



**Ministers: The Reverend Bev Irwin**  
**The Reverend Karen Ptolemy-Stam**  
**Music Director: Victoria Warwick**

*Something to ponder: Epiphany is celebrated on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> and marks the end of the twelve days of Christmas. Until recently Christmas was celebrated beginning on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> and only then were Christmas carols sung. Epiphany means "Manifestation of God in our world." It often refers to God as light as the magi followed the light of the star.*

(\*Please stand as you are able.)

\*HYMN: [VU #81](#) [As with Gladness](#)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO THE GATHERED:

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

One: As we light this Christ candle may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.

Sung response:

**"I am the Light of the World!**  
**you people come and follow me.**  
**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery**  
**of what you were meant to do and be."**



OPENING PRAYER: VU #88

Hymn Medley:

[VU #96](#) [Will You Come and See the Light](#)

[VU #82](#) [A Light is Gleaming](#)

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

VU #932(sung)

**Holy, holy, holy are you,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are filled with your glory,  
Hosanna in the Highest!  
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION VU #933 2x

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

SHARING THE BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Holy One, you who are the light of the world and the light of our lives,  
continue to spark us to be your people in the midst of chaos and darkness.  
May the bread and wine we have tasted this day remind us always that  
even in suffering, you give hope and courage to work for the kingdom of  
God wherever we are in the world. Amen**

*(Discovery Kids continues upstairs)*

PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

SCRIPTURE: [Isaiah 60:1-6, Matt. 2:1-12](#)

SERMON:

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

\*OFFERTORY: Bathe Me in Your Light

Sung Response VU #55 (last verse sung by all)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise one, I would do my part.  
Yet what I can, I give him - give Christ my heart.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN: [VU #87 I am the Light of the World](#)

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

\*SUNG BENEDICTION: VU#974

**Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen. (2x)**





**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017** [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org)

Welcome Friends!  
Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,  
You are welcome here!  
Whether you are a child, youth, adult or elder,  
You are welcome here!  
Whatever your ethnic origin or language;  
sexual orientation or gender identity;  
religious tradition or theological position;  
whatever your economic status or political persuasion  
You are welcome here!  
If you are differently abled,  
you are welcome here!  
If you are spiritually weary and in need of rest,  
If you are mourning a deep loss in your life,  
If you are skeptical;  
if you have been hurt by religion,  
If you have questions,  
If you come full of doubts or confidence, joy or sorrow,  
You are welcome here because you are God's creation,  
and WIDE is God's Welcome!!  
Friends! You are Welcome in this Place – Just as you are.

**If you haven't yet dropped off your Pledge cards, it's not too late.** We are working on the 2018 budget and your pledge card to the church is a very important part of that budget. For those of you who have not yet picked up your 2018 givings envelopes, they are available in the church office.

**Observer Reflections** starts up again on January 8th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

**St. Paul's Choir** practice resumes on Thursday January 11th at 7:00 p.m.

**ST. PAUL'S YOUTH GROUP** (for ages 12 to 17) will resume on Sunday January 14th from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Friends are welcome! Theme is **"Going Bananas"** - WEAR YELLOW!! Questions? Call or text Colleen at 204-724-7337 or email [cgareau02@gmail.com](mailto:cgareau02@gmail.com). See you then!

**Upcoming meetings**

The next **UCW** meeting is on January 9th at 1:00 p.m. in the parlour. Installation of officers will take place.

**Worship Committee** meets on Thursday January 11th at 2:30.

The next **HUB** meeting is on January 15th at 7:30 p.m.

**Board of Trustees** also meets on January 15th at 2:00 p.m.  
**Worship and Stewardship** will meet after the service on Sunday January 21st.

**2017 Annual Report:** Its that time of year again, so we ask that you please have your reports in to the church office by e-mail, no later than Monday January 23rd. The date for the annual meeting will be announced soon.

**St Paul's budget** time: Every year at this time we ask each committee to tell us their goals for expenses and fundraising for the next 12 months. Budget forms have been sent to all committees. Once you have had a discussion with your members, please complete the form and return it to the church office by January 15th.

**Northern Waters Presbytery Reps** are needed to represent St. Paul's. Please contact Karen or the church office if interested.

### **Volunteers needed**

The **Faith Formation Committee** is looking for adult volunteers to assist the Discovery Kids and Youth Group programs. Please sign up on the bulletin board at the bottom of the steps after the service today.

Volunteers are also needed to train on **Sound and PowerPoint systems**. If interested, please contact Judy at 705-526-6077 or email to [judymc300@gmail.com](mailto:judymc300@gmail.com)

