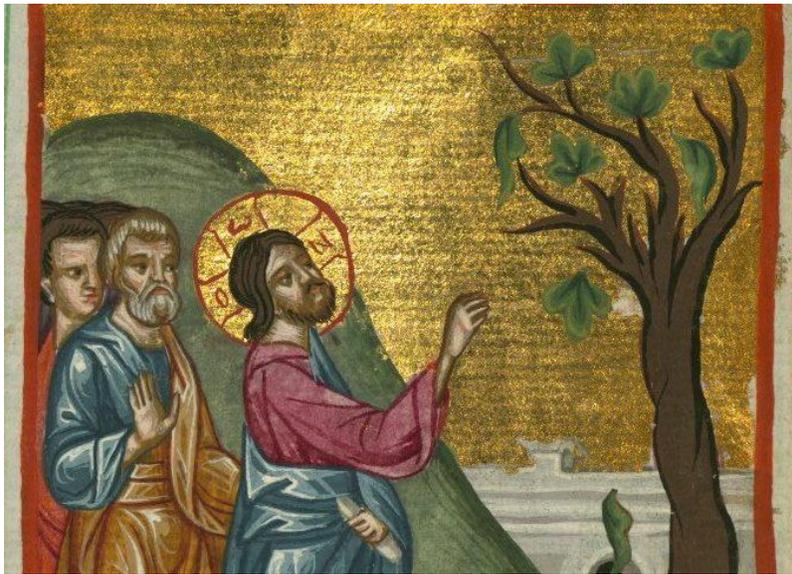


The Second Sunday in Advent



“Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.”

Luke 21:33

Divine Service

Setting Three

Prelude: Partita on O GOTT, DU FROMMER GOTT

("O God, Thou Faithful God").....Johann Sebastian Bach

508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

LSB 508



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,
2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,
3 The books are o - pened then to all, A rec - ord tru - ly tell - ing
4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but car - nal plea - sures,



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -
And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was
Who here de - spised His pre - cious Word And loved their earth - ly



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on
wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al -
dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry heart be clear - ly seen, And all be
tre a - sures! With shame and trem - bling they will stand And at the



flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.
might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at His com - mand - ing.
known as they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.
judg - e's stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.

- 5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!
- 6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:

Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.
Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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

Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Is. 62:11b; 30:30, 29

Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

"Behold, your sal- | vation comes."

The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*

and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

Restore us, | O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Turn again, O | God of hosts!*

Look down from | heaven, and see.

But let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,*

the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

"Behold, your sal- | vation comes."

The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*

and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

- G** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
G Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spirit.

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.

G Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1–6

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual (Saturday)

Ps. 50:2–3a, 5

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God | shines forth.*

Our God comes; he does not keep | silence;

"Gather to me my | faithful ones,*

who made a covenant with me by | sacrifice!"

Gradual (Sunday)

LSB 343 sts. 1, ref, 2, 4

1 Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
 Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!
 Then greet the King of Glory Foretold in sacred story:

ref Hosanna to the Lord,
 For He fulfills God's Word!

2 God's people, see Him coming: Your own eternal king!
 Palm branches strew before Him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
 God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain

4 His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above.
 His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love.
 So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding: Refrain

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

⁴For whatever 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse of the Day

Luke 21:26b–27

Alleluia. The powers of the heavens will be shaken, and then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²⁵"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

☩ 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.

Sit

336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,

Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;

Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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Sermon: "Your redemption is drawing near!" ~ Luke 21:25-36

Stand

Offertory

**☞ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
 Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
 Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Sit

Offering ~ "My Soul, Now Praise Thy Maker"Dietrich Buxtehude

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- P** 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.
C **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini

LSB 197

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

- C** **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Sit

Distribution

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"arr. Grimpo

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And all her heart with
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

354 Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how



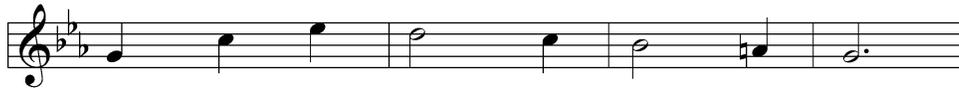
stee - ples are fall - ing, Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.

5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
 That, when the church bells are ringing,
 Many in saving faith may come
 Where Christ His message is bringing:
 "I know My own; My own know Me.
 You, not the world, My face shall see.
 My peace I leave with you. Amen."

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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

**☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
 a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

G and His mercy endureth forever.

A 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 in 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.

G Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

G Amen, amen, amen.

509 Christ Is Surely Coming

LSB 509



1 Christ is sure - ly com - ing Bring - ing His re - ward,

2 See the ho - ly cit - y! There they en - ter in,

3 Grace be with God's peo - ple! Praise His ho - ly name!



Al - pha and O - me - ga, First and Last and Lord:

All by Christ made ho - ly, Washed from ev - 'ry sin:

Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Ev - er - more the same;



Root and Stem of Da - vid, Brill - iant Morn - ing Star;

Thirst - y ones, de - sir - ing All He loves to give,

Hear the cer - tain prom - ise From the e - ter - nal home:



Meet your Judge and Sav - ior, Na - tions near and far!

Come for liv - ing wa - ter, Free - ly drink, and live!

“Sure - ly I come quick - ly! Come, Lord Je - sus, come!”

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Postlude: *Toccata in G-Major*.....*Theodore Dubois*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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In our prayers we remember: David Meyer, Deb Mohling, Elizabeth Bowerman, Salli Harmon, Carol Brockmann, Mary Ann Wege, Allen Timm, Jean Volkens, Bill Storey, Helen Nelson, Brad White, Larry Skinner (Jean Volkens brother), Susan Wurdeman (Dan Wurdeman's mother), Elaine Goodwin (Pastor Tews & Karen Burns sister), Dolores Wilkins (Susan Tews' mother), Donny Kadereit (son of Don & Marsha Kadereit), Marilyn J. Harris (Erika Harris' mother-in-law);

The family of Mary Ruffcorn, who mourn her death;

The family of Pat Montgomery, who mourn her death;

The family of Jim Mathisen (Don and Wanda Mathisen's son) who mourn his death;

Jan Goodin and all other St. Paul's Shut-Ins;

Rev. Daniel Steeb and the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Logan, Iowa;

Those serving in the armed forces... **Dustin Bathen**, grandson of Virg & Jan Steenbock, **David Letcher, Charles Bowerman, Nathan Moeller** -members of St. Paul's, **Justin Carlton**, husband of Kathryn Charlton, granddaughter of Bill Johannes, **Matthew Bandomer**, grandson of Art & Mabel Bandomer, **Joey Greiner**, nephew of Joni Doiron, **Matthew James Harris**, nephew of Mark & Erika Harris, **Joseph Finch**, (son of Bob & Dianna Finch), **Jared Naja** (nephew of Laura Goodwin);

News and Notes



Academy ~ Christ Academy Wednesday evenings 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Advent Worship – Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Please note that we need to continue to apply responsible distancing measures.

Communion will be offered at the altar rail. Please follow the direction of the ushers keeping appropriate distance between you and the person in front of you.

After the service has ended, the ushers will excuse congregants pew by pew beginning from the front. If you are staying for Bible class, please keep responsible distancing practices in mind being considerate of those who are especially cautious at this time.

A masked service will be held on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. Ushers will help with social distancing and Communion.

Communion will be offered by appointment during the week.

Poinsettias 2020

\$6.00

Orders due December 13, 2020

Number of plants _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Journey to Bethlehem at SPLECC!

Our Christmas program will look very different this year due to the pandemic. The students and staff will still be focusing on the birth of our Savior, but the program will be held virtually December 7-11. All of the students will participate in the Journey to Bethlehem in character form. The littlest learners will be dressed as sheep, donkeys, and cattle. The older students will be dressed in characters from the story. The last day will be a large celebration where all the students will come dressed in their Christmas best for the finale. Please make sure you and other family members and friends have liked the center's Facebook page so you can see all the festivities.

Opportunities for Growth: December 6-13, 2020

Sunday: 12/6/20

9:30 a.m. ~ SS/ABC

Monday: 12/7/20

6:00 p.m. – Hand Bells

Tuesday: 12/8/20

9:00 a.m. – Pastors' Circuit Meeting – St. Paul's

7:00 p.m. - Elders

Wednesday: 12/9/20

8:50 a.m. – Chapel – SPLECC

5:00 p.m. – Kantor/Kantorei Practice

5:30 p.m. – Christ Academy

7:00 p.m. – Advent Worship

Thursday: 12/10/20

7:00 p.m. - Council

Sunday: 12/15/19

8:00 a.m. ~ Worship - C

9:30am ~ SS/BC

10:45 a.m. ~Worship – C



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center

St. Paul's Music Conservatory

Two Locations

One Word

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod / www.stpaulscouncilbluffs.org

Church

239 Frank St.

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

712-322-4729

Pastor – Nathan Sherrill

Cell: 712-310-4248

nathansherrill1978@gmail.com

Associate Pastor – Timothy Frank

Cell: 712-269-3683

Pastorfrank239@gmail.com

Director of Music /Head Organist

Dr. J Gordon Christensen

Home – 352-0298

drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com

Secretary – Rosemary Paul

rosemarypaul57@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

School

1500 N. 16th St.

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

712-322-3294

Director – Lisa Preston

director.stpauls@gmail.com



Secretary – Heidi Bernhards

hb.stpauls@gmail.com

School Office Hours:

Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.