



*Welcome to*

# **SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Advent Worship #2**

December 10, 2025

“In Nomine Iesu”

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## **Fear Not**

Welcome to Advent at St. Paul's! The command "Fear not!" appears 170 times in the King James Version of the Bible. Ever since the Fall into sin, mankind has had reason to be afraid, as Adam and Eve were in the garden when they realized they were naked. In the same way, our sin is exposed before our Father. But thanks be to God, for in Christ Jesus our sin is washed away, and we have no more reason to be afraid: not of judgment, not of sin, not of death itself! Fear not! Do not be afraid.

Join us next Wednesday as we continue worshipping, preparing, and celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Please take a moment to fill out the registration card found in the pew rack. We appreciate you joining us tonight and look forward to seeing you in our next worship.

***Thank you to all*** who contributed to our delicious pre-service potluck meal tonight. If you would like to help for our final meal next week, please sign up on the table in the narthex. It's wonderful to meet together in fellowship before we join our hearts in worship.

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells**

### **The Order of Worship**

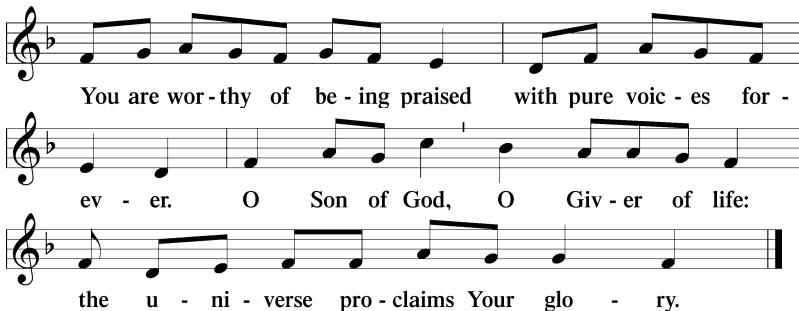
Lutheran Service Book – page 243  
Service of Evening Prayer

## Service of Light (please stand)

L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.  
L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,  
C and the day is almost o - ver.  
L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness  
C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

## Phos Hilaron – Hymn of Light

L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:  
C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,  
bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the  
set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.  
We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



### Thanksgiving for Light

P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



**C** A - men.

### Psalm 141



II Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;

let me not be occupied in wickedness with evil-doers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take refuge.

Strip me not of my life. C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in

the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

## Prayer

P Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

*(be seated)*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” <sup>10</sup> Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup> He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

P        O Lord, have mercy on us.

C        **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Luke 1:5-25*

<sup>5</sup> In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

<sup>8</sup> Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, <sup>9</sup> according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn

incense. <sup>10</sup> And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. <sup>11</sup> And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>14</sup> And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. <sup>16</sup> And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, <sup>17</sup> and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”

<sup>18</sup> And Zechariah said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.” <sup>19</sup> And the angel answered him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup> And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.” <sup>21</sup> And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. <sup>22</sup> And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. <sup>23</sup> And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

<sup>24</sup> After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, <sup>25</sup> “Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

P        O Lord, have mercy on us.

C        **Thanks be to God.**

P        In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C        **But now in these last days,**  
**He has spoken to us by His Son.**

## Office Hymn

*“Fear not, O Virgin Mild”*

Tune: LSB #798

Fear not, you faithful priest—  
Good Zechariah, hear:  
Your son proclaims, “The Lamb’s high feast  
Has now come near.”  
The hearts of men shall sway.  
The prophet has foretold  
He will prepare Messiah’s way  
Through preaching bold.

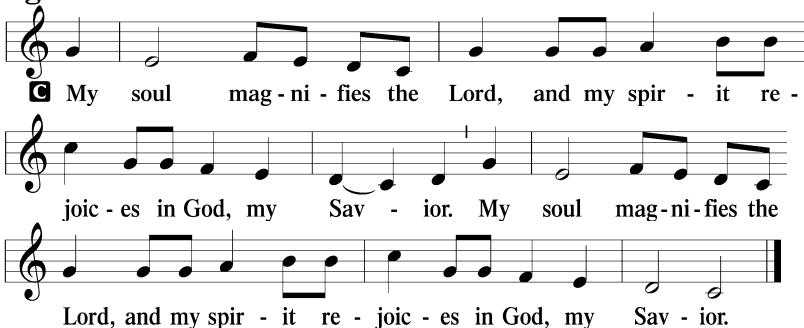
Δ Fear not, O saints. Rejoice!  
The Savior now is here.  
Lift up your head and raise your voice  
For all to hear  
The triumph song begun,  
As saints and angel host  
Sing, “Glory to the Father, Son  
And Holy Ghost.”

Text: Alan Kornacki, Jr., b.1974

Tune: YIGDAL (LSB 798)

## Sermon

### Magnificat



My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -  
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the  
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For He has re - - - - garded  
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son

1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand - maiden.  
2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.  
5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;

1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
5 as it was in the be ginning,

1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
3 and has exalt - - - - ed the lowly.  
4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - men. *Refrain*

## Litany

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P 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:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their  
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our synodical and district presidents, for all pastors in  
Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the  
people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the president, for all public servants, for the  
government and those who protect us, that they may be  
upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray  
to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and  
protection in this and every place,  
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in  
this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all  
the people here present who await from the Lord great  
and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of  
the earth, and for peaceful times,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**C      Lord, have mercy.**

**P      For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:**

**C      Lord, have mercy.**

**P      For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:**

**C      Alleluia.**

**P      Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.**

**C      Amen.**

### **Collect for peace**

**P      O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**C      Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**P      Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:**

**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.**

### **Benedicamus (please stand)**

**P      Let us bless the Lord.**

**C      Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.  
C **Amen.**

*(be seated)*

**Closing Hymn**    *“O Israel, Bless the Lord”*    Tune: LSB #538

O Israel, bless God the Lord  
Who visits us with saving grace.  
For Christ has come! In flesh, the Word  
    Reveals the Father's loving face.  
    King David's Son, the long-foretold  
    From prophets' lips in ancient days,  
    Has broken Satan's mighty hold;  
    His murd'rous wrath our Savior stays.

With mercy sweet He visits us  
As vowed to all who went before:  
    His covenant, a gracious trust,  
    To save us now and evermore.  
Delivered from our fearsome foe,  
    We serve our Father fearlessly.  
In righteousness our days shall go  
    Before His face eternally.

Now you shall go before the Lord,  
    And as you go, prepare His way.  
To preach His great, forgiving Word  
    To vessels formed of living clay.  
    Proclaim the mercy of our God  
    Who visits us with endless grace:  
Not darkened 'neath death's dreadful rod  
    But guided in the way of peace.

Text: Alan Kornacki, Jr., b.1974  
Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LSB 538)

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Postlude**

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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## Holiday Worship Schedule

### Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 14  
ONE service at 9:00 a.m.

### Advent Worship

December 17  
6:30 p.m.  
Pre-Service Meal 5-6 p.m.

### Christmas Carol Worship

Sunday, December 21  
8:00 a.m. And 10:30 a.m.

### Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 24  
5:00 p.m. And 8:00 p.m.

### Christmas Day Worship (with Communion)

Thursday, December 25  
9:00 a.m.