

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: December 8 – December 15, 2019

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service w/communion (broadcast on KOWZ 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
10:00 a.m. 2020 Board & Budget Voters Meeting
10:15 am Sunday School

Monday:

10:00 a.m. Bible Class with Pastor Griffin (Parish Hall)
5:30 p.m. Board of Education

Tuesday:

1:00 p.m. Quilters
6:00 p.m. Transition Team Kick-off Meeting

Wednesday:

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
12:00 p.m. 29ers Potluck
3:30 p.m. 6,7,8 Catechism
4:30-5:45 p.m. Advent Supper (hosted by Board of Education)
6:00 p.m. Advent Worship Service: *"The Candle of Peace"*
Organist: Cindy Wood Acolyte: Elijah Johanneck
Radio Monitor: Kathy Lenz Elders: Jerry Flogstad & Bob Roemhildt
7:00 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Senior Choir

Thursday:

6:30 p.m. Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans
1:00 p.m. Cotta Guild

Friday:

Pastor Griffin's Day Off

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service w/communion (broadcast on KOWZ 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Treats
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

THIS WEEK:

ORGANIST: Kaleb Schmidt
ACOLYTE: Avery Gaul
ELDER: Jerry Flogstad, Bob Roemhildt
DEACON: Jim Wyffels
RADIO MONITOR: Cindy Gilmore

NEXT WEEK:

ORGANIST: Kaleb Schmidt
ACOLYTE: Derek Hammer
ELDER: Jerry Flogstad, Bob Roemhildt
DEACON: Jim Wyffels
RADIO MONITOR: Ron Wood



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)

314 - 4th Ave NE | Waseca, Minnesota 56093
Phone: 835-2647 | Email: stpaulwa@hickorytech.net
Church Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Monday – Friday)

SUNDAY MORNINGS:

- ✝ Worship Service: 9:00 a.m. (Broadcast on KOWZ 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
- ✝ Fellowship/Coffee: 10:00 a.m.
- ✝ Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- ✝ Adult Bible Study: 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin, Intentional Interim Pastor

Mobile Phone: (507) 420-2236
Email: pastorgriffin54@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Giles Zimmer, Visitation Pastor

Home Phone: 833-5619

“The mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is to provide opportunities through which everyone might be made aware of their Savior Jesus Christ, nurture a strong foundation of faith, and receive the Sacrament regularly as directed by our Savior Jesus Christ.”

WELCOME! WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE! If you are a visitor, we look forward to visiting with you today and in the near future. Please write your name, address, and phone number in the black soul care book (located in the pew). We invite you to fellowship, coffee & treats following the worship service. Sunday School begins at 10:15 a.m. and Adult Bible Study begins at 10:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Voters Meeting TODAY: The 2020 Boards & Budgets voters meeting will be held immediately following our worship service today, in the parish hall. All members are encouraged to attend and vote. Sample Ballot is available as an insert to this bulletin.

New! Monday Morning Bible Class: All are invited to a new Monday morning Adult Bible Class in the parish hall. Pastor Griffin will be leading this class, which will focus on the appointed lessons (Lectionary) for the following Sunday. If you haven't tried group Bible class for a time, this would be a terrific opportunity to try it out. The coffee will be brewing, and hopefully some cookies will show up!

Women's Bible Study: Women's Bible Study will meet at 9:30 on Wednesday, December 11, in the room across from the quilters' room in the old basement, for an Advent/Christmas Bible study.

Secret Brothers and Sisters: December is the month to let your 2019 Secret Brother or Sister know your identity through your contact with them, either in person or through the mail. Thank you for encouraging them and lifting them up in prayer this past year. We will draw new Secret Brother and Sister names for 2020 at our January Cotta Guild meeting.

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to place a poinsettia on the altar in memory of a loved one, they will be sold TODAY at the back of the church with Kathy Flogstad. The price is \$8.00 each and checks should be made payable to Cashwise Floral.

Upcoming Sermons:

Advent Sunday Sermon Series Theme: It's All About Jesus!

Dec. 15 - His Promises are Worth the Wait

Dec. 22 - His Birth Changes Everything

Advent and Christmas Midweek Sermon Series - The Five Candles of Christmas

Dec. 11 - The Candle of Peace

Dec. 18 - The Candle of Joy

Christmas Eve - The Candle of Love

Christmas Day - The Christ Candle

Advent Midweek Supper & Worship Service

Supper: 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM

Worship Service: 6:00 PM

Dec. 11 (Board of Education)

Hamburger vegetable soup, sandwiches, cake

Dec. 18 (Youth Group)

Potato bar w/fixings, pie

free-will offering



Rom. 15:5 – “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.” All of our good works are indeed granted to us from our heavenly Father. We live in complete dependence upon His grace and mercy. What do we have that we have not received as a gift from His hand? And, knowing that, how can we not be thankful?



“The beginning of the Christmas Gospel reminds us of Mary’s condition. She is pregnant, with child ... The growth and development of a baby in the womb from just two tiny cells is a miracle ... After five weeks, the embryo is the size of a grain of rice. It has a brain and spinal cord. After six weeks, the heart is beating and you can see the eyes, ears, and head. After seven weeks, the arms, legs, and nose are visible. After eight weeks, the baby is only two centimeters long, but you can still see its fingers and toes. The perfect alignment and connection of every cell is a wondrous miracle. In the growth and development of every baby, we are participants in God’s gracious miracle of creation and new life.” *Bishop John F. Bradosky, North American Lutheran Church – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org



Telling God’s Story Here at St. Paul Lutheran:

One of my observations here at St. Paul Lutheran is that so very many of our members really are hungry for the Word of God and our Lord’s Supper. Sunday after Sunday, dozens and dozens of God’s people stream into the sanctuary and up towards the communion rail. Two or three dozen eagerly gather around God’s Word in Bible class, and many of them take careful notes on the Scriptures we are studying. What a joy to know that as often as God’s people use their ears to hear what He is trying to teach us, that often the Holy Spirit is working a stronger faith in the hearts of His precious saints.

Intentional Interim Ministry Corner:

- Thank you to Kent DeLong, who has agreed to chair our Transition Team and to another 15 members who have agreed to serve.
- One purpose of the Transition Team is to help congregational members heal after the loss of their pastor and to gain perspective on the chapter in their lives that has ended.
- Another purpose of the Team is to gather the feelings and ideas of both members and non-members of the congregation about their church in a time of change.
- A third purpose of the Team is to provide a forum for the sharing and focusing of hopes and aspirations for the future.



- NO quilting December 24th or December 31st
- A printed copy of Pastor Griffin's Sunday sermon will be available at the front/back of the church each Sunday. Feel free to take home!
- Offering envelopes for 2020 will be available beginning Sunday, December 22 in the parish hall.



- Everyone is invited to join our Cotta Guild and Senior Choir for Christmas Caroling at Lakeshore Inn Nursing Home on Sunday, December 15th. Please meet at Lakeshore Inn at 2:00 p.m.
- The Board of Evangelism is looking to find out if anyone is interested in caroling to Waseca shut-ins on Sunday, December 21st. Meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near the elevator. Please contact Linda Seifert at (507) 461-4110 with any questions.



IN OUR PRAYERS:

† ***The family of Willard Kirckof (brother-in-law to Margaret Schwarz) in his recent passing.***

Hospitalized: Esther Dietrich

Illness: Bob Kuschel, Timothy Preuss

Recovery from Surgery: Orville Proechel

Thanksgiving & Continued Recovery: Arlene Buker, Nancy Lee (wife of Gene Schwarz)

Treatment: Eva Bickell, Harold Hoffmeister (brother-in-law to Mark Pehrson), Marcia Meiners (daughter of the late Lorraine Miller), Brian Schroeder

Those who are sick and/or in need and wish to remain unnamed.

All the service men & women who are serving in the military: Noah Berg, Ryan Berg, Jacob Claybaugh, Tristan & Jordan Labiack, Jacob Lemmen, Aaron & Sarah Lenz, Kylie Lenz, Jason Paschall, David Reinsbach, John Thompson

Waseca Circuit Missionaries: Rev. Edward Naumann & Rev. Dr. Stephen Oliver

2nd Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2019

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In last Sunday’s sermon, Isaiah painted a picture of the New Testament Church as the highest of the mountains to which the Gospel is drawing all nations to faith in Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. In today’s sermon, Isaiah looks forward to that same era in which the Root of Jesse (Christ) has ushered in a kingdom of peace. In paradise, the people of God will be living in perfect harmony, but already here and now, we find that as often as God’s people are repenting of their sins, that often the best fruits will be evident - the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Today’s sermon is the second in a series of four, “It’s All About Jesus.”

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OPENING HYMN: “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” # 347

ORDER OF SERVICE: DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE Page 151

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 151

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy: Page 152-153

HYMN OF PRAISE: “This Is the Feast” Page 155

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY Page 156

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 11:1-10*

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. ³His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; ⁴But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. ⁶“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den. ⁹They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰“And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.”

PSALM or GRADUAL

SECOND READING: *Romans 15:4-13*

⁴For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. ⁵Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, ⁶that you may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. ⁸Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* to the fathers, ⁹and that the Gentiles might glorify God for *His* mercy, as it is written: “For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name.” ¹⁰And again he says: “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!” ¹¹And again: “Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!” ¹²And again, Isaiah says: “There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope.” ¹³Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALLELUIA and VERSE: Common Page 156

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 3:1-12*

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.’ ” ⁴Now John himself was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him ⁶and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, ⁹and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as *our* father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit ¹²and fire. ¹²His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

(Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

SERMON HYMN: “When All the World Was Cursed” # 346

SERMON: “His Roots Bear the Best Fruits (Second in a Series of Four)” Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin

Sermon Text: Isaiah 11:1-10 and Matthew 3:1-12

- 1. The Source of these fruits
- 2. The Taste of these fruits
- 3. The Purpose of these fruits

NICENE CREED: Page 158

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING *[During the offering, please sign the black care book in the pew. Visitors: Please include your address and phone number. Thank you!]*

OFFERTORY: Page 159

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE: Page 160

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy:* Page 161

LORD’S PRAYER: Page 162

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Page 162

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord:* Page 163

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God:* Page 163

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

- “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”* # 344
- “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”* # 350
- “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”* # 352

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon* Page 165

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT: Page 166

BENEDICTION: Page 166

CLOSING HYMN: *“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”* # 359

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St. Paul Lutheran Church

- **Nursery available:** For families with small children, there is a designated room in the basement (down the hall, on the right, from the youth room). You will find a changing table, crib, a few books and toys. Please feel free to use anytime during the worship service. During Sunday School and Bible Study there will be someone there to help with your child so you may attend the Adult Bible Study.
- **Preparing for Holy Communion:** To assist our time of preparation, prayers are located in the front cover and on pages 329-330 of your hymnal. Both individual cups and the common cup are offered on both sides. For anyone with alcohol concerns, diluted cups are located in the center of the tray. Gluten free communion wafers are available upon request.
- **Radio Broadcast:** Today’s broadcast (KOWZ 1170 AM or 106.3 FM) is dedicated to the glory of God and is in loving memory of the late John Deling.
- **Lutheran Hour:** “The Lutheran Hour” can be heard on the following radio stations: WCCO, 830 AM radio, Minneapolis, Sunday, 6:05 AM; KDHL, 920 AM radio, Faribault, Sunday, 6:00 PM; KJLY, 93.5 FM, Owatonna, Sunday, 6:00 PM; and KJLY, 104.5 FM, Blue Earth, Sunday, 6:00 PM.
- **Sunday School:** In Sunday School today, the children will hear the message “The Birth of Jesus Foretold.” God favored Mary, choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. God favors us because of Jesus Christ, choosing us to be His children! Ask your children, “How did God show Mary, and us, His unmerited grace and favor?”

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The Lord’s Supper

- ✠ We believe, teach, and confess in accordance with Holy Scripture that the Lord's Supper is a precious gift from God, in which Christ gives us His true body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith.
- ✠ The Bible teaches that this sacrament may also be spiritually harmful when misused, *(For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. 1 Corinthians 11:26-30)*
- ✠ The Lord’s Supper is a testimony of the unity in faith. We ask that only those who have been instructed and who are in fellowship with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod come with a contrite and joyful heart to the Lord’s Table. *(Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers)*
- ✠ Any guest wishing to receive communion here at St. Paul Lutheran Church, please speak with the Pastor or the Elder on duty, prior to the church service.