

For unto us  
a child  
is born.  
To us  
a son is given  
Isaiah 9:6

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

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314 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Waseca, MN 56093

Phone: (507) 835-2647

Church Office Hours (Mon-Fri): 9am-1pm Email: [stpaulwa@hickorytech.net](mailto:stpaulwa@hickorytech.net)

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Mission Statement

*“Empowered by God’s Word, we joyfully share the Love of Jesus with all people.”*

Vision Statement

*“We will be a vibrant, welcoming church serving the needs of our members, community, and missions by partnering with other churches and organizations while preaching and teaching the inspired Word of God and our Savior Jesus Christ.”*

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**SUNDAY MORNINGS (SEPTEMBER – MAY)**

- † Divine Service w/Holy Communion: 9:00 a.m.  
(Also Facebook Live; and Radio 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
  - 10:15 – 11:15 am Sunday School
  - 10:30 am Adult Bible Study and Coffee Hour

**Pastor:** Rev. Bob Lund (Vacancy Pastor)

**Mobile Phone:** (651) 324-9229

**Email:** [bltpbj@yahoo.com](mailto:bltpbj@yahoo.com)

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@stpaulwaseca

[www.stpaulwaseca.org](http://www.stpaulwaseca.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENT'S:

- *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 our visitor's book located at the back of church at the visitor's desk. We invite you to fellowship, coffee & treats following the worship service. Adult Bible Study begins at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.
- **Individual or Family Pastoral Care:** *Please remember that Private devotion and Holy Communion are available for individuals or couples that are homebound, at greater risk for COVID, or in times of emergency. Call the church office at 507-835-2647 to schedule an appointment when needed.*
- **Live Streaming on Facebook** for the 9:00 worship service for your convenience.
- **Church Offering Envelopes for 2023** are ready to be picked up in the Parish Hall.
- **Women's Bible Study** will not meet in December. In January we plan to meet as usual on the first and third Wednesdays from 9:30 – 10:45 -- January 4 and January 18.
- **There will be NO Prayer Team on December 26 or January 2.**
- **There will be NO Quilters on Dec 27<sup>th</sup>. We will see you all back in January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.**
- **Secret Sisters**, please remember to send a card with a note to your Secret Brother or Sister this month and continue to pray for him/her. This is the month to let your 2022 Secret Brother or Sister know your identity.
- There will be **NO RADIO BROADCAST** Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> due to radio staff shortage. Services will be live streamed on Facebook.
- **2022 Poinsettias** We thank the following families for beautifying the church for Christmas to the Glory of God, in memory of loves one:  
Dick Arnold, Karen Baerg, Shirley Bluhm, Duane Brase, Kent DeLong, Denise Duffy, Kathy & Jerry Flogstad, Sharone Goetz, Judy Graper, Aimee Hill, Connie & David Krause, Bill Kuschel, Jean Kuschel, Marvin Maass, Tyler & Amalia Paulson, Bob Roemhildt, Ron Roemhildt, Beryl Ross, Suzi Ross, Jared Ross, Dale Rudolph, Lila Schaal, Gene Schwarz, Lois Spies, Karen Weckwerth, Jeanette Williams, Jim Wyffels and Dave Ziegler.
- **There will be NO New Years Eve service Saturday December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.**
- **The Church office will be closed** Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday December 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 and January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
- **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 2pm there will be a SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING to determine a call for our next Pastor.**
- On behalf of the Stewardship Board, we delivered 82 pounds of food from our Church to the Food Shelf. **Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible.**
- **THANK YOU to our Instrumentalist**, Hannah LaCroix on Flute, Addie Bomsta on Clarinet, Tyler Paulson on Trombone and Jen LaCroix on Trombone, **for sharing your time and talents this Christmas!!**
- **Thank you** to Cindy Wood, Kelli Lenz and to all of our Choir members for sharing your time and talents with us this Christmas!!

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
God Fulfills His Promises  
December 24, 2022

**AS WE GATHER**

The original title of the Christmas carol “In dulci jubilo” (LSB 386, “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”) was interpreted by the famous French organist and composer Marcel Dupre as “In Quiet Joy.” Another familiar hymn tells of the birth of the Savior in the words “How silently the wondrous gift is given!” (LSB 361:3). Though there were moments of rage and loud opposition through His earthly ministry, many of our Lord’s activities happened in the quiet and stillness of His presence. Indeed, even as He accomplished His goal, He entered Jerusalem in quiet humility, suffered obediently, closed His eyes and breathed His last in death, and finally was laid in the stone-cold silence of a tomb. There are times for loud praise and rejoicing, but this night let us gather in quiet joy contemplating the mystery that, in this little babe in the little town of Bethlehem of Judea, fulfilled God’s ancient promise of redemption and peace for all who would be drawn in the silence of the Spirit of God through His Word and blessed Sacraments.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN:** “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”

[LSB 386]

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Habakkuk 2:20*

Pastor: In dulci jubilo! In quiet joy! In quiet joy, we gather this evening, this very special night.

**People:** The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

Pastor: We gather from our busy lives, our hurried routines, the loud noises of life,

**People:** in quiet joy.

Pastor: We bring our wearied bodies, our troubled hearts, our restless souls in hope,

**People:** in quiet joy.

Pastor: God is here, the LORD is in His holy temple;

**People:** let all the earth keep silence before Him.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: In the silence of this moment, let us prepare ourselves, and confess our sin to God. Holy and gracious God,

**People:** I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

Pastor: In the silence of this night, by the mercy of God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and in quiet joy.

**People:** Amen.

**HYMN:** “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

[LSB 366]

✠ WORD ✠

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And with thy spirit.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SONG: "Gesu Bambino"

Contemporary Ensemble

## OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 9:2-7* (Light in the darkness)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.<sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG: "Noel"

Senior Choir – Soloist Aimee Hill

## EPISTLE *Titus 2:11-14* (The grace of God has appeared.)

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE *Luke 2:11*

Pastor: Alleluia.

People: **Alleluia.**

Pastor: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

People: **Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL:** *Luke 2:1-20*

**2** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. **8** And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. **10** And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" **15** When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." **16** And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. **17** And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. **18** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. **20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to Thee, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

[LSB 359]

**SERMON**

**SONG:** "Christmas Hallelujah"

Duet: Aimee Hill & Kelli Lenz

**CREED** *Nicene Creed*

People: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Almighty and ever-living God....godly love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

.... who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**People:** **Our Father who art in heaven...**

**BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24–26*

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

**HYMN:** "Silent Night, Holy Night"

[LSB 363]

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**IN OUR PRAYERS:**

- ***Called Home:***
  - ***Hospitalized:*** Anita Risto's, Judy Graper
  - ***Medical Procedure:*** Karen Thompson (Kathy Flagstad's Sister) waiting for available kidney.
  - ***Illness:*** Cindy Kuschel, Pastor Loeslie from Bethlehem Lutheran Morristown
  - ***Up Coming Surgeries:***
  - ***Thanksgiving & Continued Recovery:*** LeeAnn Paulson, Kathy Lenz, Tony Jelinek (son in law to Vivian Bohmbach), Margret Schwarz
  - ***Treatment:*** Loy Spies, Tim Andree (friend of Matt Klinger), Dixie Flitter (sister of Shirley Bluhm)
  - ***For those with Covid-19***
  - ***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, Matthew Gilmore, Jacob Lemmen, Aaron & Sarah Lenz, Jason Paschall, David Reinsbach, John Thompson
  - ***Waseca Circuit Missionaries:*** Rev. Edward Naumann & Rev. Dr. Stephen Oliver (Taiwan) & John Wolff (Kenya)
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**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

- **Preparing for Holy Communion:** To assist in a time of preparation, prayers are located in the front cover and on pages 329-330 of your hymnal. For anyone with alcohol concerns, diluted cups are located in the center of the tray. Gluten free communion wafers are available upon request.
- **Facebook Live-stream and Radio Broadcasts:** Our worship service is live-streamed on Facebook each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. (in Facebook search for: @stpaulwaseca to locate our Facebook page.) Our worship service is also Radio Broadcast each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on Radio 1170 AM or 106.3 FM, and [www.newstalk1170.com](http://www.newstalk1170.com)
- **Prayer Chain:** If you would like to add someone or something to the prayer chain, please call the church office at 835-2647.
- **Sunday School:** please join us for Sunday School at 10:15-11:15, for ages 3 through grade 8.

**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. Thank You.

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: December 25<sup>th</sup> - January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**Sunday (25<sup>th</sup>):**

9:00 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion (also Facebook Live)

**NO Sunday School**

**Monday (26<sup>th</sup>):**

**Church office Closed**

No Prayer Team

**Tuesday (27<sup>th</sup>):**

**NO Quilters**

**NO Adult Confirmation**

**Wednesday (28<sup>th</sup>):**

**NO Confirmation 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

**NO Senior Choir and Contemporary Ensemble practice**

**Thursday (29<sup>th</sup>):**

6:00 a.m. Bible Breakfast at Jonnie Bean

**Friday (30<sup>th</sup>):**

**Saturday (31<sup>st</sup>):**

**Sunday (1<sup>st</sup>):**

9:00 am Divine Service w/ Holy Communion (also Facebook Live)

**NO Sunday School**

**SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:**

**THIS WEEK: December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>:**

**ORGANIST: Cindy Wood**

**ACOLYTE: Joel Hammer (25<sup>th</sup>)**

**ELDER/DEACON: Jerry Flogstad/Bob Roemhildt  
Jim Wyffels**

**RADIO MONITOR: No Broadcast**

**FACEBOOK: Cindy Gilmore (24<sup>th</sup>@4pm)  
(25<sup>th</sup>@ 9am)**

**READER: Cindy Gilmore**

**NEXT WEEK: January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023:**

**ORGANIST: Matt Groskreutz**

**ACOLYTE: Josie Ross**

**ELDER/DEACON: Andrew Gilmore/ Jim Wyffels**

**RADIO MONITOR: No Broadcast**

**FACEBOOK: Kathy Flogstad**

**READER: Cindy Gilmore**

**LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS:**

**Worship Attendance on Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup>: 66**

**Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup>: 126 Bible Study: 16 Sunday School:**

**General Fund (in person & Direct Deposit) December 14<sup>th</sup>: \$377.00**

**December 18<sup>th</sup>: \$ 2700.00**