

January 25, 2026 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Thought to ponder: *"Showing off is the fool's idea of glory."* — Bruce Lee

Welcome

Announcements, Life & Work of the Church

Prelude:

Passing the Peace:

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Acknowledgement of the Territories:

Christ Candle Lighting:

Call to Worship:

One: God is our light and our salvation.

All: We will not be afraid.

One: Come, behold the beauty of God!

**All: God shelters us in times of trouble
and lifts us up on solid ground.**

One: Let the people of God rejoice!

**All: For Christ calls us, welcomes us,
and claims us in love. Come and
worship, gathered in unity, open to
joy, justice, and grace.**

Hymn: VU #79 Arise Your Light Has Come

Arise, your light is come!

The Spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God,

Which shines on you today.

**Arise, your light is come!
 Fling wide the prison door;
 Proclaim the captive's liberty,
 Good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light is come!
 All you in sorrow born,
 Bind up the broken-hearted ones
 And comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light is come!
 The mountains burst in song!
 Rise up like eagles on the wing;
 God's power will make us strong.**

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Gathering Prayer:

Loving and faithful God, you are our light and our hope, our peace in times of turmoil, our healing when we are wounded, our love when we feel alone. You meet us in the shadows of fear and doubt, offering comfort, courage, and new possibility. You call us into lives of purpose and meaning, to walk in the ways of justice, compassion, truth, and goodness. We praise you with grateful hearts, for you are always with us, steadfast in love and rich in mercy. Amen.

Time for Young at Heart:

From Shadow to Light

Hymn: MV #44 Shadow and Substance

**Shadow and substance,
wonder and mystery,
spell-binding spinner
of atoms and earth;
soul of the cosmos,
person and energy,
source of our being,
we sing your worth.**

**We are your image,
formed in community;
sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us colour,
custom and history;
teach us to honour
what others receive.**

**Naming the nameless
Spirit of unity,
scanning the heavens
for signs of your care;
God of the ages,
give us humility;
guide us to mystical
union in prayer.**

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Prayer of Illumination:

Scripture:

Isaiah 9:1-4 The people have seen a great light
Psalms 27:1, 4-9 God is my light and salvation
Matthew 4:12-23 Jesus begins his ministry

**Ministry of Music: *The Light of God's Love*
Reflection: *The Way is Glorious***

Hymn: MV #82 *Bathe Me in Your Light*

**Bathe me in your light,
O God of All, Creator;
Let it shine upon my soul
with healing and with grace.
For love will set us free.
Be to me a beacon bright through
shadows of life's wounding,
Showing me the way to live in faith,
in your embrace.**

**Bathe me in your love,
O Source of Awe and Wonder;
Help me walk the sacred path
of harmony and peace.
May I be attentive to
the musings of your presence,
Drinking from the well of hope
that brings the heart release.**

**Bathe me in your grace,
O One of Spirit's longing;
Teach me of your gentle ways
that fill the soul with strength.
Guide me on the pilgrimage
that leads to truth and wholeness
Fill me with your promise
of a love that knows no length.**

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Prayers of the People:

One: God, speak to us a word of peace.

All: Embrace us with your love.

One: God, speak to us a word of hope.

All: Embrace us with your love.

One: God, speak to us a word of dignity.

All: Embrace us with your love.

One: God, speak to us a word of healing.

All: Embrace us with your love.

One: God, speak to us a word of reconciliation.

All: Embrace us with your love.

One: God, speak to us a word of wisdom.

All: Embrace us with your love.

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.**

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer of Dedication:

God of those first followers, you continue to call us, and here we are. We offer what we have and who we are. Bless these gifts, and bless our lives, that together they may serve your purposes. Give us courage to invite others into the wide and welcoming way of Jesus, our companion and guide. Amen.

Hymn: MV #216 Wherever You May Go

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,
And your people shall
be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow,
For I would be faithful, loyal, and true.
Say the word and I will stay,
I will never go away,
We will travel side by side
And God's Love will be our guide.**

Refrain

**From beginning to the end
I will always be your friend,
When you need me, I'll be there,
You can trust my faithful care.**

Refrain

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Benediction:

Sung Benediction: Light of Christ

Light of Christ shine in and through me.

Light of Love be with me now.

Take these hands, healing hands.

Light of Christ flow through me now.

Pat Mayberry 2020 CCLI



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

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Church Family Ministry Team – Coleen Corbett, Lisa Folkins,
Shari Brenan

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 – 3:00

Announcements

January 25th, 2026 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Reader for this week: Lisa

Reader for next week: Erin

Greeter this week: Tom and Elaine

Greeter next week: Jo Ann and Jean

Tellers this week: Linda H., Sharon M.

Tellers next week: Al, Brenda

A/V this week: Al

A/V next week: Lloyd

Sunday 9:30 Coffee Time via Zoom

10:00 Service

Congregational meeting called by the trustees after the service followed by Coffee and Conversation.

Church Buddy activity during Coffee and conversation: Bring a picture that has special meaning for you.

Tuesday 5:00 Worship meeting

Wednesday 6:00 Choir rehearsal

Friday 6:30 Youth Group.

Next Sunday 9:30 Coffee Time via Zoom

Good News and Caring Corner: If you have some good news you want shared with the congregation, let us know and we'll pass it on. If there is someone you think should have a card from the caring corner for whatever reason, please see the attendant in the corner, or call the office.

Coldest Night of the Year Sussex Sharing Club fundraiser. Join the St. Paul's Striders team to raise funds on the CNOY walk February 28th. Register online at

<https://en.cnoy.org/location/sussex>

There will be a soup and chili function after the service on the 22nd of February as a fundraiser for the Striders. Freewill offering.

Valentine Luncheon February 8th after the service: Fellowship, music, desserts, tea and coffee.

Offering Envelopes are available at the office or on the table in the entryway. If you are using them for the first time, be sure to have your name and address on the first one so we can get you your tax receipt at the end of the year.

Grocery Cards: We will be available (as we are able) before and after church for you to purchase cards and cards are available for purchase in the office during regular business hours.

Contact information: Please keep your contact information and addresses updated so we can get information out to you. An inaccurate address may lead to delays for tax receipts. Thanks.

A reminder that you may be on our video presentation as we are broadcasting our services on Facebook.

Join in or listen to any of the Zoom calls via Internet using the link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/179750852?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/179750852?pwd=7IAYtPHcGTE)

pwd=7IAYtPHcGTE

If you know of anyone needing help, please contact the office or Rev. Jenn Brown.