St. Philip's will take place at the Call Day Service at WLS on May 21, 2026, at 10:00 am.

A Seminary candidate assignment is a call from St. Philip's delivered through the synod's Assignment Committee, which is the COP and the synod praesidium. So, in the call packet that I give to Keri on Call Day there will be a formal call form, signifying that the call is coming from St. Philip's.

CHURCH OFFERINGS UPDATE

<u>2/16 – 2/22</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>February to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Budget	\$ 3,269.23	\$ 13,076.92	\$26,153.84
Actual	\$ 3,088.70	\$ 11,224.40	\$ 19,856.80
Over (Under)	(\$ 230.53)	(\$ 1,852.52)	(\$ 6,297.04)

*Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:*

<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.



WLHS Dinner Auction – April 18 -Save the date for Wisconsin Lutheran High School’s annual Dinner Auction on Saturday, April 18. Community members are invited to join the WLHS Dinner Auction Facebook Group for pre-auction fun, sneak peeks, and event updates. Information on sponsorships, auction item donations, and group links is available through [wlhs.org/events](https://www.wlhs.org/events).

Save the Date for WLHS Performance - Anastasia: The Musical- Wisco students have been rehearsing since December for this spring’s musical performance, *Anastasia: The Musical*. Save the date to see this spectacular performance March 6-8. Tickets go on sale February 9.

Once Upon a Delight: Anastasia Princess Night - Saturday, March 7 | 5:30–6:30 p.m. Children in PK3–Grade 3 are invited to a magical evening of royal fun! Young guests will receive the “royal treatment” as they arrive in costume (optional) and enjoy Anastasia-themed creativity stations—then cap off the night with a photo on stage with the cast after the show on Saturday. **Ticket sales open Monday, February 9 at <https://www.wlhs.org/>.**



**St. Philip's Lutheran Church
Pastor Raymond Kimbrough
3012 N Holton Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212**

Church: 414-263-1373

Cell Phone: 414-254-6093

TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS

This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person. May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.

If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to call on the pastor at any time.

School Office Phone: 414-263-7614

Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373

Bible Class 9:30AM

Worship Service – 10:30AM