

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: December 29, 2019 – January 5, 2020

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
8:00 p.m. Youth Lock-in until 8:00 a.m. Monday

Monday:

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class w/Pastor Griffin (parish hall)

Wednesday:

Church Office Closed

Thursday:

- 6:30 p.m. Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans
1:00 p.m. Holy Communion @ Colony Court

Friday:

- *Pastor Griffin's Day Off*
5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Hamburger/Fish Feed @ American Legion (Youth Mission Trip)

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

SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

THIS WEEK:

ORGANIST: Kaleb Schmidt
ACOLYTE: Joseph Schumacher
ELDER: Jerry Flogstad, Bob Roemhildt
DEACON: Jim Wyffels
RADIO MONITOR: Kathy Flogstad

NEXT WEEK:

ORGANIST: Kaleb Schmidt
ACOLYTE: Avery Gaul
ELDER: Kevin Froslan
DEACON: Jim Wyffels
RADIO MONITOR: Kathy Flogstad



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:



Today's radio broadcast is dedicated to the glory of God and is in loving memory of Geraldine "Gerl" Roemhildt, sponsored by Ken Roemhildt & family.

Offering Envelopes: The offering envelopes for 2020 are available for pick-up in the parish hall. You may begin using them on January 1st.

Monday Morning Bible Class: All are invited to a new Monday morning Adult Bible Class in the parish hall at 10:00 a.m. 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.

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.

Radio Monitors Needed: We are in need of one or two more radio monitors to each cover one Sunday a month. Training will be provided. Please prayerfully consider helping our radio ministry by serving as a radio monitor. If interested, please contact Linda Seifert (461-4110) or Laurie in the church office (835-2647).

Cotta Guild: Meeting on January 9th at 1:00 p.m. Regular meeting, devotions (Barb), installation of officers, draw for new secret brothers/sisters. Make valentine's for shut-ins. Judie's circle will serve.

Upcoming Sermons:

Dec. 29 - The Flight into Egypt: Jesus' Early Ministry
Jan. 5 - About His Father's Business
Jan. 12 - God Said Yes To Us: In Baptism
Jan. 19 - God Said Yes To Us: Already in the Womb
Jan. 26 - God Said Yes To Us: At the Cross

Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 3 - Youth Mission Trip Hamburger / Fish Feed
- Jan. 6 - Circuit Epiphany Service at 7:00 at Trinity Lutheran in North Morristown, with District President Rev. Lucas Woodford preaching
- January 26 - Voters' Meeting at 10 a.m.

happy
new year!

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

December 29, 2019

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In the appointed readings for this First Sunday after Christmas, we see evidence on the one hand that sin and a world ravaged by sin make us vulnerable to all kinds of dangers. We suffer from hurts that are brought about by the evil of others and, perhaps more often, self inflicted. But on the other hand, “when the time had fully come, God sent His Son.” God is gracious, providing release from the clutches of sin and relief from our sin-infested helplessness.

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OPENING HYMN: “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning” # 400

ORDER OF SERVICE: DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE Page 184

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 184-185

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT
“Glory be to the Father...” Page 186

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy: Page 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest: Page 187

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY Page 189

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-14

⁷I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely.” And he became their Savior. ⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ¹⁰But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. ¹¹Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, ¹²who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, ¹³who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. ¹⁴Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM or GRADUAL

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE: Page 190

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:13-23

¹³Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” ¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” ¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

NICENE CREED: Page 191

SERMON HYMN: “The Star Proclaims the King Is Here” # 399

SERMON: “The Flight into Egypt: Jesus’ Early Ministry” Rev. Dr. Giles Zimmer

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: O Eternal God and Lord,

C: We thank You for having kept watch over us.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, You promised

C: “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

P: Your Word also says,
C: “Even to your old age, and even to gray hair, I will carry you.”

P: Deliver us, O Lord,
C: **From sin, death and the devil.**

P: Keep strong our faith in Jesus Christ, the Savior from sin.
C: **That when our last hour shall come, or when the last trumpet shall sound, we shall be found with faith in Jesus Christ, and shall wear the crown of eternal life.**

All: This morning, O Lord, we give You hearty thanks for Your loving kindness on these Your servants, whom You sustained through Word and Sacrament in their life of faith, and whom You have called to eternal rest. Keep us mindful that with each passing hour, day, and year, we move ever close to eternity. Help us to live in daily contrition and repentance. Teach us all to apply our hearts to Godly wisdom, that we might live by grace through faith in Christ. We pray that we might not only live with faith in Christ, but that we might also die with that faith. Thus, we shall be assured of dwelling for eternity with Christ and all the saints who have gone before us into Heaven. Amen.

Here follows a reading of the names of the faithful who have been called to eternal rest. With the reading of each name, the bell is rung:

- Geraldine “Geri” Roemhildt*
- Lois Schultz*
- Marvel Miller*
- LaVerne Blowers*
- Betty Jo Schuette*
- Mildred Kusche*
- Jody Paulson*
- Kenneth Miller*
- Alexus “Lexi” Tiegs*
- Richard Preuss*
- Leilani Williamson*
- John Deling*

The bell is rung one final time for all the relatives of our members who have been called to rest during this past year.

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 Geraldine “Geri” Roemhildt, sponsored by Ken Roemhildt & family.
- **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:** Today in Sunday School we studied “An Angel Visits Joseph.” Just as the angel proclaimed to Joseph that Mary would bear an infant who is the Son of God, the Savior, so God proclaimed to us in His Word that this same Jesus is our Savior from sin and death. *Parents could ask, “What important message did the angel give Joseph? What important message do we hear in God’s Word?”*

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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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE: Page 208

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy: Page 208

LORD’S PRAYER: Page 209

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord: Page 209

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God: Page 210

COMMUNION HYMNS:

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” # 627

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray” # 623

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” # 621

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon: Page 211

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT: Page 212

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION: Page 212

CLOSING HYMN: *“As with Gladness Men of Old”* # 397

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- Offering envelopes for 2020 are available for pick-up in the parish hall. They can be used beginning January 1st.
- Senior Choir is on break and will resume practice on January 15th.
- NO quilting December 31st.
- Printed copies of Pastor Griffin’s Sunday sermons are available at the front/back of the church each Sunday, or please contact the church office.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Illness: Bob Kuschel, Timothy Preuss

Recovery from Surgery: Cole Claybaugh, 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, 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



- TONIGHT 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:

At our first Transition Team Steering Committee meeting, we began a review and possible revision of our current mission statement. A common definition of a mission statement is that it should answer the questions, "Why do we exist? What is our purpose?" This mission statement should help guide our decisions and priorities for years to come. Please pray for wisdom from on high as we seek to know and do God's will here on earth, as it is done in heaven.

Intentional Interim Ministry Corner (9th) in a Series of 52 Notes:

Desired Outcomes for Steering Committee in Phase I

1. Read and discuss "Temporary Shepherds: A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry" by Roger S. Nicholson. Perhaps we could set aside 15 or 30 minutes at three separate meetings for this discussion.
2. Review our own Mission Statement, as well as a variety of other Mission and Vision Statements. By the end of Phase II, recommend a Mission Statement and Vision Statement to the Church Council.
3. Complete our Plan for Phase II
 - A. Choose tools for congregational and community assessments
 - B. Interviewing of active membership as individuals and/or home meetings
 - C. Interviewing of inactive membership
 - D. Interviewing of those who have left St. Paul Lutheran
 - E. Interviewing of community leaders as a way of assessing community perception of St. Paul Lutheran.
4. Give direction to Interview, Structure, and Revitalization Committees



Gal. 4:4 – "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law." Jesus was born under the law so that He might fulfill the law in our place. His perfect righteousness is credited to us. And it is this free forgiveness of sins and this crediting of righteousness that sets us free to follow our Lord in godly living. Since we are freed from the law's condemnation, we are freed from any mercenary attitudes. Now that the Lord has shown His love to us in saving us, we freely show our thanks to Him in generosity, humility, and kindness.



"The celebration of Christmas and the celebration of Epiphany are celebrations of life, infant life. The salvation of the world, your salvation, began with conception, and the Christ child, your Savior Jesus, passed through every stage of life that you did, including many stages where it is legal in our country to destroy nascent life. Yes, we can adduce many passages from Scripture (and many insights from secular science) to prove that there is no essential difference between the embryo you once were the child or adult you are today; but the greatest demonstration that all life is sacred comes from Christ Himself, whose journey to the cross began in the womb of Mary." *Rev. Christopher Maronde, pastor of Saint John Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*