



ADVENT

Advent & Sundays after Christmas
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Season of Advent—2018

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ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church!

*We extend a warm welcome to everyone today! Whatever your religious background, or however you come to be here with us, **we welcome you and are glad you are here!** In order to help us properly acknowledge your presence we invite you to sign the guest register in the Narthex and complete a visitor card found in the pew. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate. We hope you will feel challenged today & be comforted by your experience and we look forward to seeing you again. We hope that you'll consider becoming a regular part of our community of worship and service in Christ's name.*

Cell Phones & Pagers: *As a courtesy to others we ask that all cell phones and pagers be turned off and silence be maintained in the Sanctuary.*

Prayer Concerns *can be added to the list found in the Narthex next to the guest registry. The request will be listed and will be printed weekly in the bulletin. Requests will be shared for four weeks and then must be re-submitted.*

Coffee Fellowship—*Immediately following worship, everyone is invited to join us for a gathering time of coffee & conversation. Sunday School for all ages will follow at 10:15 in the Education Building next door.*

We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table—*All baptized persons who have received their first communion in a congregation of any denomination will be communed here. All children who are accustomed to receiving communion elsewhere will be communed here as well. Anyone who is not baptized or otherwise does not wish to receive communion but would like to receive a blessing from the pastor, should stand at the rail with folded hands. Communion is by tables and at the direction of the ushers. Please respond by saying "Amen" after receiving each element.*

Passing of the Peace—*The passing of the peace is a long established part of Christian worship. It is thought by some to be part of an act that New Testament writers, such as the Apostle Paul, referred to as "greet one another with a holy kiss" found in Romans 16:16 and 1 Corinthians 16:20. There are many ways to share Christ's peace with one another such as: handshake, hug, nod, wave etc. accompanied by the verbal greeting "peace be with you" and the response "and also with you." You are encouraged to use whatever feels comfortable to you.*

Remember the Sabbath day. Call the Sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's Day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does; feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice in all the wonderful things God is doing.

HOLY COMMUNION

C: Congregation

P: Pastor

***Stand (as you are able)**

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE

The Gathering

• BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, Father (†) Son and Holy Spirit:
The Lord of Israel who comes to us set free,
The mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,
The Dawn from on high who guides us into the way of peace.

C: Amen

P: Let us come before God in confession.
To you, O God,

C: We lift up our souls.

**You know us through and through;
we confess our sins to you.**

**Do not, we ask you, remember our sins,
but with your steadfast love.**

**show us your ways; teach us your paths;
and lead us into ways of justice and truth.**

**For the sake of your love and grace,
given to us through the death of your son,
Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

*In each
service of
Holy
Communion,
the Holy Spirit
gathers
people around
the means of
grace: the
Word of God
and the
sacraments.*

The Gathering Hymn welcomes us to the mercy of God and moves us from our individual experiences in confession into the purpose of worship.

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the name of the Triune God.

P: God is patient, not wanting any to perish,
but all who come to repentance.
In the name of Jesus Christ (✝), I bring you this good news:
You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven.
God heals our broken hearts.
Live in peace and harmony as together we wait for the day of God.

C: Amen

• **GATHERING HYMN**

Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Hymnal) or With One Voice (Blue Hymnal)

• **GREETING**

P: Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The Kyrie
 We reverently recognize God's presence in our worship here. We pray for God's blessings not only for ourselves but for others.

KYRIE

Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.

Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. ⓐ A - men

The Prayer of the Day gathers all our praise into one and highlights themes from the scripture readings we are about to hear.

- **Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray...

Prayer of the Day (Today's Readings insert, read in unison)

The Lord
Speaks to us in
Scripture
reading,
preaching and
song.

FIRST READING

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

(WEEK 1: V. 1, WEEK 2: VS. 1 & 2. WEEK 3: VS. 1-3, WEEK 4: VS. 1-4)

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on
3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's
4 Oh, come, blest Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by your
5 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
and close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalteriolum Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Music: VENI EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

Psalm: A psalm
is sung in
response to
the 1st Reading.

PSALM (Today's Readings Insert)

SECOND READING

Before the Gospel is read, we stand and acclaim the living Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, who speaks to us in the Gospel.

• ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues with 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' and ends with a double bar line.

The Gospel then leads directly to preaching. The preaching event is a means of grace.

• GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the ___ chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Glo - ry to you, O Lord.' with a double bar line at the end.

Reading of the Gospel

P: The Gospel of the Lord

The Hymn of the Day is our response to God's word read and preached and echoes themes of the season or day.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Praise to you, O Christ.' with a double bar line at the end.

SERMON

• HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Hymnal) or *With One Voice* (Blue Hymnal)

The Creed is a statement of the faith of the whole church and is a response to the Word and proclamation of the Word.

. NICENE CREED (IN UNISON)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was
made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

The Prayers of the People are our prayers for God's mercy to be known throughout the world.

This greeting is the very peace by which Jesus greeted his disciples following the resurrection. We share that peace with each other.

The offering of material goods for the church's mission, includes the care of those in need and is a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all God's gifts.

• PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: Filled with expectation and longing for the return of Christ, let us pray for the church and for all people who are in any need.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P: Hear the prayers of people, O God, and in your mercy grant us all we need for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

The Meal

• SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Peace be with you. **Peace be with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Wk 1, v. 1, Wk 2 vs. 1-2; Week 3, Vs. 1-3; Wk 4: vs. 1-4)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
Music: STUTTGART, Christian Friedrich Witt, 1660–1716

*The Offering
Prayer reminds us
that God is the
source of all gifts.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER (IN UNISON):

C: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shines ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen

• THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two phrases: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff has two phrases: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one phrase: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one phrase: 'It is right to give him thanks and praise.'

♩ 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 him thanks and praise.

Before the Lord's Supper is shared, the Pastor leads us into thanksgiving for the gifts of redemption.

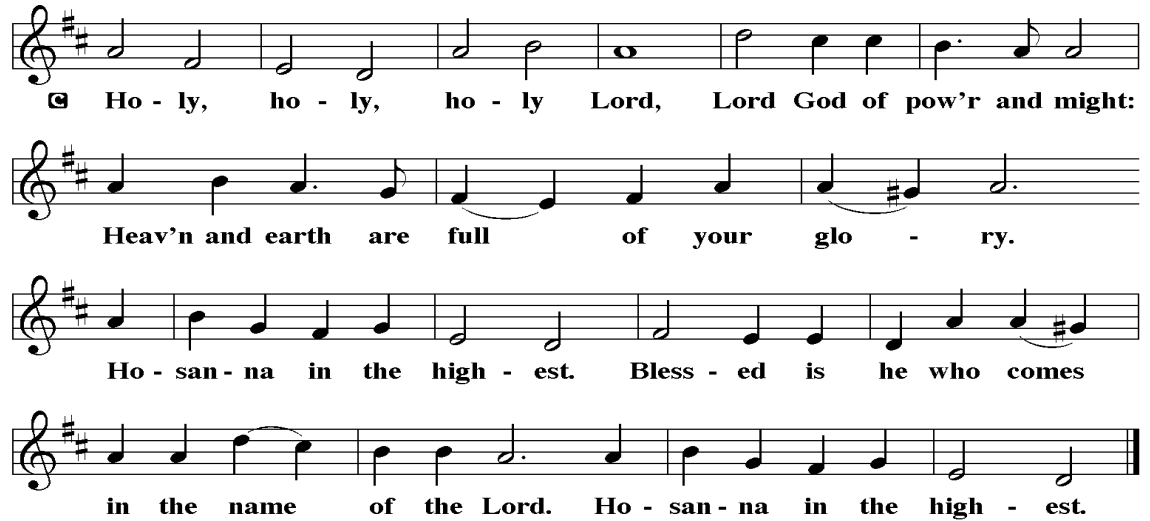
PREFACE

P. It is indeed a good and joyful thing to offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

As part of this thanksgiving we join our voices with all of creation and sing the angels song, Holy, Holy, Holy. (Isaiah 6:3)

In the meal of Holy Communion, the grace of God's gift for us is always proclaimed by the pastor in Jesus' own words of command and promise included in a prayer of thanksgiving. The Great Thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's Prayer.

• HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

• PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

• THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**C: 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**

*We bless God
and return our
thanks and
praise for the
love and gifts
God has given us
in the Sacrament.*

• POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

• POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (IN UNISON)

C: God, for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people of the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Sending

• BENEDICTION

P: Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

• SENDING HYMN

Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Hymnal) or *With One Voice* (Blue Hymnal)

• DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

At the close of worship, please return only the Worship Booklet to the back of the Sanctuary. The inserts & announcement pages are for you to take with you.

Enter to worship, depart to serve.

We welcome you to this holy time of sharing in the worship of our Triune God on this, the Lord's Day. If you are a guest, please let us know who you are by filling out a visitor card located in the pew and placing it in the offering plate. Please sign the guest register in the nar-



We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table. All baptized persons who have received their first communion in a congregation of any denomination will be communed here. All children who are accustomed to receiving communion elsewhere will be communed here as well. Anyone who is not baptized or otherwise does not wish to receive communion, but would like to receive a blessing from the pastor, should stand at the rail with folded hands. Communion is by tables and at the direction of the ushers. Please respond by saying "Amen" after receiving each element.