

# The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Roate Caeli

The Sunday of John's Testimony

"The Lord Was to Come"



'Make straight the way of the Lord,'

John 1:23b

## The Fourth Sunday in Advent ~ Rorate Caeli

19 December A+D 2021

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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. If you're visiting for the first time, 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 biblical 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 pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices.*

*Rorate Caeli: The Sunday of John's Testimony ~ "The Lord Was to Come"*

*John the Baptizer Points Everyone to the Messiah*

The coming of God in all His unveiled power at Mount Sinai was terrifying to the people of Israel. The thundering voice of the Lord puts sinners in fear of death (Deut. 18:15–19). God, therefore, raised up a prophet like Moses—the Messiah, the Christ. God came to His people veiled in human flesh. The skies poured down the Righteous One from heaven; the earth opened her womb and brought forth Salvation (Introit) through the blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of the Lord (Luke 1:39–56). The fruit of her womb is the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, the One whose sandal strap John was not worthy to loose (John 1:19–28). In Jesus we are delivered from fear and anxiety. In Him alone we have the peace of God which surpasses all understanding (Phil. 4:4–7).

Service Notes: The Gloria Dei Choir will provide music for the 8:00 a.m. service under the direction of Pastor Tews. Nicole Stickler will provide Distribution music at 8:00 a.m. The Sherrill Family Kantorei will provide music for the 10:45 a.m. service. Dr. Christensen is substituting as organist for Pastor Frank.

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.

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# Divine Service

## Setting Three

*Prelude: Partita on NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND (LBS #352: "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord")..... Kenneth T. Kosche*

### 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith,  
Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again  
As the glorious king to reign,  
I with joy will see Your face,  
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

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## 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  $\cdot\ddot{\iota}\cdot$  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.

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

**Introit** (*congregation chants bold*) *Ps. 19:1, 4-6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a*

Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
 and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
 let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*  
 let the earth cause them | both to sprout.  
 The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
 and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.  
 Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end | of the world.\*  
 In them he has set a tent | for the sun,  
 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*  
 and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.  
 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\*  
 and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.  
 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.  
 Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
 and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
 let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*  
 let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

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

### Gloria in Excelsis (Omitted during Advent)

*LSB 187*

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

*Sit*

*The Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15–19*

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

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

(Saturday) Gradual (*Kantor*) *Ps.145:18, 21*

The LORD is near to all who | call on him,\*  
to all who call on | him in truth.  
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.

8:00 a.m. Gradual (*Choir*) “*The Lord Will Soon Appear*”.....*arr. Hal H. Hopson*

*The Lord will soon appear; cast off all fear and sadness.  
O hear the ancient seer: The night will ring with gladness.  
All earth prepare the way; all hills and valley ring.  
Soon dawns the glorious day.  
God’s glory now we sing, God’s glory now we sing.*

10:45 a.m. Gradual (*Kantorei*)

Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for every sinner slain;]  
Thousand thousand saints attending Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Every eye shall now behold Him robed in glorious majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see.

Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign and Thou alone!

*The Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
Cong: Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

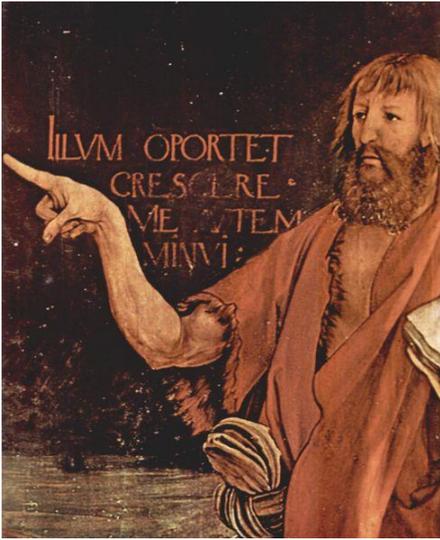
Alleluia and Verse.....LSB p. 190

*Verse (Kantorei/Kantor)*

*You are my help and my de- | liverer; do not delay, | O my God!*

Alleluia .....LSB p. 190

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.  
Cong: Glory be to thee, O Lord.



*John 1:19–28*

<sup>19</sup>And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” <sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

Alleluia and Verse.....LSB p. 190

(Kantor/Choir) Stir | up your might\* and come to | save us.

Alleluia Verse.....LSB p. 190

**Nicene Creed**

**C** 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.

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Choir/Kantorei verses 3 & 6)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest all things  
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on  
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's  
 5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law  
 tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,  
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 And teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 In one the hearts of all mankind;  
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
 And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

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Sermon: "Why Is John Here?" – John 1:19-28

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

**C** 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: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring".....Johann Sebastian Bach

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

# Service of the Sacrament

*We welcome members of our sister congregations of the LCMS to join us in receiving the Lord's Supper. Other visitors are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms to indicate this desire.*

## 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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, 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

- 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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  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

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*

**8:00 a.m. "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word"**

### 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with  
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"  
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;  
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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### 333 Once He Came in Blessing



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -  
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He  
 3 Soon will come that hour \_\_\_\_\_ When with might - y  
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,  
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor  
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will  
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.  
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.  
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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### 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly,  
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
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Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith,  
Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again  
As the glorious king to reign,  
I with joy will see Your face,  
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

### 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

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#### Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C** 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,  
**C** 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.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

#### Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** 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.  
**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## Closing Hymn: 346 When All the World Was Cursed



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na - tion,  
2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,  
3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres - sion,  
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re-joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.  
Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.  
Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.  
The word pro-claimed by John, Our true re - pen-tance voic - ing,



With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,  
By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,  
Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,  
That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way



And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.  
He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:  
Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.  
Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

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## Postlude: Introduction and Toccata in G-Major".....William Walond

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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In our prayers we remember: Nate & Becca Heinicke, Wes Walker, Barb Hansen, Jean Akre, Judy Meyer, Roger Escritt, Dixie Roberts, Chris Rochleau, Elizabeth Bowerman, Carol Brockmann, Mary Ann Wege, Allen Timm, Jean Volkens, Helen Nelson, Brad White, Elaine Goodwin (Pastor Tews & Karen Burns sister), Donny Kadereit (son of Don & Marsha Kadereit), Jonathan Freeman (student of Coreen Trost), Trent Casey (friend of the Harris' and Meldrum's), Stan Hofman (friend of Dr. C and Rosemary) Tim & Rhoda Castiglia (brother-in-law and sister of Randy Milbrath), Donna Wilson (Theresa Bowerman's mother);

The family of Bill Storey, who mourn his death;

Barb Kallensen and all other St. Paul's Shut-Ins;

Rev. Bill Clark and the congregation of Timothy Lutheran Church, Council Bluffs;

Those serving in the armed forces... Dustin Bathen, grandson of Virg & Jan Steenbock, David Letcher, Nathan Moeller -members of St. Paul's, Justin Carlton, husband of Kathryn Charlton, granddaughter of Bill Johannes, Matthew Bandomer, grandson of Art 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), Justin Aistroke (friend of Shaylie Gardner).



News and Notes



No Christ Academy on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.  
December 22<sup>nd</sup> – Advent Worship – 7:00 p.m.  
Festival Choir – this morning at 9:30 a.m.  
Handbell Choir – Monday at 6:00 p.m.

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“Honoring God’s House” ~ It’s not too late to give a gift or pledge to St. Paul’s Capital Campaign. Forms are located in various places in the church. Please prayerfully think on how you can help! Please make sure your pledges are up-to-date.

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Poinsettias 2021  
\$6.00  
Orders due December 19, 2021

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

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SPLECC is looking for a good used office desk for the new director. If you do, please contact Tung Dang our Director of Operations at 712-322-3294 or [ops.director.stpauls@gmail.com](mailto:ops.director.stpauls@gmail.com).

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“In carols of Christmas, you’ll sometimes hear more than gladness that the Child is born on Christmas. You’ll hear of deliverance: ‘Born that man no more may die. Born to raise the sons of earth ...’ There is much to ponder before, during, and after Christmas. Let the meaning of Christmas fill our hearts with anticipation, wonder, and thanksgiving for many days! For death’s days are numbered because of a birth—the birth of the Key of David.” *James M. Kushiner, Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

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All offerings for 2020 must be in the church office by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

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Glennay Jundt, Trivent representative will be here on Monday, to answer all your Thrivent questions and can help you with a Thrivent Action Team Card.

**Opportunities for Growth: December 19 – 26, 2021**

**Sunday: 12/19/21**

9:30 a.m. – SS/ABC/ Festival Choir Rehearsal

**Monday: 12/20/21**

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Glennay Jundt/Thrivent Representative

6:00 p.m. – Hand Bells

**Tuesday: 12/21/21**

9:00 a.m. – Chapel - SPLECC

12/23/20 – Staff Meeting

**Wednesday: 12/22/21**

**No Christ Academy**

7:00 p.m. – Advent Worship

**Friday: 12/24/20 – Christmas Eve Worship**

7:00 p.m. – “Nine Lessons and Carols”

10:30 p.m. – Divine Service/Candlelight

**Saturday: 12/25/20**

10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day Worship (No 5:30 p.m. service)

**Sunday: 12/26/21**

8:00 a.m. – Worship – C

9:30 a.m. – SS/ABC

10:45 a.m. – Worship - C



**December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Eve Worship  
“Nine Lessons and Carols”  
7:00 p.m.**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Eve Worship  
Divine Service/Candlelight  
10:30 p.m.**

**December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Day  
Worship with Communion  
10:00 a.m.  
(No 5:30 p.m. service)**

**December 26<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 a.m. – Worship – C  
9:30 a.m. – Hymn Sing  
10:45 a.m. – Worship – C**

**December 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
New Year’s Eve Worship with Communion**

**The Church Office will be closed December 27.  
SPLECC will be closed December 23 – January 2.**



## 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](http://www.stpaulscouncilbluffs.org)

### Church

239 Frank St.  
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503  
712-322-4729  
**Pastor** – Nathan Sherrill  
Cell: 712-310-4248  
[nathansherrill1978@gmail.com](mailto:nathansherrill1978@gmail.com)  
**Associate Pastor** – Timothy Frank  
Cell: 712-269-3683  
[pastorfrank239@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfrank239@gmail.com)  
**Director of Music /Head Organist**  
Dr. J Gordon Christensen  
Home – 352-0298  
[drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com](mailto:drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com)  
**Secretary** – Rosemary Paul  
[rosemarypaul57@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarypaul57@gmail.com)  
Church Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### School

1500 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St.  
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501  
712-322-3294  
**Director of Operations** – Tung Dang  
[ops.director.stpauls@gmail.com](mailto:ops.director.stpauls@gmail.com)



**Secretary** – Heidi Bernhards  
[hb.stpauls@gmail.com](mailto:hb.stpauls@gmail.com)  
School Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.