

New Year's Eve



“And at the end of eight days,
when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus ...”

Luke 2:21

New Year's Eve

31 December A+D 2020

Welcome in Jesus' name to our guests this holy day. We pray God's richest blessings to you as we hear His Word and receive His gifts. Please sign our guestbook in the narthex.

Worship at St. Paul's is conducted according to the historic, liturgical worship patterns of the Christian Church throughout the ages. The rhythm of worship is from our God to us, and then from us back to Him. He gives His gifts, and together we receive and extol them.

The Lord's Supper is offered every Sunday of the month. St. Paul's observes the practice of close communion. Members of sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are encouraged to commune with us. *We ask visitors who are not members of the LC-MS to speak with one of our pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices.*

Service Notes: There will be a Christmas Hymn Sing before the service this evening. The congregation will pick 5 hymns to sing. Music is provided by the Waggoner Family Kantorei.

Opening Prayer: O Lord, our God, as we come before You to worship You in spirit and truth, we ask You to open our hearts to the ministry of Your Word. Lead us to truly repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Divine Service

Setting One

Pre-Service: Christmas Hymn Sing

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on CHRISTE SANCTORUM.....Richard C. Baker

899 Across the Sky the Shades of Night

LSB 899



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are
 2 Be - fore the cross sub - dued we bow, To You our prayer ad -
 3 We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of Your
 4 We now re - mem - ber, as we pray, Our dear ones in Your



fleet - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In
 dress - ing, Re - count - ing all Your mer - cies now, And
 mer - cies: Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our
 car - ing Who bright - ly shine in end - less day, Past



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing; And as the year's last
 all our sins con - fess - ing; Be - seech - ing You this
 grate - ful song re - hears - es; For You have been our
 death and all de - spair - ing. At our life's end, Lord,



hours go by, We raise to You our ear - nest cry,
 com - ing year To keep us in Your faith and fear
 strength and stay In man - y a dark and drea - ry day
 as Your own, Bring us with them a - round Your throne,



Once more Your love en - treat - ing.
 And crown us with Your bless - ing.
 Of sor - row and re - vers - es.
 The joys of heav - en shar - ing.

5 Then, gracious God, in years to come,
 We pray Your hand may guide us,
 And, onward through our journey home,
 Your mercy walk beside us
 Until at last our ransomed life
 Is safe from peril, toil, and strife
 When heav'n itself shall hide us.

© 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100010969.
 Public domain

Confession and Absolution

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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

Ps. 98:1–3; antiphon: Ps. 124:8

Our help is in the name | of the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*,
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

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.

Our help is in the name | of the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

Kyrie

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A 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.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Old Testament

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

²⁷So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

LSB 900 sts. 1, 3–4, 6

1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev’ry knee
Bow in deep humility.

3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth
To the fallen of the earth
For the promise that it gave,
“Jesus shall His people save.”

4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild,
Given to the holy Child
When the cup of human woe
First He tasted here below.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Public domain

Epistle

Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor

angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

- G** **Alleluia.**
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Gospel

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
- G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

724 If God Himself Be for Me

LSB 724 (Women stanza 3; Kantorei stanza 5, Men stanza 7)



1 If God Him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;
2 I build on this foun - da - tion, That Je - sus and His blood
3 Christ Je - sus is my splen - dor, My sun, my light, a - lone;
4 He can - celed my of - fens - es, De - liv - ered me from death;
5 For no one can con - demn me Or set my hope a - side;
6 Who clings with res - o - lu - tion To Him whom Sa - tan hates



For when I pray, be - fore me My foes, con - found - ed, fly.
A - lone are my sal - va - tion, My true, e - ter - nal good.
Were He not my de - fend - er Be - fore God's judg - ment throne,
He is the Lord who cleans - es My soul from sin through faith.
Now hell no more can claim me: Its fu - ry I de - ride.
Must look for per - se - cu - tion; For him the bur - den waits



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, Be - friend me from a - bove,
With - out Him all that pleas - es Is val - ue - less on earth;
I nev - er should find fa - vor And mer - cy in His sight,
In Him I can be cheer - ful, Cou - ra - geous on my way;
No sen - tence now re - proves me, No guilt de - stroy - s my peace;
Of mock - 'ry, shame, and loss - es Heaped on his blame - less head;



What foe or what dis - as - ter Can drive me from His love?
The gifts I have from Je - sus A - lone have price - less worth.
But be de - stroyed for - ev - er As dark - ness by the light.
In Him I am not fear - ful Of God's great Judg - ment Day.
For Christ, my Sav - ior, loves me And shields me with His grace.
A thou - sand plagues and cross - es Will be his dai - ly bread.

- 7 From me this is not hidden,
 Yet I am not afraid;
 I leave my cares, as bidden,
 To whom my vows were paid.
 Though life from me be taken
 And ev'rything I own,
 I trust in You unshaken
 And cleave to You alone.
- 8 No danger, thirst, or hunger,
 No pain or poverty,
 No earthly tyrant's anger
 Shall ever vanquish me.
 Though earth should break asunder,
 My fortress You shall be;
 No fire or sword or thunder
 Shall sever You from me.
- 9 No angel and no gladness,
 No throne, no pomp, no show,
 No love, no hate, no sadness,
 No pain, no depth of woe,
 No scheming, no contrivance,
 No subtle thing or great
 Shall draw me from Your guidance
 Nor from You separate.
- 10 My heart with joy is springing;
 I am no longer sad.
 My soul is filled with singing;
 Your sunshine makes me glad.
 The sun that cheers my spirit
 Is Jesus Christ, my King;
 The heav'n I shall inherit
 Makes me rejoice and sing.

Public domain

Sermon: "Assurance for the future: nothing can separate you from God's love" ~ Romans 8:28-39

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.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Offertory

LSB 159

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

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 . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

G Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

LSB 375



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending, And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733 sts. 1-6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Public domain

898 The Ancient Law Departs

LSB 898



1 The an - cient Law de - parts, And all its fears re - move,
2 The Light of Light di - vine, True bright - ness un - de - filed,
3 His in - fant bod - y now Be - gins the cross to feel;
4 To - day the name is Thine At which we bend the knee.
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, For Thy re - deem - ing love,



For Je - sus makes with faith - ful hearts A cov - e - nant of love.
He bears for us the pain of sin, A ho - ly, spot-less child.
Those pre-cious drops of blood that flow For death the vic-tim seal.
They call Thee Je - sus, child di-vine; Our Je - sus deign to be.
With Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one In glo - rious might a - bove.

Public domain

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

- 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.

G Amen.

897 O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly

LSB 897



1 O re - joi - ce, ye Chris - tians, loud - ly, For our joy has
2 See, my soul, thy Sav - ior choos - es Weak - ness here and
3 Lord, how shall I thank Thee right - ly? I ac - knowl - edge
4 Je - sus, guard and guide Thy mem - bers, Fill them with Thy



now be - gun; Won - drous things our God has done.
pov - er - ty; In such love He comes to thee.
that by Thee I am saved e - ter - nal - ly.
bound - less grace, Hear their prayers in ev - 'ry place.



Tell a - broad His good - ness proud - ly, Who our race has
Nei - ther crib nor cross re - fus - es; All He suf - fers
Let me not for - get it light - ly, But to Thee at
Fan to flame faith's glow - ing em - bers; Grant all Chris - tians,



hon - ored thus, That He deigns to dwell with us.
for thy good To re - deem thee by His blood.
all times cleave And my heart true peace re - ceive.
far and near, Ho - ly peace, a glad new year!



Refrain
Joy, O joy, be - yond all glad - ness, Christ has done a -



way with sad - ness! Hence, all sor - row and re - pin - ing,



For the Sun of Grace is shin - ing!

Public domain

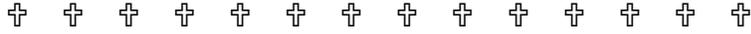
Postlude: "Prelude in G-Major".....Johann Sebastian Bach

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One 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.



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@gmailmail.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.