

THE LORD WILL COME AND HUMBLE HIS PEOPLE

Second Sunday in Advent

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

December 5, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lord Almighty, I know I cannot think to stand before you apart from your grace. Forgive me for the times I have thought too highly of my works and too lightly of my sins. Thank you for sending messengers of your Word to prepare the way to my heart for Jesus. Continue to show me this grace this Advent season. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids' Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

THANK OFFERING

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



HOLY COMMUNION

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Service of Word and Sacrament is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the gospel in the Scripture readings as well as in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

OPENING HYMN

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying | 13

please stand

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



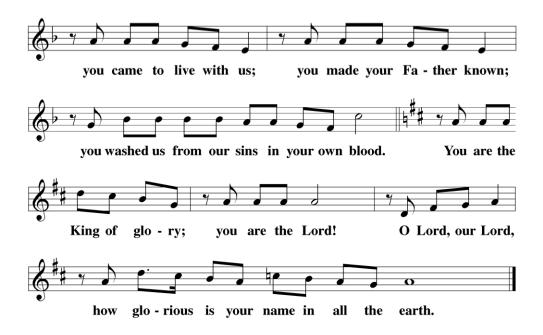
M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



be seated



The Word

FIRST LESSON Malachi 3:1-4

¹Look! I am sending my messenger! He will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple! The Messenger of the Covenant, in whom you delight, will surely come, says the Lord of Armies.

²But who can endure the day when he comes? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like launderers bleach! ³He will be seated like a refiner and a purifier of silver. He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. They will belong to the Lord and bring him an offering in righteousness.

⁴Judah and Jerusalem's offerings will be pleasing to the Lord as they were in the days of old, in years long ago.

CHOIR Soon and Very Soon

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King, Hallelujah, hallelujah, We are going to see the King.

No more crying there, We are going to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, We are going to see the King.

SECOND LESSON Philippians 1:3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴Every time I pray for all of you, I always pray with joy, ⁵because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am convinced of this very thing: that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷I am equally

continued

convinced that it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my chains and in my defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all share in this grace with me. ⁸Yes, God is my witness of how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And I pray that your love may still increase more and more in knowledge and every insight. ¹⁰This will result in your approval of the things that really matter, so that you will be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

please stand

GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. ³He went into the whole region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

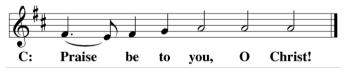
"Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be made low.

The crooked will become straight, and the rough ways smooth.

⁶And everyone will see the salvation of God."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry | 16

SERMON Luke 3:1-6

God Brings the Bulldozer

please stand

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

"Bring the complete tithe to the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Just test me in this, says the LORD of Armies. See whether I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour down blessing on you, until there is more than enough" (Malachi 3:10).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The presiding minister will speak the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

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 Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.



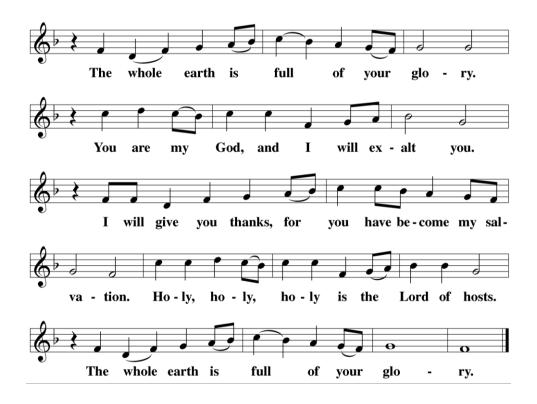
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





WORDS OF INSTITUTION

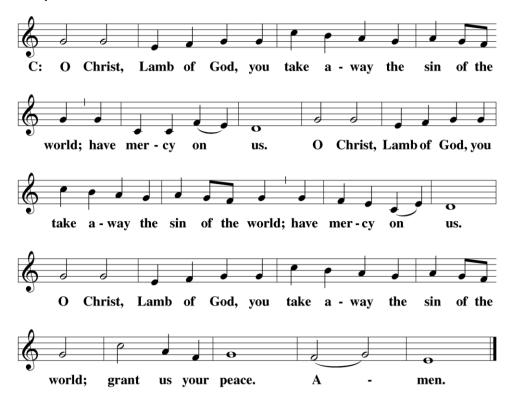
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



be seated

DISTRIBUTION

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17).

Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Comfort, Comfort All My People | 11

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding | **15** as needed

Thanksgiving

THANK THE LORD



PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Arise, O Christian People | 14 (3,4)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth Harriet Langrehr

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FEEDING (BIBLE STUDY) CONTINUES

Sunday School and Bible Study: *God chooses unlikely people*.

Midweek Bible Study (Tues., 7pm; Wed. 9am): *One by One – Evangelism Workshop*

GIVING TREE

There's a tree set up in the narthex near the church entryway. Feel free to grab something on there that you need or would enjoy. Also feel free to add anything to the tree for someone else to enjoy! Merry Christmas!

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

It's important for a congregation to have a pulse on the thoughts and desires of its members, and it's important for members to be able to share their honest input and opinions about their congregation's ministry. To serve both of those purposes, a congregational survey has been prepared at the link below (hard copies are available for those who *cannot* use the link). **The survey is completely anonymous.** Your honest input will be invaluable to the leadership here at St. Paul's as we move forward in gospel ministry for the sake of Christ's name. Each member may fill out the survey, but **please only submit one survey response per person** so we can get an accurate assessment of St. Paul's ministry. We'll be collecting responses until the first of the year. Thank you for your input!

Survey link (also in email): https://forms.gle/rTzVyDZzpJvRBPRF8

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Sylvia Horstman is the new contact for Fellowship Hour. Her phone number is 608-486-4246. We're in need of people to host for 2022, so please contact Sylvia or sign up in the church lobby if you'd like to help out.

CHRISTMAS PROPHECIES

Our midweek evangelism workshop will wrap up this week, so on December 14 & 15 we'll have a one-week Bible study on the prophecies Jesus fulfilled at Christmas. We'll look at prophecies from Genesis, 2 Samuel, Micah, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. We'll see that Jesus was just the One to fulfill them all, and we'll see the impact these fulfilled prophecies still have upon us on today.

PRINCIPAL CALL EXTENDED

The voters have extended a divine call to Mr. Mark Hesse of St. Lucas Lutheran School in Kewaskum, WI, to serve as our principal and grades 7-8 teacher beginning the 2022-2023 school year. Please keep Mr. Hesse in your prayers as he deliberates where he can best glorify God's kingdom with his gifts. His contact info will be shared with the congregation in the near future.

ST. PAUL'S @ THE LIVE NATIVITY

The Live Nativity begins this week, and St. Paul's is scheduled to volunteer on Saturday, December 18, from 5:00-10:00 pm, and Sunday, December 19, from 5:00-9:00 pm. Please visit the following URL to volunteer for a specific role: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4aacac2ba3fcc25-december1. If you need help signing up, please contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com.

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY

We are looking to start a program for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers in the new year! The program would take place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. We are looking for volunteers that could help organize, set up, prepare materials, and meet and greet! If you are interested in helping with this program in any way, please contact Heather Groth at 608-351-1025 or heather.l.korb@gmail.com.

BASKETBALL GAMES HELP

Would you be able to help with homes games for our St. Paul's Redwings basketball team? If you would be able to help with the games and with concessions, please contact Mrs. Handy at 608-394-8681 or chandy@stpaulsbangor.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 7, at 7:00 pm. We meet at St. John's Lutheran Church in Barre Mills. If you or someone you know is grieving, please come for comfort from God's Word and encouragement from fellow Christians. This month's topic for discussion will be "Grief during the Holidays."

LUTHERAN MILITARY SUPPORT GROUP HIRING PRESIDENT AND CEO

The Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is expanding its mission and ministry to support active, reserve, and veteran service members. In order to carry out a dynamic expansion plan, LMSG is currently hiring for the position of President and CEO of LMSG. This is a part time, paid position and requires previous military service. More information can be found at https://lutheranmilitary.org/careers/ or email info.lutheranmilitary@gmail.com.

JOB OPPORTUNITY @ FIRST LIGHT

First Light Early Learning Center in La Crosse will be opening in February and is looking for individuals who love to work with children. The position is part-time, and pay starts at \$13/hour. Applicant must be 18 years old and be willing to work with infant 4-year-olds. For more information contact Jenny Hackbarth at 651-894-2157 or jenniferhackbarth@firstlacrosse.org.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2021 Weekly Budget: \$9,855.43 Budget to Date: \$463,205.21

Received 11/24: \$2,072.00

Received 11/28: \$8,083.46 Rec'd to Date: \$371,461.59

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Thanksgiving: 84

Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 7

8:00 am: 105 10:00 am: 80 Total: 185

Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 22

Sunday Bible Study: 40

Sunday School: 7

Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 22

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class
THURSDAY	7:00 pm 2:00 pm	Choir Practice Ladies Aid Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship

Example of how members can fill out the new Connection Cards:







WiFi: SPLC_Guest Password: gracealone