



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 8, 2026

10:00am

**Woodsboro Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 27; 101 S. Main Street
Woodsboro, MD 21798**

301-845-4533

**woodsborolutheranchurch.com
woodsboroevangelical@comcast.net**

Serving God and Community

Reverend Sean DeLawder

Bernadette Harper and Gary Schwartz, Music Directors



Welcome to Woodsboro Lutheran Church

WELCOME! We are delighted that you have joined us for worship today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, we invite you to sign our guest book at the entrance to the sanctuary. Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. The Pastor would love to meet you so please introduce yourself. Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are blessed by your presence today.

February bulletins are given to the glory of God by Cheryl Lenhart.

Today's altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of our parent's Robert and Mary Kinkaid on their birthdays February 16 and February 13 from their daughters Marylou Cavalier, Robin Rippeon and Karen Kinkaid.

Lay Reader: Cheryl Lenhart
Recording Assistant: Donna Droneburg
Usher: Mitzi Smith
Flower Coordinator: Donna Droneburg

FEBRUARY 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

GATHERING

**Please stand as able Congregation responses are in bold.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

INSTALLATION OF 2026 COUNCIL MEMBERS

PASTOR

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

PEOPLE

To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever.

Amen.

PASTOR

Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

PEOPLE

There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

PASTOR

There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

PEOPLE

The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

PASTOR

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

PEOPLE

It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

PASTOR

If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

PEOPLE

All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

PASTOR

These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

COVENANT

PASTOR

addressing the people being affirmed

Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered.

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

INDIVIDUALS

I am.

PASTOR

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

INDIVIDUALS

I do, relying on God's grace.

PASTOR

addressing the congregation

Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

PEOPLE

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

PASTOR

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name.

PEOPLE

Amen.

PASTOR

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Woodsboro Lutheran Church, I rejoice to announce: You are installed in your respective council positions.

In accordance with the faith and order of this church, I extend to you the hand of Christian love.

PEOPLE

Thanks be to God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**

#509 –God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

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**

in unison

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry

and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

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

PSALM

Psalm 112

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!
² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;**

the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually

discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests. The lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below. A small number '5102' is printed in the upper right corner of the first staff.

***GOSPEL:**

Matthew 5:13-20

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Sean

*HYMN OF THE DAY

#715 – Christ Be Our Light

*APOSTLE’S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As God’s beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

OUR OFFERING FOR GOD'S WORK

SPECIAL MUSIC

Light of the World

OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you.

Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

in unison

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG**

#543– Go, My Children, with My Blessing

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WOODSBORO LUTHERAN PRAYER LIST

Carolyn Abrecht, Arvella (Artie) Anders, Kelli Angleberger,
Shirley Baker, Larry Beard, Amanda Blank, Jessica Bowers, Mack Burdette,
Donna Carbone, Nancy and Donald Creager, Ruby Darner, Bonnie Dixon,
Donna Droneburg, Doug Eaves, Shari Eby, Emily Eigenbridem, Ed Esworthy,
Dion and Evgeni Gevezovski, Stephanie Hammond, Philip Hockman, Bob
Hyde, Jana Inskeep, Chris Johnson, Barbara Keyser, Doris Lenhart, Butch
Lewellyn, Rev. Dale Lind, Cathy Long, Sandy Measell, Kasey Melville, Sue
Millione, Mark Moler, Patrick Moseley, Genie Neugebauer, Darren
Poindexter, Kevin Riffle, Gary Smith, Greg Smith, Mike Stottlemeyer, Lincoln
Tiemann, Donald Trimmer, Emily Vietti, Pastor Harry Wolpert and Tom
Yealey

WELC ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NOTE: In order to keep your membership active, you must take communion,
and complete and submit a card once per year.**

Pastor Sean's Weekly Office Hours – Every Thursday from 10:00am-2:00pm. Please feel free to stop by to say hello, give feedback or if you need pastoral care. As always, Pastor Sean can be reached throughout the week at welcpastorsean@gmail.com or 301-606-3632.

Worship Service Social – Join us for coffee, snacks, and fellowship on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month prior to our worship service.

Soup and Ashes – Drop in anytime between 11am-2pm on Ash Wednesday, February 18th in the social hall and receive ashes and then enjoy a hot bowl of soup. Everyone is welcome so please invite your friends and neighbors. For more information contact Pastor Sean.

Souper Bowl Food Drive – Please bring in nonperishable items from February 1st-15th. Choose your favorite team to win, Seattle Seahawks vs New England Patriots, and place your items in the appropriate pot – see if your team is the favorite pick among the rest of the members. Items will be donated to the Glade Valley Foodbank and the Caring Closet.

Free Community Dinner – The next dinner is February 21st from 5-6:30, cosponsored with St. Pauls's Lutheran Church. All are welcome so invite your family and friends. Volunteers are always needed. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Sean.

The 2026 Flower Chart is posted in the narthex. Please consider volunteering to furnish flowers for Sunday worship. Contact Donna Droneburg at 301-514-0895.

Year-to-Date Offerings – Thank you very much for your continued support. The updated year to date offering as of January 26th 2026, is \$15,043.00 with an annual budgeted amount of \$169,000.00. Again, we appreciate your financial contributions and ongoing support. If you would like a copy of the financial statement please contact Robin Rippeon at robinrnest@comcast.net.

Council Meeting TBA. To request a copy of minutes please contact Suzanne Yusko at smy196914@gmail.com. If anyone would like a copy of the financial report, please email Robin Rippeon at robinrnest@comcast.net.

Community Partners will be collecting items for their Caring Closet program. February's focus will be on dental products – toothpaste, toothbrushes, lip balm. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

WLC Food Collection – The Latest from the GVCS Food Bank - All donations are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the food bank at 301-845-4229 (Leave a message and your call will be returned.) or email at GVFB21w@gmail.com. Thank all of you for your continued support!

Currently, the greatest needs are:		
Kid's Cereal	Spaghetti Noodles	Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Beans	Boxed Crackers	Baked Beans

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Woodsboro Lunch Bunch Meeting – Wednesday, February 18th, the group will meet in the social hall at 11:30 for Soup and Ashes.

Wednesday, March 18th, at 11:30 am, we are planning to go to Rocky's Pizza at 205 Tippin Drive, Thurmont, MD. Invite a friend. If you are interested in going, please call Doris at 301-676-8742. New members are always welcome.



Use the QR Code to donate to WELC

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