



**The Second Sunday in Advent  
December 10, A+D 2023**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

## **You Are Prepared through Repentance for the Coming of the Lord**

“The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes “proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, “the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together” (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd “will gather the lambs in his arms” (Is. 40:11). He speaks “tenderly to Jerusalem,” and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises “new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He “is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

*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 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 3***P** Restore us, O God;**C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!****P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!**C** **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.****P** You brought a vine out of Egypt;**C** **it took deep root and filled the land.****P** Restore us, O God of hosts;**C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!****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** Restore us, O God;**C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

## 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*

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

**Sermon Text: All Three Lessons**

**Sermon Title: A voice Cries in the Wilderness.**

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 40:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,  
 that her iniquity is pardoned,  
 that she has received from the LORD's hand  
 double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
 and every mountain and hill be made low;  
 the uneven ground shall become level,  
 and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
 and all flesh shall see it together,  
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,  
 and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades  
 when the breath of the LORD blows on it;  
 surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
 but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
 O Zion, herald of good news;  
 lift up your voice with strength,  
 O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
 lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,  
 "Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
 and his arm rules for him;  
 behold, his reward is with him,  
 and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
 he will gather the lambs in his arms;

he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

## Epistle

*2 Peter 3:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 1:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to

stoop down and untie. <sup>81</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

*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

the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

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

**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 163

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



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 163



**C** 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; 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 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 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.*

### **818 In Thee Is Gladness**

### **348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns**

*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.

**349 Hark the Glad Sound**

*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 10, 2023

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Diane Akers  
Norma Allen  
Chris Altmann  
Kurt Altmann  
Andrew Bahm

### BIRTHDAYS

Bill Sommer, 12/16

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Erik Schassburger, 12/13

### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Diane Akers, Norma Allen, Janice Abel, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Dorothy Van Mynen, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer, Ray Zander.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, David Capodagli, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

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

**Released from the hospital this past week** – Norma Allen



## NEWS UPDATE

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St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday January 10, to review *The Discovery* by Dan Walsh. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. Book Club is in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

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**Christ For You this week on KFUO.org:** Dive into Advent Hymnody on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), study 1 Corinthians 12-14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and learn more about the 3rd Sunday in Advent on The Coffee Hour (10/13 at 9:00 a.m. CT). Music and programming for the 12 Days of Christmas begins December 25! Hear your favorite programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or the KFUO Radio app.

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### **Your Comprehensive Source for News, Information & Truth...**

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Christian Decision Making & the End of Life; Biblical Inerrancy; Has Evolution Disproved the Creation Account; Gender Fluidity; Pre-Marital Sex and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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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 <https://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 <https://www.splcms.org/worship>.

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“You might not be impressive by the world’s standards. You might be a third-shift worker, a nameless neighbor, or a sinner who messed up in very public ways. But the angel declared good news for all people, which logically must include you. So, rejoice today! A Savior was born to you!”  
Pastor Mike Novotny, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

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## Preparing the Way

"A voice calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Mark 1:3

The puzzle is based on Mark 1:1-8



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

HONEY

PATHS

STRAIGHT

BAPTIZE

RIVER

WILD

SINS

VOICE

DESERT

LOCUSTS

WORTHY

PREPARE

JORDAN

CONFESS

SANDALS

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



December 3<sup>rd</sup> Attendance 19, 19 Communed, 6 Online

Envelopes	\$1,067.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
Advent	10.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint	25.00
		Social Ministry	250.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>1,077.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$305.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,233.00		
<b>Short</b>	<b>\$-156.00</b>		



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Advent Potluck
	7:00 pm	Advent Worship Service
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

	<b>Dec 10, 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Dec 17, 9:30 AM</b>
Pastor	Pastor Fluechtling	Pastor Dobberstein
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
Lay Reader	Diana Carr	Bill Sommer

## DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND