



**The Second Sunday in Advent**  
**December 8, A+D 2024**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

## **The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord**

The preaching and Baptism “of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to “see the salvation of God” (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He “will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3-4).

*Ringing of the Bells*

*Welcome*

## Confession and Absolution

### **343 Prepare the Royal Highway**

*Stand*

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

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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

*LSB 151*

- 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

*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

**Introit***Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b***P** The voice of one crying in the wilderness:**C** **“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”****P** Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!**C** **O Israel, if you would but listen to me!****P** I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.**C** **Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.****P** But my people did not listen to my voice;**C** **Israel would not submit to me.****P** Oh, that my people would listen to me,**C** **that Israel would walk in my ways!****C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.****P** The voice of one crying in the wilderness:**C** **“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”****Kyrie**

152

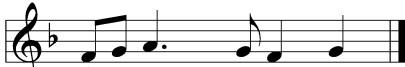
**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.**C** Lord, have mer - cy.**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.**C** Lord, have mer - cy.**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.**C**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

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

- 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.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Malachi 3:1–7b*

- A** The Old Testament Reading for The Second Sunday in Advent is from the third chapter of the prophecy of Malachi.

1<sup>st</sup> Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is

coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them."

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Philippians 1:2–11*

**A** The Second Reading is from the first chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians.

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 3:1–20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do."

<sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

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



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

*Sit*

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



## Sermon

*Stand*

### Apostles' Creed

159

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

### Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

*If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.*

*Stand*

### 955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
 cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
 sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the



hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001510

## Prayer of the Church

159

- P** . . . Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

160

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And al - so 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.

**Proper Preface (Full)**

**P** It is truly good, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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 161*


**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving***LSB 161*

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

### **Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood**

*Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.*

***Silent Prayer Just Before Communing:*** Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Silent Prayer Just After Communing:*** Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

### **346 When All the World Was Cursed**

### **350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come**

*Stand*

## The Communion Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Thank the Lord

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## 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** A - men.

**Benediction**

- 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** A - men.

**511 Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment**

*Silent Prayer*

*Announcements*

**Acknowledgments**

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



# The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

December 8, 2024

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Violet Rich, Family William Jr., Arlene

Julia Richey

Phillip Rick, Family Samantha

Denise Riordan, Family Hunter

Abigal Rodenberg, Family Nathan, Annelise, Nolan

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Erik Schassburger, 12/13

### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Norma Allen, Janice Abel, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Pastor and Pam Collins, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Shirley Emerick, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Doris Leifert, Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer, Ray Zander.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, James Fluechtling, Dakoda Gaut and Nathan Lopez.

**Serving as First Responders** – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

Prepare  
the Way  
of the Lord



## NEWS UPDATE

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St. Paul Book Club will meet Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, to review *Confessions of a Christmasholic* by Josh Wood. We always welcome new members. We enjoy fellowship and lunch following the discussion.

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**Christ For You the week of December 8<sup>th</sup> on KFuo.org:** Join us as we continue our study of Isaiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and look at chapters 15-18 in the Gospel of John on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Don't forget to tune in for the 100th anniversary edition of JOY!, airing this Sunday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. CT! Find the full program schedule at [kfuo.org/joy](http://kfuo.org/joy).

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**Sacred Music for the Advent Season...** “Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at [lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org), TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

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**Word of Hope** offers free and confidential counseling to women and men struggling with an abortion experience. If you would like more information on how Word of Hope can help you or someone you love, visit our website at [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org). You can be healed.

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**We’d love to see** you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at [www.facebook.com/splcms/videos](http://www.facebook.com/splcms/videos). A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at [www.splcms.org/worship](http://www.splcms.org/worship).

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“If heaven had been our home, would we have wanted to enter a world of grief and pain, of evil and death? Yet enter it Jesus did to give us His home to be ours forever. So, He loved us in undeserved grace. And so will we sing in the heavenly Jerusalem a refrain like that of our choirs: Hail, thou ever blessed morn, Hail redemption’s happy dawn, Sing through all Jerusalem: ‘Christ is born in Bethlehem.’ Alleluia.” Richard Gurgel, President, Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

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## Prepare the Way

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)



V S B F Z K T E U Q Y A X R A  
 V M O D E O U Y K R F W Z O X  
 K O A N C T B A L E P D H U F  
 X O I T G J R H C P L E N G L  
 S T Z C N S T D I E F S C H I  
 Z H C H E P K F B N A E O X P  
 P R E A C H I N G T S R I T I  
 F C L H K H D V D K T T L M S  
 P B A A K A Y A S F R F C M Y  
 G R V L M R Z L L O A F R B W  
 P W E J L F E L M R I I O V X  
 X Y F P O I Q E V G G W O J F  
 R A Q F A J N Y V I H V K C K  
 Z Q L V X R B G N V T W E P J  
 V W Y S D U E I N E S R D E Q

CALLING  
 VOICE  
 CROOKED

STRAIGHT  
 VALLEY  
 ROUGH

DESERT  
 PREPARE  
 SMOOTH

REPENT  
 FORGIVE  
 PREACHING

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION



## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

December 1<sup>st</sup> Attendance 22, 19 Communed, 15 Online

Envelopes	\$1,267.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
Basket	20.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint	10.00
		Social Ministry	600.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>1,287.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$640.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,362.00		
<b>Short</b>	<b>\$-75.00</b>		



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
	10:45 am	<i>A Children's Christmas Practice</i>
Monday		
Tuesday	10:00 am	Book Club
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Advent Potluck & Fellowship
	7:00 pm	Advent Worship Service
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
	10:45 am	<i>A Children's Christmas Practice</i>

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Dec 8, 9:30 AM	Sun, Dec 15, 9:30 AM
Pastor	Rev. Mark Zuehsow	Rev. Mark Zuehsow
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
Lay Reader		Tracy Middleton

## DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND