

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: December 15 – December 22, 2019

### Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Service (broadcast on KOWZ 1170 AM/106.3 FM)  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship, Coffee & Treats  
10:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study

### Monday:

10:00 a.m. Bible Class with Pastor Griffin (Parish Hall)

### Tuesday:

1:00 p.m. Quilters

### Wednesday:

10:00 a.m. Foxdale Service  
3:30 p.m. 6,7,8 Catechism  
4:30-5:45 p.m. Advent Supper (hosted by Youth Group)  
6:00 p.m. Advent Worship Service: *"The Candle of Joy"*  
Organist: Kaleb Schmidt      Acolyte: Lizzie Manthe  
Radio Monitor: Kathy Flogstad      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

### 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, Coffee & Treats  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Youth Group "CROSSFIRE" Event @ Trinity Janesville

## SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

### THIS WEEK:

**ORGANIST:** Cindy Wood  
**ACOLYTE:** Jaya Kunkel  
**ELDER:** Jerry Flogstad, Bob Roemhildt  
**DEACON:** Jim Wyffels  
**RADIO MONITOR:** Kathy Flogstad

### NEXT WEEK:

**ORGANIST:** Cindy Wood  
**ACOLYTE:** Leeland Nusbaum  
**ELDER:** Jerry Flogstad, Bob Roemhildt  
**DEACON:** Jim Wyffels  
**RADIO MONITOR:** Cindy Gilmore



## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)

314 - 4<sup>th</sup> 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:**



Today's radio broadcast is dedicated to the glory of God and is in loving memory of Steve & Pat Gillitzer and Grandsons, sponsored by Dave Ziegler

**Thank you!** Thank you to the following families who donated altar poinsettias in memory of loved ones: Margie Arndt, Dick Arnold, Shirley Bluhm, Duane Brase, Kraig Deling, Kent DeLong, Esther Dietrich, Jerry Flogstad, Pam Gentle, Anita Hildebrandt, Steve Jaycox, Cindy Kolander, Bob Kuschel, Jim Larsen, Ken Lenz, Marvin Maass, Bob Roemhildt, Dale Rudolph, Lila Schaal, Glen Schultz, Lois Spies, Lyn Swenson, Michael Ulschmid, Karen Weckwerth, Jeanette Williams, Ron Wood, Dean Worke, Dave Ziegler. --Kathy Flogstad, Flower Committee

**Newsletter Articles Due:** A reminder that articles for the Parish newsletter need to be turned into the church office by December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**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!

**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.

## Upcoming Sermons:

Advent Sunday Sermon Series Theme: It's All About Jesus!  
Dec. 22 – His Birth Changes Everything

Advent and Christmas Midweek Sermon Series - The Five Candles of Christmas  
Dec. 18 - The Candle of Joy  
Christmas Eve - The Candle of Love  
Christmas Day - The Christ Candle

Dec. 29 – The Flight into Egypt: Jesus' Early Ministry  
Jan. 5 – About His Father's Business

---

### **Advent Supper 4:30-5:45 PM: Dec. 18 (Youth Group)**

Potato bar w/fixings, pie  
*\*free-will offering\**



- Everyone is invited to join our Cotta Guild and Senior Choir for Christmas Caroling at Lakeshore Inn Nursing Home TODAY. 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 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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.

**Children’s Christmas Service**

**December 15, 2019**

++++  
In last Sunday’s sermon, Isaiah was looking forward to the Root of Jesse (Christ) ushering in a kingdom of peace in which the fruits of the Holy Spirit would be evident in the lives of repentant and redeemed sinners. In today’s sermon, we focus first of all on how our sinful nature causes us to doubt God’s promises and grow impatient with His timetable (Law). Secondly we rejoice that in Christ, we are not only forgiven for our impatient thoughts, words, and deeds, but enabled to grow in the virtue of patience. Today’s sermon is “His Promises Are Worth Waiting For,” and the third in a series of four under the theme, “Making Advent All About Jesus.”

++++

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** “Hark the Glad Sound”

**# 349**

**ORDER OF SERVICE: MATINS**

Page 219

**PSALMODY:**

Page 220

**VENITE** ~ O Come, Let Us Sing:

Page 220

**ADDITIONAL PSALMS**

**OFFICE HYMN:** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

**# 379**

**FIRST READING:** *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,  
And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;  
<sup>2</sup>It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,  
Even with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
The excellency of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
And make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those *who are* fearful-hearted,  
“Be strong, do not fear!  
Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance,  
*With* the recompense of God;  
He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

<sup>6</sup>Then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
And the tongue of the dumb sing.  
For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,

And streams in the desert.  
<sup>7</sup>The parched ground shall become a pool,  
And the thirsty land springs of water;  
In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,  
*There shall be* grass with reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there, and a road,  
And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.  
The unclean shall not pass over it,  
But it *shall be* for others.

Whoever walks the road, although a fool,  
Shall not go astray.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
Nor shall *any* ravenous beast go up on it;  
It shall not be found there.

But the redeemed shall walk *there*,  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
And come to Zion with singing,  
With everlasting joy on their heads.  
They shall obtain joy and gladness,  
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**“Away in a Manger”**

sung by our Sunday School Children

**SECOND READING:** *James 5:7-11*

<sup>7</sup>Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See *how* the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. <sup>8</sup>You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! <sup>10</sup>My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. <sup>11</sup>Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end *intended* by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING:** *Luke 1:46b-55*

<sup>46b</sup> “My soul magnifies the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup> And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.  
<sup>48</sup> For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant;  
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.  
<sup>49</sup> For He who is mighty has done great things for me,  
And holy *is* His name.  
<sup>50</sup> And His mercy *is* on those who fear Him  
From generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with His arm;  
He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
<sup>52</sup> He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones,  
And exalted *the* lowly.  
<sup>53</sup> He has filled *the* hungry with good things,  
And *the* rich He has sent away empty.  
<sup>54</sup> He has helped His servant Israel,  
In remembrance of *His* mercy,  
<sup>55</sup> As He spoke to our fathers,  
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN’S LESSON**

**SERMON: “His Promises Are Worth The Wait”** Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin  
1. The fruits of impatience include weak hands, feeble knees, and anxious hearts.  
2. The fruits of repentance include brave perseverance and compassion.

**HYMN:** “What Child Is This”  
**# 370**

**OFFERING & MUSIC:** “Go Tell It On The Mountain” sung by our Sunday School Children

**KYRIE** ~ Lord, Have Mercy: Page 227

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**COLLECTS:** Page 227

**BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION:** Page 228

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” **# 374**

# 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 Steve & Pat Gillitzer and grandsons, sponsored by Dave Ziegler.
- **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:** “The Birth of Jesus” as recorded in Luke 2 is today’s Sunday School lesson. A Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord! *As a family discuss the details of Christ’s birth. Ask, “How does our sin cause us to fear God like the shepherds did? Focus on the fact that God’s Son, Jesus, takes away our fears and offers us true peace, rescuing us from sin and death.*

+++++

**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.



**Matt. 11:10** – “This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus’ ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out his disciples to preach “repentance and the forgiveness of sins.” We never outgrow the need for repentance – examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive His forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.



“I would suggest that when we begin our Christmas preparations next year each of us spend a bit of time remembering those whose festival is not tinsel and toys, presents and packages. Let us ask the Lord to preserve the Savior’s followers who are hated and persecuted because our Lord of life is hated.” *Pastor Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



- Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, please meet at church at 7pm. We will be going to Trinity Janesville and joining their youth group for "CROSSFIRE". A time of prayer and praise led by youth for youth. RSVP to Aimee Hill by December 19<sup>th</sup> for transportation.
- Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup> from 8pm to 8am.....join us for a LOCK IN!!! Please let Aimee Hill know for a head count if you will be attending by December 27, 2019



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

In recent days, a glimpse of Jesus at work in this place included a small army of cheerful volunteers preparing for the Annual Christmas Bazaar. The foods were tasty, the fellowship was joyful, and the proceeds will soon be headed for a variety of mission projects. Thank you to so many for a generosity that helped to make this Advent all about Christ and the peace that only He can give.

### **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.
- In last week’s bulletin, we listed three purposes of the Transitional Steering Team.
- A fourth purpose is to help the congregation move from preoccupation with the past to a state of readiness for a new chapter in its life under the leadership of a new pastor.
- A fifth purpose is to involve the congregation in accomplishing the developmental tasks of the interim period.



- NO quilting December 24<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup>
- A printed copy of Pastor Griffin's previous 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.
- At our December 22 Sunday morning Bible hour, we have asked Mark Schultz from Trinity Lutheran in Janesville to report on a recent mission trip to Nicaragua. All are invited to attend and to consider participating in a March 2020 trip to a certain village in Nicaragua.
- Thank you to all who attended the recent Voters' meeting and to all who have agreed to serve in elected offices in the New Year. The installation of 2020 Officers & Board Members will occur during the January 5 worship service.
- All youth are invited to a "Crossfire Service of Praise and Worship" at Trinity Lutheran in Janesville Sunday, Dec. 22, at 7:30.
- All members are urged to invite friends and family to our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (6 p.m.) and to our Christmas Day Service (9 a.m.).



**IN OUR PRAYERS:**

***Illness:*** Bob Kuschel, Timothy Preuss

***Recovery from Surgery:*** Orval Proechel

***Medical Testing:*** Denise Spohn (cousin to Millie Gerlach)

***Thanksgiving & Continued Recovery:*** Arlene Buker, Esther Dietrich, 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