



Ella Escritt

Behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:1-2

> St. Pauls Lutheran Church 239 Frank Street Council Bluffs, IA 51503 January 5, 2025

#### **Welcome**

Welcome to all members and visitors! We are pleased to have you with us as we receive Christ's gifts and as we respond in thanks and praise. Guests, please sign the guest register in the narthex. If you need assistance, please ask one of the ushers. Prayers of preparation for worship can be found on the inside front cover of the hymnal.

**The Lord's Supper is offered** every Sunday of the month. St. Paul's observes the biblical practice of closed 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 LCMS** to speak with one of our pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices. Those not communing with us at this service are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms to indicate this desire.

## **Those Serving Us**

Preacher/Liturgist: Rev. Nathan Sherrill Pianists: Rev. Timothy Frank & Tina Sherrill Kantors: Julie & Dale Burris, Cindy Frank, Pastor Tews (8:00a.m. & 10:45a.m.)

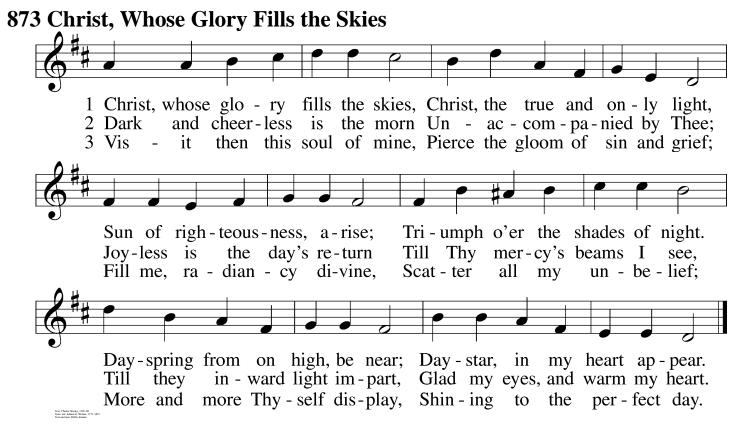
## The Word In Music

Prelude: "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" – Settings by G.P. Telemann Offering: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN – Setting by Max Drischner Postlude: "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" – setting by Max Drischner

**Kantor's Notes:** In Isaiah 60:1, the prophet writes, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you." That light was ultimately made known in the Epiphany of our Lord, as those from distant lands came to worship Him. In accordance with the Biblical texts, references abound in hymnody to Christ as the Light of the nations. Drawing on the language from Revelation 22:16, "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright," nicknamed the queen of chorales, hails Christ as the Morning Star who comes with truth and light. Likewise, the hymn "Arise and Shine in Splendor" is based on the theme of light as it reflects on the Isaiah 60 text. Finally, our new hymn of the season, "O Word of God Incarnate," refers to Christ as the "Light of our dark sky." Can you find more examples of Christ as Light in today's hymnody?

Hymn of the Season: "O Word of God Incarnate" LSB 523

#### **Divine Service Setting 1**



Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

#### Invocation

- $\blacksquare$  In the name of the Father and of the  $\dashv$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

#### Exhortation

LSB 151

- **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.

#### **Confession of Sins**

- **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.

## Absolution

LSB 151

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

Psalm 72:1–2, 10–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text

Behold the Lord, the rul- | er, has come,\*

and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

### Give the king your justice, | O God,\*

and your righteousness to the | royal son!

May he judge your people with | righteousness,\*

and your poor with | justice!

# May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him | tribute;\* may the kings of Sheba and Seba | bring gifts!

- May all kings fall down be- | fore him,\* all nations | serve him!
- 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.

Behold the Lord, the rul- | er, has come,\*

and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

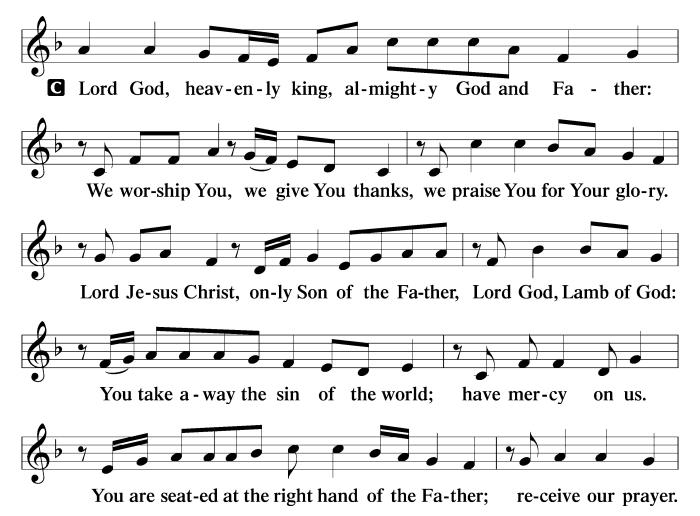
## Kyrie

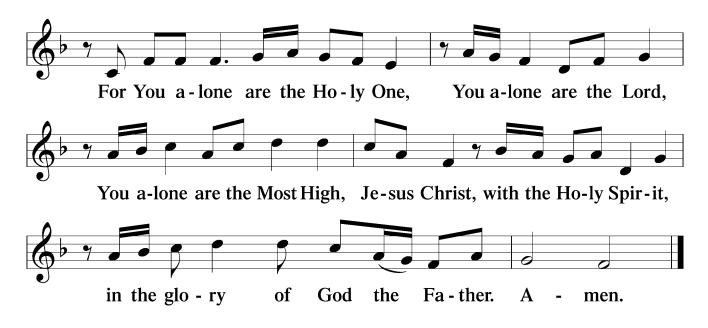
- **A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **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.





#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

Sit

### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 60:1–6

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
<sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
<sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
<sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Gradual "Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come" Setting-Mark Bender

#### Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1–12* 

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. A C

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse (Kantorei)

Alleluia. We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

## **Holy Gospel**

Matthew 2:1–12

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

396 Arise and Shine in Splendor



Sermon

"Your Light Has Come"

Isaiah 60:1-6

Stand

**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.

## **Prayer of the Church**

Sit

# Offering

Stand

## Service of the Sacrament

We welcome communicant 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

- **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.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface (Abbreviated)**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

# Sanctus

LSB 161

LSB 161

LSB 160

 G 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

**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

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 + 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 + 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**

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

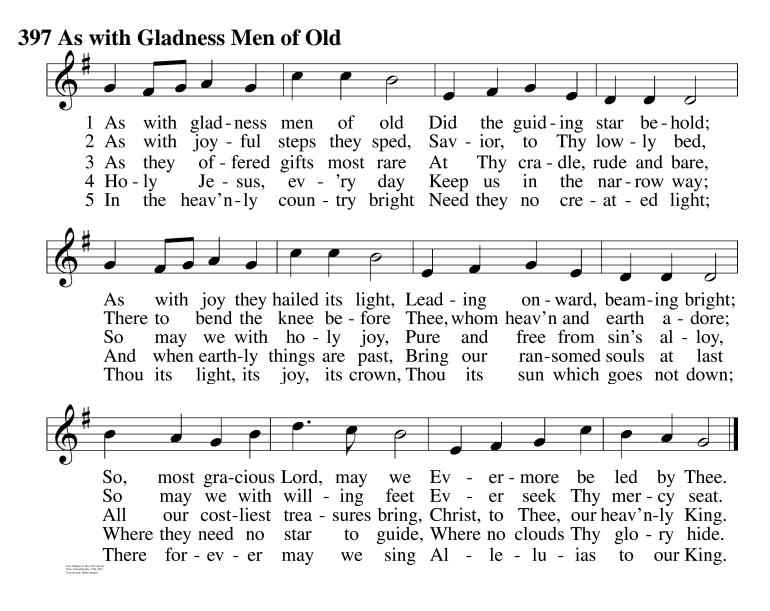
#### **Agnus Dei**

C 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.

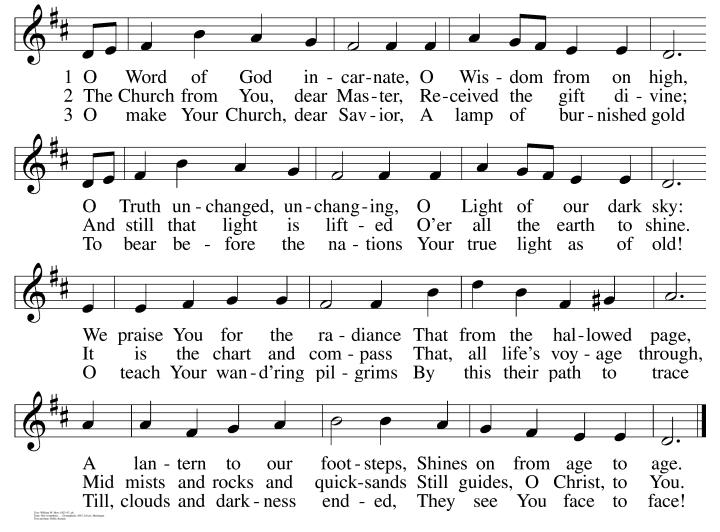
#### LSB 163

LSB 163

#### Distribution



523 O Word of God Incarnate





403 O Savior of Our Fallen Race O Bright - ness 1 O Sav - ior of our fall - en race. 0  $2 \mathbf{O}$ Je - sus, ver - y Light of Light, Our con - stant 3 Re - mem-ber, Lord of life How and grace. once. to light 4 To - day, its Bathes all the as year by year θ of the Fa - ther's face, 0 Son who shared star in sin's deep night: Now hear the prayers fall - en You save our race, put our hu ra - diance bright, pre - cious world in One truth the Fa - ther's might Be fore the world knew Your peo - ple Through - out the world this pray ves ture And man on came to us as out - shines the Sal tion from sun: va \_ comes  $\mathbf{O}$ night, Al day le - lu ia! or Al le day. lu ia! ho ly \_ A1 le - lu ia! Mar y's son. You Al le - lu lone. ia! a \_

- 5 For from the Father's throne You came, His banished children to reclaim; And earth and sea and sky revere The love of Him who sent You here. Alleluia!
- 6 And we are jubilant today, For You have washed our guilt away.0 hear the glad new song we sing On this, the birthday of our King! Alleluia!
- △ 7 O Christ, Redeemer virgin-born, Let songs of praise Your name adorn, Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit evermore. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th-10th cent; tr. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930-2024 Tanz: Stephen R. Johnson, 1966 Taxy: O 1978 Latheran Book of Workshy. Used by premission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001822 Tanz: O 2005 Stephen R. Johnson, Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000822

## Thank the Lord

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.

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.

## 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.
- **C** Amen.

**395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright** Morn-ing Star, how 1 O fair and bright! You shine with God's 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in when You look us in love. 3 Lord. on At once there falls in Your Son You loved us 4 Al might - y Fa - ther, when own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer cy! There light our hearts now shine; flame un - dy a ing! pur from God a - bove Α ray of est plea sure. be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da tion! not yet Of Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas -Ja - cob's race, King one bod - y be liv - ing branch -In Your let us As Spir - it, Your Word and flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him You have won Our hearts You ly! ter, to serve on Your life of tree. our lives sup - ply es a ing. with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear est trea sure! here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va tion. and glo-rious, All ly! Great Low - ly, ho vic - to - rious, ly Now, though dai -Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us Let Your mer cy Warm and cheer us! 0 draw near us! A1 - le - lu \_ ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing 0 O Rich in bless-ing! and might o'er Rule all ing! pos - sess -And dis-tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us. For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us. Life for - ev - er, Yours and fails Keeps us us nev er!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned, Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way— Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last, The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

#### Acknowledgments

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#### **Opportunities for Growth**

This Sunday	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Divine Service Sunday School/Adult Bible Study Divine Service
Tuesday	6:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study – Book of John
Wednesday	5:00-7:00 p.m.	Christ Academy
Saturday	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study – Book of Exodus Kort-Wurdeman Wedding
Next Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

Those ill or recovering: Chris Circo, Mary Johannes, Jayne McIlrath, Elizabeth Bowerman, Karen Brandenburg, Gertrud Rossbund, Ryan Pedersen (son of Art & Julie Gardner), Trent Casey, John Shafer (father of Kelli Salin), Tina Lamason (sister of Brad White), Marge Miller, Dawn Letcher (daughter of Tony and Shirley Gust), Cole (cousin of Kelli Salin), Lu Schwery (mother of Denise Krohn), Arla Mae Ebers (mother of Julie Moreno), Randy Falknor (cousin of Kent Seetin), Audrey Gust (sister of Tony Gust)

Carol Brockman, and all our shut ins.

Our missionaries: Deaconess Sandra Rhein & Ms. Becky Bartelt

### News and Notes

Dear members of St. Paul's,

Thank you for your many cards, gifts, and special kindness this Advent and Christmas. Thank you especially for your prayers, service, and support of the Lord's work throughout the year. God's blessings to you and your families as we celebrate the gift of His Son, through Whom we have greatest joy! – St. Paul's pastors and staff

**Thank you** to all who colored and submitted artwork last Sunday at Bible Class for the bulletin cover today. Ella Escritt's entry is shown on the front page of today's bulletin. Tanya McGrew's and Emily Escritt's entries are shown on the back cover.

**Poinsettias:** If you purchased a poinsettia and wish to take it home, please do so today after service.

**New Christian Doctrine Class:** Pastor Sherrill will be leading a Christian Doctrine class for those interested in membership or those just wanting to review the fundamentals of our faith. This class will meet for twelve (12) weeks beginning Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-8:15pm. Class will meet in a lower level classroom.

**Sing-Along:** Come and help ring in the new year at our next Sing-Along on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of FoxRun Assisted Living (3121 Macineery Dr.) at 3:00 p.m. and enjoy singing together and some snowy-white treats.



Tanya McGrew



**Emily Escritt** 

#### St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

239 Frank St. Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-322-4729

www.stpaulscouncilbluffs.org

**Senior Pastor** - Rev. Nathan Sherrill Cell: 712-310-4248

Nathansherrill1978@gmail.com

Associate Pastor/Kantor - Rev. Timothy FrankglenndaCell: 712-269-3683Schoolpastorfrank239@gmail.comMondaPastors Emeriti - Rev. James Tews & Rev. Robert Lindau

Parish Administrator - Heidi Bernhards

<u>splccboffice@splccb.org</u> Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. - noon

#### St. Paul's Early Childhood Center

1500 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St. Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-322-3294 www.splecc.org

Director - Becca Heinicke becca.heinicke@splecc.org

Administrative Assistant – Glennda Hedlund glennda.hedlund@splecc.org School Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**St. Paul's Music Conservatory** 239 Frank St. Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-322-8832 **Administrator** - Rev. Timothy Frank Cell: 712-269-3683 <u>pastorfrank239@gmail.com</u>