

Christmas PROGRAM

ST. JOHN'S AND ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Nov.
9

Practice @St. John's 10:30am

For our first practice, we will meet at St. John's. We will hand out scripts, pick parts, and pick out costumes.

Nov.
16

Practice @St. Paul 10:30am

We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Nov.
23

Practice @St. John's 10:30am

We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Dec.
7

Practice @St. Paul 10:30am

We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Dec.
14

Christmas Program @St. John's

We will meet at St. John's early before service. Costumes will be passed out and we will do a quick run through/sound check.

Dec.
21

Christmas Program @St. Paul

We will meet at St. Paul early before service. Costumes will be passed out and we will do a quick run through/sound check.

"As for what you see here,
the time will come
when **NOT ONE**
STONE
will be left on another;
every one of them
will be **THROWN DOWN.**"

LUKE 21:6, NIV

Sunday, November 16, 2025
9:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

It is a joy to gather together for worship!

St. Paul Purpose Statement

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. In-person worship with Holy Communion

10:15 a.m. In-person Sunday School – September – May

Communion

We celebrate Jesus' presence each week in Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Supper and Jesus invites us: whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, or just considering Christianity; if you are an infant or elderly; if your family has been in the United States for generations, or has only recently arrived; if you are LGBTQIA+ or straight; if you live with disabilities, chronic illness, or are able-bodied and currently healthy; if you are home-blessed or homeless; ... YOU are welcome at God's meal of grace at St. Paul.

Accessibility

Handicap parking, entrance, wheelchair, and restrooms are available. Sound amplifiers and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Children's Offering

The November and December children's offering will be for the God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA Good Gifts. A gift to God's Global Barnyard will be used where needed most to support livestock, agriculture and other sustainable-development projects, which help farmers and families with the resources they need to thrive.

Pastor Mark Luepke, Part-time Interim

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Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

Prelude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. Lani Smith

Welcome/Announcements

GREETING

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

All: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, ☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn
“Take My Life, That I May Be”
ELW # 685

1 Take my life, that I may be con-se-crat-ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on-ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil-ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;
take my mo-ments and my days; let them flow in cease-less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau-ti-ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes-sag-es from thee.
take my in-tel-lect, and use ev-'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
Take my heart, it is thine own; take myself, and I will be
it shall be thy royal throne. ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

GREETING–Pastor

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day–Pastor

P: Let us pray together:

All: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says

the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,
All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 98

R: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

All: O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

R: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

All: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

R: Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

All: With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

R: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

All: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

R: The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us.

⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to

work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,
All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st chapter.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.”

¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon

“Do Not Be Weary What is Right”

Hymn of the Day

“We Are an Offering”

ELW # 692 Sing twice

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. Triplet markings (a '3' over a group of notes) are present at the beginning of the first staff, the middle of the third staff, and the beginning of the sixth staff. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text and Music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Text and music © 1984 World Music, LLC

Apostles Creed

P: Trusting in Christ's life, death, and resurrection, let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed:

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

P: Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you!

P: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace in whatever way you are comfortable.

MEAL

Offering

“Here I Am, Lord”

arr. Malcolm Kogut

Offering Prayer

P: God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

The Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

Communion

Communion Music

“Lamb of God”

1 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on
us.
2 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

3 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us

peace, grant us peace.

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1992 CPH Publishing

“Our Great Savior”
arr. Chris Rice

Prayer after Communion

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

All: Amen.

P: Let us pray.

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ’s name.

All: Amen

Blessing

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ☩ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

“May You Run and Not Be Weary”

May you run and not be wea - ry. May your

heart be filled with song. And may the

love of God con - tin - ue to

give you hope and keep you strong. And may you

run and not be wea - ry. May your

life be filled with joy. And may the

road you trav - el al - ways lead you home.

Text: Handt Hanson
Music: JOURNEY BLESSING, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1991 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past, Our Hope for Years to Come”

arr. Steven Scott

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: John Renner, the Woodworth family, Michelle Klinger, Pastor Bree, Matt Friel, Sandy Julifs, Mike, Lori Dewey, Dylan Wescott, Phyllis Jacobson, and Betty Steinke

Worship Assistants:

Opener/Head Usher – Dan Bartel

Closer – Gabby Law

Acolytes – Bartel family

Greeters – Bob & Judy Bartel

Ushers – Bill & Carolyn Duncan

Reader – Bill Duncan

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Communion Assistant – Bill Duncan

Altar Guild – Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Musicians:

Julie Woessner DeJonge

Dawn Zeigler

Next Week – November 23

Worship Assistants

Opener/Head Usher – Mary Ordean

Closer – Chad Arians

Acolytes – Ordean family

Greeters – Keith Peugh, Dan Dir

Ushers – Gary Fields, Janie Billings

Reader – Keith Peugh

Sound – Bradyn Arians

Communion Assistant – Chad Arians

Altar Guild – Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Confirmation Reception