

Fourth Sunday in Advent



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Dec 18, 2022

Welcome to All Who Worship

Jesus has invited you here today.

Here, Jesus stills quaking hearts. Here, Jesus forgives the unspeakable.

Here, Jesus comforts the lonely. Here, Jesus makes joy complete!

Here you will meet others Jesus has grabbed with His grace.

We invite you to sign a guest card in the pew rack, noting your attendance and place it in the offering plate as the offering is taken or you may sign the attendance book in the Fellowship Hall.

Our Mission

Gaining and nurturing disciples for Christ through the Word and Sacrament, and proclaiming to all people traditional Biblical truths as a congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Holy Communion

To Our Guests: We're glad you're here! Lutherans believe this sacrament is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine. Here he gives himself and all that he promises. Receiving the sacrament is also an expression of full unity in faith with those with whom you are communing. Based on this theological principle, if you are a member of a congregation that shares the confession of faith of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have been instructed concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to commune with us today. We continue to pray for the day when all divisions in the body of Christ will cease. Anyone who wishes may receive a pastoral blessing by kneeling at the altar rail with your arms folded across your chest. If you desire to commune at St. Paul and would like to learn more about the Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor.

To Those Communing Today: God's Word instructs those who come to the Lord's Table to first examine themselves. You may use the meditation material in this bulletin to prepare yourself to receive the Sacrament.

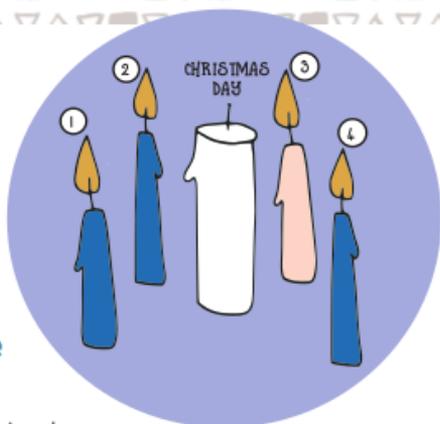
The pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by an usher with a tray of individual cups. The pastor will then follow with the Chalice.

Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the pastor or an usher before the service.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What does it mean when four candles have been lit on the Advent wreath?

You've been preparing and patiently waiting for that wonderful day of celebration. When four of the candles on the Advent wreath have been lit, it means that Christmas is almost here! That's right! The day on which we remember the birth of our Savior is right around the corner!



What does this mean to me?

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Today is the last Sunday of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Next week the Church will celebrate Christmas Day, one of the most important days of the whole year. As you can see, Advent has prepared us for the coming of Jesus, our wonderful Savior from sin!



Parents:

Remind your children of the important part that Advent plays in the lives of all Christians. This is the time in the Church Year that prepares us for the coming of our Savior. Be sure to bring your children to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.



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Divine Service

Setting Four (LSB page 203)

Prelude

Confession and Absolution

Stand as you are able and face the baptismal font

"Repentance, therefore, is nothing else than a return and approach to baptism, to resume and practice what has earlier been begun but abandoned" (Large Catechism)

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

LSB 343

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Repeat after each petition



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- A** Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

After the reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24

A The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,

C for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

A Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

C He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear
deceitfully.

A He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

C Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

A Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

- C** Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- A** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- C** Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Epistle Reading

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

After the reading

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

- A** Behold, the virgin shall conceive and  bear a son*, and they shall call his name Im-  manuel.*



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the first chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her

quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

After the reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

(All may bow:

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man); and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" LSB 356

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady."
Gloria!

- 2 "For know a blessèd mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady."
Gloria!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924 Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent.

Sermon

"Out of Control Christmas"

Matthew 1

Hymn of the Day "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" LSB 356

- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady,
Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady."
Gloria!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924 Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent.

Stand as you are able

Prayer of the Church

Greeting of Peace

Offering & Attendance Cards

- An offering plate will be placed near the door as you exit
- To give online, go to stpauldbq.com/give
- You can also mail in or drop off your envelope in the mail slot next to the office entrance of the building

Offering Prayer

P Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, our income, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Holy Holy Holy



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You...Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words Of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *The Peace of the Lord*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

For Meditation During The Distribution

Small Catechism - The Sacrament of the Altar

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

Hymns During The Distribution

"What Hope! An Eden Prophesied"	LSB 342
"Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"	LSB 900
"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"	LSB 528

Post-Communion Canticle

Nunc Dimittis

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“At the Name of Jesus”

LSB 512

- 1 At the name of Jesus Ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.
- 3 Humbled for a season, To receive a name
From the lips of sinners Unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious When from death He passed;
- 4 Bore it up triumphant With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.
- 6 Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again
In His Father's glory, With His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.
- △7 Glory then to Jesus, Who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness Brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father; In the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817-77, alt. Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Postlude

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Preparing Yourself For Worship

In order to help prepare yourselves for our worship services, we are listing below the scripture readings for the coming week.

December 24 - The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14

December 25 - The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-18

Prayer Requests

Mindful of the Father's great mercy shown to us in Jesus, we pray on behalf of those who are in need.

For those undergoing cancer treatment:

Roger Riechmann (father of Teri Riechmann & Sheila Zasada)

Rae Ann Wegner (sister of Kim Weed)

Jayme Niemeier (relation to Dave & Sue Krause)

Christa Wubben (daughter of Jerry & Jan Anderson)

Raymond Kruser (brother-in-law of Dave & Sue Krause)

Zeke Pergande (son of Dan & Doris Pergande)

Martha (godmother of Will Wehrspann)

Deana Miller (friend of Jerry & Jan Anderson)

Mark Goetschius (brother of A.J. Osterkamp)

Marlene Lenaburg (sister of Charlotte Tigges)

Toni Jo Stelpflug (niece of Doris Pergande)

Tiffany Crowe (daughter of Jim & Marion Crowe)

Dan Pergande, Mark Litka, Debra Spear

For our members who are homebound:

Laverne Ball (Ennoble Manor), Katheryn Moyer (Care Initiatives),

Nancy Clark, Jean Henningsen (Sunnycrest Manor),

Judy Pergande, Doris Pergande, Dusty Colby,

Additional Prayer Requests

- Brenda Litka

- Lori Ollendick (daughter of Dick & Charlotte Tigges)

- Dick Tigges

- Steve Kluesner (friend of Margaret Fox)

**Note: The "additional" section of the prayer list will be cleared at the beginning of each month. If you would like a name to remain on the list into the next month, please contact the church office and we would be happy to continue praying for your intention.*



Flowers on the Altar For

Steve & Janell Wollschlager
in memory of Gary Wollschlager

December 10 & 11 statistics

In-Person Attendance:	70
Views* on Facebook:	38
Overall Participation:	108

*The number of post clicks. This does not account for groups who watched together on the same screen.

Worship Assistants

	Sun., Dec 18 @ 9:00am
Head Usher:	Greg Kittle
Accompanist:	Kristen Eby

- **Food Pantry** - For the month of December, we are collecting the following items for the Food Pantry:

Graham Crackers Shampoo Hot Chocolate Lotion
Canned Fruit Toilet Tissue Potatoes Oil

- **Blood Drive:** St. Paul will be doing another blood drive in the church fellowship hall on Monday, January 2nd from 2pm - 6pm.

Anniversaries This Week

23-Al & Krystal Engling
 24-Robert & Michelle Doerges

Baptismal Birthdays

17-Judy Marcue 19-Dan Pergande
 20-Cael Jorgensen 20-Bruce Schaal, Sr.
 20-Sheila Zasada 22-Dave Krause

Birthdays This Week

18-Diane Schultz 18-Kip Weland, Jr. 22-Steve Wollschlager

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Like us on Facebook

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:15am - 1:15pm

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Riley Sindt - Director of Music (563)726-5573

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Schedule for the Week

4th Sun in Advent Sun. Dec 18	9:00am	Worship Service w/Holy Comm.
	10:30am	Bible Study/Sunday School
Mon. Dec 19	12:30pm	Golden Age Euchre w/chicken
Tues. Dec 20		
Wed. Dec 21	8:00am	TOPS
	5:30pm-6:15pm	Light Supper
	6:30pm	Advent Midweek Service
Thur. Dec 22		
Fri. Dec 23		
The Nativity of Our Lord Sat Dec 24	5:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight with Comm.
The Nativity of Our Lord Sat Dec 24	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight with Comm.
The Nativity of Our Lord Sun. Dec 25	10:00 am	Christmas Day with Communion
	NO	Bible Study/Sunday School