Sunday, December 8, 2024 The 2nd Sunday in Advent





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1100 Georgia Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska

Office & Website: (402)371-1233 <u>www.stpls.com</u>

GOOD MORNING & WELCOME!!

Our prayer is that as we worship this morning, we all be filled with the joy and peace that are ours through faith, and that we also see the many reasons we have to praise and glorify our God and Savior!! If you have no church home, we invite you to join us as often as you like, and if you have any questions, please call or talk to Pastor Hirsch.

God bless our worship!!

A PERSONAL PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Gracious Lord, I have come to Your house this morning to worship Your holy name and to grow in my faith through Your Word. Please clear my heart and mind of all selfish thoughts, and any distractions so that I may give You all my attention. Use me to share the most precious gifts of all, the gift of Christ, with my family, friends, and all whom I know. Once again I thank You for another day of grace today, and bless me with a safe and restful night so that I can faithfully serve You again tomorrow. Amen.

Times to Formally Gather around the Gospel:

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship Service **Sunday:** 9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Bible Class

Monday: 6:30 PM Sisters-In-Faith Group

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday: NO Donnerstag Group in December

The Sunday service is broadcast live every week on KNEN, 94.7 FM, and livestreamed via our website – stpls.com.

These Sunday service video recordings are also archived on Youtube.

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP THEME The Preparation for Purity

Too often we look for an easy fix for our problems. But let's remember that many times God uses these unpleasant realities in life to embrace our Savior even more, looking forward to that time when there aren't any unpleasant realities!

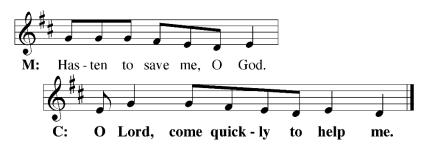
The Order of Service -- "Morning Praise"

Morning Hymn #6 "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"

Our Worship Introduction

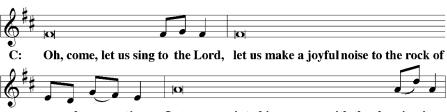


C: And my mouth shall de-clare your praise.

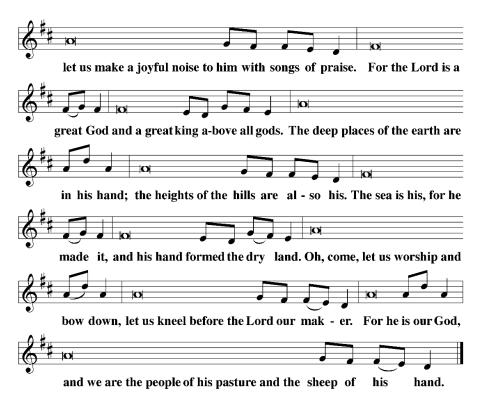


P: Behold the King comes: let us worship Him!

Oh, Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



5th - 8th Grade Anthem "How Deep the Father's Love For Us"

A Scripture Lesson Philippians 1:1-11

God, who brought us to faith, will continue to bless us and keep us in the faith until the day when Christ Jesus comes again.

To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

- ² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
- ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

P: This is the Word of our God.

C: We thank Him for this Word of Truth. Amen.

Hymn #89 "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

The Sermon Luke 3:1-6

SCOUTING OUT SALVATION

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ 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 for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

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

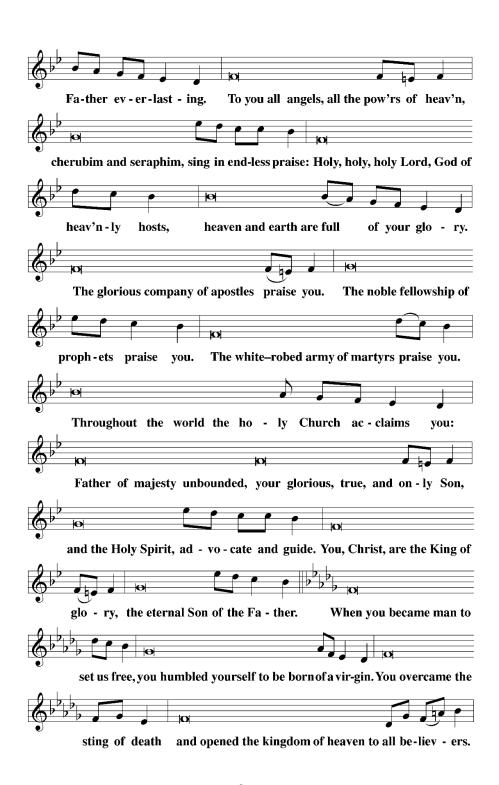
The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.

⁶ And all people will see God's salvation."

The Response to Our Meditation - We Praise You, O God



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,





The Gathering of our Thank-Offering

Our financial offerings are one way we give back to God in response for ALL He has done for us! As members of St. Paul's, we now gather our thank-offerings which are used to support Gospel ministry locally, nationally and internationally. Scanning this QR code works too!



Il Corinthians 9:7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

The Offering Hymn

#480, vss 1,4,5 "Almighty Father, Heaven and Earth"

- 1 Almighty Father, heav'n and earth With lavish wealth before you bow; Those treasures owe to you their birth, So richly furnished for us now.
 - 4 We, Lord, would lay, at your request, The costliest off'rings on your shrine, And when we give and give our best, We but return your gifts divine.

- 5 O Father, whence all blessings come,
 - O Son, Dispenser of God's store,
 - O Spirit, bear our off'rings home— Lord, make them yours forevermore!

Lord, Have Mercy Please stand!!



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



Our Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with Your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in Your sight.

Almighty God, we at St. Paul's give thanks to You for opportunities, past and present, to worship, study and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As we come together to commit ourselves to Your direction for our future, we lift our hearts in gratitude, O Lord, for all those who helped prepare the way for us – for their worship, devotion, service and care of this beloved church, school and property.

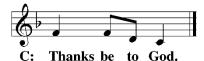
We pray that Your Holy Spirit will guide us in faith for the future. Trusting in Your love, help us to move forward with open and willing hearts so that we continue to grow and serve You to the glory of Your name.

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.



M: Let us praise the Lord.



The Blessing



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



Closing Hymn #12 "Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes"

Worshipping the Lord

Last Week's Attendance: Thanksgiving Eve 118 Saturday - 64 Sunday - 100 Total: 282

Sunday Bible Class – 23 Wednesday Bible Class – N/A Sisters in Faith – 12 Donnerstag – N/A

Serving this Week

Worship Leader: Pastor Hirsch Organist: Alicia Moyer Elder: Jeff Sperry Usher: Eric Nunnenkamp/Joe Myers Radio Broadcasters: Glynn Grebe/Katy Nichols

Video Tech: Darol Dusseau

Power Point: 12/7 - Athena Bretschneider 12/8 - Caleb Brown

Serving Next Week Dec. 14th & 15th

Worship Leader: Pastor Hirsch Organist: Shannon Spreeman

Elder: Dave Nelson Usher: Curt Dinkel Radio Broadcasters: Glynn Grebe/Katy Nichols

Video Tech: Chad Moyer

Power Point: 12/14 - Abi Bretschneider 12/15 - Logan Weinrich

St. Paul's General Fund - Nov. 30th & Dec. 1st, 2024

Yearly Needed: \$479,710.00 YTD Need: \$182,395.10

YTD Offerings: \$183,587.60 YTD Need vs Offerings: \$1192.50

Last Week Received: \$6,870.01 Weekly Need: \$9,4970.90

Difference: -\$3,100.89

SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Trinity Lutheran Church in Hoskins invites you to join us for an Advent and Christmas Hymn Sing on December 15th, 4:00-5:00 PM. Following the hymn sing, we'll have fellowship and snacks. You are welcome to bring a light snack to share with the group. We'll provide the warm beverages! There are so many great Advent and Christmas hymns that we don't always get to sing, but we'd love to get together and enjoy them with you! You may even learn some fun facts about some of the popular Christmas songs! This is open to all, feel free to invite friends and family!
- 2) For the Bible Class Sundays in November (11/24) and December (12/1,8,22) we'll be looking at a series that encourages and trains us as individuals in our personal evangelism called "One By One."

- 3) SCRIP Cards for Christmas Gifts!! We have a wide variety of cards available to order Cabelas, Scheels, Old Navy, Maurice's, Chipotle, Olive Garden, Omaha Steaks, prepaid Visa cards, hotels, and many other clothing and restaurant options. We will try to keep the on hand cards well stocked Lou's, HyVee, Walmart, Target, Amazon, Bath and Body, Starbucks and many other local locations. Stop by the scrip table to get more information. You can pay by check or cash. The money generated helps with tuition assistance or will go to the school. Thanks.
- 4) There will be **NO** Donnserstag Group held in December.
- 5) The **NELHS Christmas concert** will be held on Sunday, December 8, 4:00 PM, in the south gym.
- 6) Volunteers are needed to help clear walkways around the school when snow has fallen overnight. Heavier amounts will be handled commercially. Our goal is to have sidewalks around school cleared before students arrive. A sign up sheet is available in the communication center. Thank you
- 7) Please feel free to bring a **poinsettia** or two to church in the near future as we go through another Advent season, gearing up for Christmas!
- 8) Barb Brandt went home to heaven on November 22. A Christian memorial service for her will be held here at St. Paul's on Saturday, December 21. A visitation will be at 10:00 AM, with the service led by Pastor Schliewe at 11:00 AM. A lunch will be served after.

Upcoming Events This Week:

Sunday, 12/8 Worship Service, 9:00 AM

5th-8th Grade Sings, 9:00 AM

Special Congregational Meeting, 10:15 AM

Monday, 12/9 Red Cross Blood Drive, Noon-6:00 PM

Sisters in Faith, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, 12/11 Chapel, 8:15 AM

Bible Class, 10:00 AM PS Cat., 2:15 PM

Thursday, 12/12 Winter Band Concert √, 6:30 PM

Saturday, 12/14 Worship Service w/ HC, 6:30 PM

Fellowship after Services

Sunday, 12/15 Worship Service w/ HC, 9:00 AM

Sunday School, 9:00 AM

Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts, 10:15 AM

Winter Piano Recital Ⅲ, 1:00 PM

Church Cleaning Teams

Weeks of December 8th & 15th Team #4
Pat Jamison, Leonard Janovec, John & Jan Schlomer,
JoAnn Winter

Weeks of December 22nd & 29th Team #5 Gary &Sue Bretschneider, Joan Ellenberger, Rick & Diane Ellenberger, Shannon Spreeman

St. Paul's Contact Information

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920-248-2223

Kathy Wiedeman, Secretary

office@stpls.com

School Office 402-371-1233

Website: www.stpls.com WELS: www.wels.net

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Come, O Long-Expected Jesus



- 1 Come, O long ex pect ed Je sus, Born to set your peo-ple free;
- 2 Born your peo ple to de liv er, Born a child and yet a king,



From our sins and fears re-lease us By your death on Cal - va - ry. Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now your gra-cious king-dom bring.



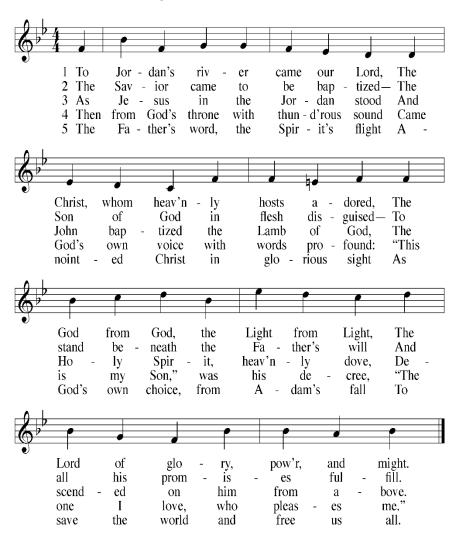
Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope to all the earth im-part, By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear De-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart. By your all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to your glo-rious throne.

89

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

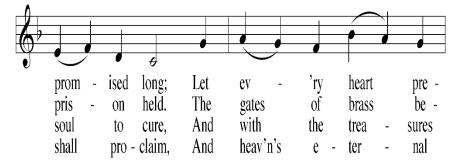


6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute! This man in Christ, our substitute! He was baptized in Jordan's stream, Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

12 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav ior comes, The Sav ior
- 2 He comes the cap tives to re-lease, In Sa tan's
- 3 He comes the bro ken heart to bind, The bleed ing
- 4 Our glad ho san nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel come





of his grace To en - rich the hum ble poor. arch ring With be - lov ed es your name.