

Worship Guide for January 18, 2026

The Second Sunday of Epiphany



**“Here is the
Lamb of God who
takes away the
sin of the world!”**

John 1:29, NRSV

Welcome and Announcements

Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, ***we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.***

Dear people of God, hear the good news: You are loved and forgiven in the name of \pm Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn**Arise, Your Light Has Come!**

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A -rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray: ***Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Reading of the WordFirst Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God."

⁵ And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 40:1-11

¹I waited patiently upon the Lord, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

²**The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

³The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

⁴**Happy are they who trust in the Lord! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

⁷And so I said, “Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸**‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.’”**

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

¹⁰**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you

⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (sing 3X)

Three staves of musical notation for "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" in G major, 2/4 time. The lyrics are:

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

lu - - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - - jah.

Gospel: John 1:29-42

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw

where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

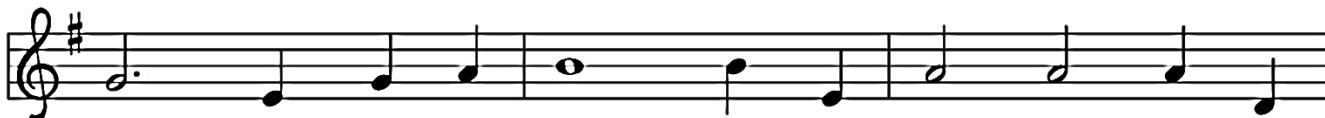
Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Prayers of the People

Hear us, O God. *Your mercy is great.*

Sharing the Peace

Tithes and Offerings



Welcome to New Salem

We are blessed to have you worship with us today!

If you are looking for a church home, please contact Traci Schanke in the church office at 218-586-2262 or via email at newsalem@paulbunyan.net. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book outside the church office.

Website: newsalemlutheran.org

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

Offertory Hymn

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro-ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a - bound!

Offering Prayer

Good and loving God, *as you have blessed us with these gifts, let them be a blessing for others, revealing your light and love in the world. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Together we pray: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*

Sharing Christ's Meal**Communion Hymn #1****As With Gladness Men of Old**

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n-ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.



The
Annual Meeting and Potluck
 is January 25
Don't Miss It!



2025 Giving Statements will be available at the meeting.

Communion Hymn #2**Jesus Come! For We Invite You**

1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing

friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,

speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den

doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Communion Blessing**Post Communion Prayer**

Radiant God, *in this holy meal you have revealed your glory to us in the gift of Jesus Christ. You have nourished us with your grace, now send us into the world bearing your light, that what has been made known to us may be made known through us in a world seeking your peace. Amen.*

Benediction

Sending Hymn**We Are Marching in the Light**

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -

We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo

We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo

We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of God.

Worship Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed to assist with various Sunday ministries here at New Salem! Ushers, readers/Communion assistants, helpers to set up Communion before the worship service and tidy up afterward, offering counters (we will train you!), and hosts for our coffee fellowship after worship. Sign up as a family or team up with a friend or two! **Signup sheets are available on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. Remember: If no one signs up to host coffee fellowship, THERE IS NO COFFEE FELLOWSHIP.**



Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants

Presiding Clergy: Pastor Terry R. Hagensen

Ushers: Carol & Graig Gilbertson

Reader: Pat Sanford

Communion Assistant: Fred Sanford

Fellowship Hosts: Ardis Hofstad,

Joy Johnson

Social Media Coordinator: Nora Illies

Setting the Lord's Table: Sonya & Paul Kraft

Pianist: Cheryl Durant

Cantor/Choir Director: Annalise Aakhus

AV Services: Traci Schanke

New Salem Lutheran Church - Terry R. Hagensen, Pastor

7491 Island View Drive NE, Turtle River, MN 56601

Office Tel: 218-586-2262/Office Email (Traci Schanke): newsalem@paulbunyan.net

Website: newsalemlutheran.org/

YouTube Channel: New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN

December Income vs Expenses (FINAL)

Total General Fund Income for Dec: \$21,031

DEFICIT for Dec: (-\$690)

Total Expenses for Dec: \$21,721

1.11 General Fund Offering: \$7,655

Attendance/Social Media Engagement (as of 1.16.26)

Jan 11 Attendance (in person/online): 67/34

YouTube Subscribers: 138

YouTube Views: 81

Facebook reach: 8,591

Announcements for the Week of January 19, 2026

Annual Meeting/Potluck is January 25 – Mark Your Calendars! Please plan to attend this important gathering where we will review 2025, vote on the 2026 Mission Plan elect new Council and Endowment Committee members. Giving statements for 2025 will be available for pickup at the Annual Meeting.

2025 Annual Report: Hard copies of the 2025 Annual Report will be available for pickup immediately following worship today; a pdf of the report will also be sent out via email.

January 20 is Team/Council Night: Teams will meet at 6 p.m.; Council at 6:30.

Offering Reminder: Please remember to indicate on your check/offering envelope how you wish your gift to be credited. Unmarked offerings/those marked “general” go toward New Salem’s annual operating expenses; gifts marked for other entities are credited as such in your giving record and sent to those organizations. Thank you for supporting the missions and good works of New Salem!

Upcoming Events @ New Salem

Tues, 1/20	Team/Church Council Meetings	6 & 6:30 p.m.
Wed, 1/21	Choir Practice	5 p.m.
	Prayer Gathering	6:30 p.m.
Thurs, 1/22	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sun, 1/25	Annual Congregation Meeting and Potluck following worship	

Music Rights/Permissions for January 18

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Arise, Your Light Has Come! – Text: Ruth Duck (b. 1947)

Music: William H. Walter (1825-1893)/Text © 1992 GIA Publications Inc.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah – Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult – Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Music: William H. Jude (1851-1922)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ – Text: Fred Kaan (b. 1929)/Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter (1925-1980)/Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.

As With Gladness Men of Old – Text: William C. Dix (1837-1898), alt.

Music: Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)

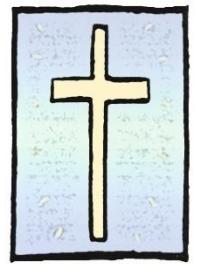
Jesus Come! For We Invite You – Text: Christopher Idle (b. 1938)

Music: Harold Friedeil (1905-1958)/Text © 1982 Jubilee Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Co.

Music © 1957, 1985 HW Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin

We Are Marching in the Light of God – Text/Music: South African Traditional; tr. *Freedom is Coming*, 1984/Tr. & arr. © 1984 Utryck, Admin Walton Music Corp.



New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner — January 2026**Churches United***"Welcoming the stranger as Jesus."*

Churches United of Bemidji was first organized in 2002, when a number of clergy and lay persons came together to address the city-wide problem of the numerous low-income and homeless people and families who were frequenting the churches of Bemidji in need of financial assistance. As a result, after numerous meetings and discussions, it was decided that if all the various churches could come together we might find a way to pool our resources and therefore become more effective in assisting the poor. This, we all agreed, would also relieve pastors and church staff from the often time-consuming task of having to deal with those in need by referring them to a central location where trained volunteers and staff could be of greater help than we could accomplish by acting alone. Since that time, with the support of the many community churches, Churches United has successfully achieved our goal and continues to this day to be a place "where ministry happens" as we work cooperatively to "welcome the stranger as Jesus".

New Salem Lutheran has supported Churches United since its beginning and continues to be a strong partner.

Churches United is currently looking for individuals who are willing to donate 1-4 hours per month to helping in the office. Activities volunteers may be involved in include: greeting individuals as they come in, interviewing clients, photocopying, data entry, filing, donations inventory, fetching items from the backroom to meet client needs, and more. There is something for everyone and no need for everyone to do everything.

A love for people and a desire to make a difference are the main requirements. If you are interested, contact the director by stopping into the office business hours or calling and leaving a message anytime. Churches United is open from Noon to 4, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Through the various services it provides, Churches United assists impoverished people and people experiencing homelessness. There are specific areas in which **you can help Churches United** transform the lives of those Churches United serves.

1. Financial Support: *Churches United* relies upon financial contributions from its participant churches to provide these diverse services but contributions from individuals are also quite important. *Churches United* accepts donations year round (cash or check). Note: All donations are tax deductible.
2. Volunteering: *Churches United* is open and continuing to follow COVID 19 protocols. We ask for just four (4) hours of your time per month. We have a job for you, no matter what your skill set is. If you like helping people, greeting people, filing paperwork, data entry, or just organizing the office; we have a job for you.

Winter is here, please help us provide for the needs of our homeless neighbors.

Please call 218-444-1380 to be sure that we are open, before coming to our office.

God's Work, Our Treasure—January 2026

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, **Churches United**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable ministry.

You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for the work of **Churches United**

And we will forward your gift to them. <https://bemidjicu.org>

Please prayerfully consider how you might support the work of this important ministry.

Sermon Notes/Weekly Assignment

The Readings on This Day - Second Sunday after Epiphany

The standard Sundays of the year week by week present the meaning and presence of Christ and describe the Christian life. On this Sunday, John's presentation of Jesus' baptism enhances the one proclaimed from Matthew last week with more titles indicating Christ's identity.

John 1:29-42: As is often the case, John's gospel presents a more developed Christology than do the synoptic gospels. John's account of Jesus' baptism develops the meaning of the baptism by providing more Christological titles. Christ is the sacrificial lamb, the teacher from God, and the one anointed to save the world.

Isaiah 49:1-7: The second Servant Song is appointed for this day to develop further the meaning of Jesus Christ and the significance of baptism for the Christians. The church has seen in the Servant Songs descriptions of Jesus Christ, who himself is the light of the nations, and has applied this passage also to baptism, as God calls the baptized to be servants to bring light to the world.

1 Corinthians 1:1-9: Over the course of the three years in the weeks between Epiphany and Lent, the lectionary appoints semicontinuous readings from 1 Corinthians, chosen because this seminal letter of Paul describes the communal life expected among believers and calls them to lives of love. Today's selection speaks of the church as called to be saints who call upon Jesus' name, one way that Christians have described baptism.

Images in the Readings

Once again, we are given image of water, light, and dove (see Baptism of Our Lord).

The fourth gospel refers to Jesus as the Lamb of God. Several New Testament writers used this image to give salvific meaning to Jesus' execution. The lamb as apocalyptic conqueror, the lamb as suffering servant, and the paschal lamb are all possibilities of what the earliest Christians meant by the image. The medieval church stressed Christ as sacrificial lamb, whose blood takes away sin.

God calls. The Scriptures include many call narratives, in testifying that this God is the kind of deity who knows us by name and who calls us into a new identity. All three readings refer to such a call. In the poem from Second Isaiah, the call comes to the prophet even before birth. The church has described baptism as our call to servanthood, and many churches use the imagery of the call in descriptions of their clergy.

Gail Ramshaw, sundaysandseasons.com

Behold.

THE LAMB OF GOD,

*who takes away
the sin of
the world!*

JOHN 1:29

