

May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace in believing, so that by
the power of the Holy Spirit

you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13 ESV



Welcome to
SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

"In Nomine Iesu"

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WELCOME – Ballet, basketball and many other activities have appropriate stances or forms that are needed to execute the beauty of the event. One shift of a foot to the right or left can cause an imbalance that throws off an entire routine or game. The “form” or “stance” of Advent is repentance, seeking the patient forgiveness of God.

*“May His goodness continue to lead us to repentance.”
Romans 2:4*

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is also a sign of our common confession of faith. We welcome to the Lord’s Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul’s, please speak to Pastor or an usher before the service.

Please take a moment to fill out the **attendance card** found in the pew racks and hand it to an usher or place the card in the basket in the narthex as you leave the service.

Wednesday is our second **Advent Midweek Worship**. Before worship, join in fellowship with your family at St. Paul’s. Please help provide food for our pre-service Advent meal. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. The meal begins 5:00 p.m. with worship at 6:30 p.m. Come, join in fellowship and prepare yourself during the Advent of our King!

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells

The Order of Worship
Lutheran Service Book –
Divine Service Four with Communion

Hymn of Invocation

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

LSB #347

Invocation *(please stand)*

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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.

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

Introit

Psalm 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

P In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
C **make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

P Seek the Lord and his strength;
C **seek his presence continually!**

P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
C **his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,**

P O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
C **children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

P He is the Lord our God;
C **his judgments are in all the earth.**


P He remembers his covenant forever,
C **the word that he commanded,
for a thousand generations.**

All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and
will be forever. Amen.**

P In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
C **make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Kyrie



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

(The Hymn of Praise is omitted during Advent.)

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Choir Anthem

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
by Hopson/Lund
Flute: Cheryl Killham

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(be seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him."

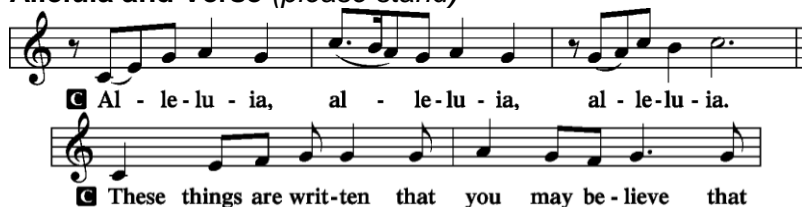
¹²And again Isaiah says,
"The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse (please stand)



The image shows musical notation for two parts. The first part is an Alleluia, consisting of three measures of music on a single staff. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second part is a verse, consisting of two measures of music on a single staff. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Below the first staff, the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." are written. Below the second staff, the lyrics "These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that" are written.

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

These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

All 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 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.

(be seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day *"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry"* LSB #344

Sermon *"Paul's Christmas Wish List for Us"* Romans 15:13

Presentation of the Offering

Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

P All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (*please stand*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

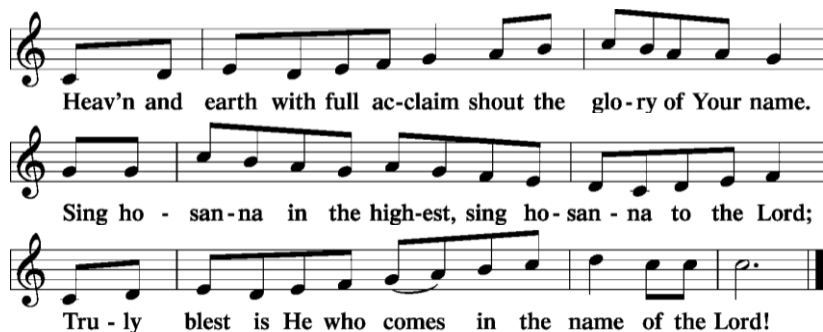
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus





Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**All 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 Our Lord

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



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 us, 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.

Distribution (be seated)

(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.)

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)

Distribution Hymns

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"	LSB #348
"I Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"	LSB #355
"O Jesus Christ, thy Manger Is"	LSB #372

Post-Communion Collect (please stand)

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, 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

“Hark the Glad Sound”

LSB #349

Silent Prayer

(be seated)

Postlude

“Soli Deo Gloria”

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Streaming license through CCLI, Stream License number: 20193242 Copyright License number: 1259603



Holiday Worship Schedule

Advent Worship

December 10, 17

6:30 p.m.

Pre-Service Meals 5-6 p.m.

Blue Christmas

Sunday, December 7

3:00 p.m.

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 14

ONE service at 9:00 a.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.