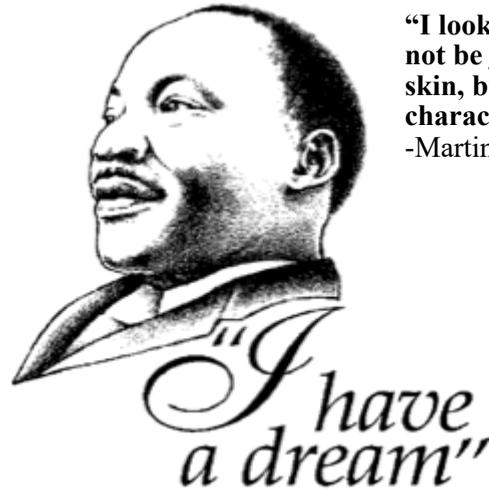


GOSPEL: JOHN 2:1-11

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵**His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."** ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

PSALM 36:5-10

⁵Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. ⁶Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD. ⁷How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. ⁸They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. ⁹For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. ¹⁰O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!



"I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color their skin, but by the content of their character."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Second Sunday After Epiphany January 16, 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

2009 South Garfield Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754
Phone: (323) 721-0840 - Email: stpaulsmpk@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook @stpaulsmpk or our website stpaulsmpk.org

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

We are happy to be open for worship on Sundays at 9:30 am.

LA County is requiring everyone to wear masks when gathering indoors again, regardless of vaccination status, due to the rapid spread of the Omicron variant. The Synod has reaffirmed this in all LA County congregations. So, we are once again asking everyone who comes to worship on Sundays to wear a mask and socially distance from persons outside immediate family.

If you have forgotten a mask, we do have extras, in both adult and kid sizes, in the Narthex.

News and Needs

- **We are blessed to have Pr. Tom Ford** presiding over our services for this month! His sermon title for today is "Jesus Makes a Very Fine Wine."
- **While it is still early in the year, Council has been looking into community service projects that we can take on as a congregation for Lent.** Lutheran World Relief is having a "Care Package" drive for their "Season of Hope. A list of items to be included, as well as assembly instructions have been provided in packets on the Narthex table. Additionally, there are other care kits that you are welcome to make, including one for babies. We will also be accepting donations for assembly at the church. If you have any other ideas on how we could help our communities and the world, please contact Elizabeth with details.
- **In honor of the late actress and philanthropist Betty White,** animal shelters across the country are holding the "Betty White Challenge" on what would have been her 100th birthday. On January 17th, we invite you to donate \$5 to a rescue or animal organization of your choice. If you cannot make that commitment on the actual day, we invite you to donate when you can!
- **In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. day on Monday, January 17th, Elizabeth will be taking a half day and will only be in the office from 10am-noon.**
- **Save the Date!** We will be holding our annual Congregational meeting on Wednesday, February 23rd over Zoom. Details will be released soon, but Council wanted to give everyone time to prepare any questions, concerns, or comments that you feel need to be discussed. If you are unable to log-in to Zoom, we will have a list of discussion items from the meeting, but we cannot guarantee your input or questions will have the same effect.
- **Bishop Brenda Bos** has been holding Zoom meetings called "The Haven" which covers a variety of topics. This past week was about how to be a church during the continuing pandemic. Some of the points she has made are in regard to streaming services online and while that is not on the table right now, please be aware that we may have to do so in the future. Additionally, this experience has been traumatic, but trauma means growth and growth often leaves scars. We have been changed in 6 key areas: awareness of personal strength, a reprioritizing of values, compassion for ourselves and altruism for others, an appreciation for life, a spiritual change in which doubt is beautiful because God reminds us he is present in ways we have not seen before, and creativity. We are changed and our God is the God of change.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 62:1-5

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pray for these we know to be in need of resolution, healing, support and comfort:



The Cisneros family; Ivy & John Conklin; Austin Marsh; Ewalani Odachi; Brian Kurihara; Ed Sais; Larry Sullivan; Aki Fukui; Nora Fukui; Karri Padilla; Elsie Ford; Susan and Gene Ramirez; Margarete Schwall; Millie Powell; Mai Madrigal and her family; Phil Stanton; Meher Montessori School; and all who are sick from COVID-19 in our nation and across the globe; for all businesses who are reopening to full capacity; for those who are struggling with returning to normalcy financially, emotionally, or mentally; for those who face discrimination; and for our country, our military and first responders.