

# Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church

*"Growing Relationships with God, Each Other, and Our Neighbors in the Way of Jesus"*



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**Saturday, February 15, 2025, 4:00 PM**

**Sunday, February 16, 2025, 9:00 AM**

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# *Welcome... There's a place for you here!*

## *Welcome to the Lord's Table*

All Christians—including visitors of all denominations—are invited to the altar to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to remain at your seat, select a prefilled cup from a basket at the top of the ramps before the service begins.

Worshippers may come forward via the center aisle to receive communion at the altar, then return by the side aisles. Bread, wheat wafers or gluten-free wafers are offered, as is a choice of wine (lighter color, outer rings of tray) or grape juice (darker color, inner rings). Paper-towel lined baskets are provided for empty cups at the end of the first pew and at the top of the ramps. Those who are not yet communing may also come forward to receive a blessing.

## *Children have a place here, too!*

During our Sunday services, children are invited to come forward for the children's time. They may also receive communion at whatever age their adult(s) agree(s) they may. "Busy bags" are hung along the wall in the sanctuary for use during services. Books and small toys can be found on a shelf under the window behind the choir/bells tables.

Our staffed nursery is located at the bottom of the spiral staircase in the entryway. A changing table is found in the bathroom near the top of the stairs, and another is located around the corner through the sanctuary door past the bell tables.

*Restrooms* are located in the entryway on either side (mirrored cubes).

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*Note: our Sunday service is livestreamed, and some worshippers may be seen in the broadcast. Those seated behind the ramps will not be seen on camera.*

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*(Thank you for silencing your phone as you worship!)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

*(silence is kept for reflection)*

Merciful God,

**you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 479

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S SERMON (Sun.)

FIRST READING: **Jeremiah 17:5-10**

*A reading from Jeremiah:*

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

PSALM: **Psalm 1** (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup> **It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: **Luke 6:17-26**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup> [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 725

“When the Poor Ones”  
*(English translation)*

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.**

SONG FOR PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*sing once before and after prayers*)

“Christ, Be Our Light” (ELW 715, refrain)

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

CHOIR ANTHEM (Sun)

“Al shlosa d'varim”

Allan E. Naplan

OFFERTORY

Use the QR code to reach our online giving page:



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of grace,

**your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,  
 God of power and might, heav-en and earth are full of your  
 glo-ry. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho -  
 san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying: Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness. Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures forever.

**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise . . .

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love. With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever. **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.**

#### INVITATION

DISTRIBUTION *(see inside of bulletin cover for communion directions)*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BLESSING

#### SENDING SONG

ELW 434 vs.1,3-5

“Jesus Shall Reign”

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE



### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Preacher: Pastor Beth Ann Stone; Leader: Pastor Nathan Pratt  
Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov  
Sun. Greeter: Nancy Clausen  
Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: Kirsten Graves  
Sun. Communion assistant: Maria Lee, Amy Obernberger  
Acolyte: *One needed*  
Video Producer: Becky Litwin  
(*please see worship leader board for assistants needed*)

### **Worship Leaders for 2/22 & 2/23:**

Musician: Michael Becker; Minister of Music: Dimitri Shapovalov  
Sun. Greeters: Bruce & Kate Lingsweiler  
Sat. Reader: *One needed*; Sun. Reader: Carol Wiechers  
Sun. Communion assistant: Jerry Smith, Candy Zicarelli  
Acolyte: *One needed*  
Video Producer: John Simpson

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## THIS WEEK AT MPLC: Feb 16 - 23

### Sun. Feb 16

**9:00 AM:** Worship (Sanctuary)

**10:00 AM:** Coffee Hour (Fellowship)

**10:15 AM:** Sunday School (Education)

**10:20 AM:** Adult Education: Word Of the Week (Mygatts)

**4:00 PM:** Open Table (Fellowship)

**6:30 PM:** Youth Night Bowling (Castle Lanes)

### Tues. Feb 18 - Spring Primary – MPLC is a polling place

**11:00 AM:** Chair Yoga (Mygatts)

**5:30 PM:** Building 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee (Mygatts)

**6:30 PM:** Bell Choir (Sanctuary)

### Wed. Feb 19

**11:00 AM:** Bible Study (Mygatts)

**5:30 PM:** Endowment Fund (Office)

**6:30 PM:** Confirmation (Sanctuary)

**7:00 PM:** Adult Choir (Choir room)

### Fri. Feb 21

**3:00 PM:** Staff Support Committee (Mygatts)

### Sat. Feb 22

**4:00 PM:** Worship (Sanctuary)

### Sun. Feb 23

**9:00 AM:** Worship (Sanctuary)

**10:00 AM:** Coffee Hour (Fellowship)

**10:15 AM:** Sunday School (Education)

**10:20 AM:** Adult Education: Word Of the Week (Mygatts)

**11:15 AM:** Youth Ministry Committee (Mygatts)

We are called by Jesus to **love God and one another**, to practice generous hospitality, and to serve all unconditionally. We fully welcome you to join us, embracing your race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical abilities, mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, background, and wherever you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God and are welcome here. You are accepted and openly affirmed just as you are. We commit ourselves to undertaking the work of racial equality and social and economic justice. We invite you to join us as we joyfully and inclusively love and serve God and our community, as **we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

#### MPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

Senior Pastor Beth Ann L. Stone	<a href="mailto:pastorbethann@mplc.us">pastorbethann@mplc.us</a>
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