

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our service we gather before Jesus our Savior to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God’s holy and powerful word. Also,

- / Restrooms are down the hall and to the right from the back of church.
- / We love families! Your children are welcome in our service! Thanks for bringing them to hear about Jesus! If you would like, there are children’s bulletins with crayons in the back of church and a cry room in the back of the sanctuary.
- / Please fill out the Friendship Registers located at the end of each row.
- / If you want to review or share today’s service, you can find it on our website.
- / For upcoming events and activities, “like” us on our Facebook page.

Please come again and worship with us very soon!

TODAY’S THEME:
LISTEN TO THE HERALDS OF THE COMING LORD

Worship Participants

LiturgistPastor Brian Adams
Preacher Pastor Jacob Hoff
Organist Mrs. Sharon Larsen

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD - *Christian Worship* pg. 38

THE OPENING HYMN "Arise, O Christian People" *Christian Worship #14*



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him; Pre -
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn



pare your - selves to - day, Pre - pare to greet the
pare for him the best, Cast out what would of -
rais - es up on high; Be - neath his feet in
not from me a - side, And help me to re -



Sav - ior, Who takes your sins a - way. To
fend him, This great, this heav'n - ly guest, Make
ter - ror The haugh - ty soul shall lie, The
ceive you This bless - ed Ad - vent - tide, From



us by grace a - lone The truth and
straight, make plain the way; The low - ly
heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
stall and man - ger low Come now to



light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
dwell with - in me; I'll sing your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown,
bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay,
ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light,
glad - ly And forth your glo - ry show,

Statistics – Last Week

Attendance: 8:00 AM – 130, Communed – NA
10:30 AM – 138, Communed – 82
6:30 PM – 63, Communed – 36
Total Attendance – 331
Total Communed – 118+
Sunday Bible Class – 28, Sunday School – 14
Bible Information Class – 4

THE INVOCATION

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

C: **And also with you.**

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

Please be Seated

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 10	
Worship Service	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/Sunday School.....	9:15 AM
Bible Information Class	9:15 AM
Worship Service	10:30 AM
Church Decorating	11:30 AM
Mary Martha Cookie Sale	Before & After Services
Monday, December 11	
Worship Service	6:30 PM
Tuesday, December 12	
PSCIC	6:00 PM
Wednesday, December 13	
Advent Pre-Service Dinner.....	5:30 PM
Advent Worship Service.....	6:30 PM
Men's Open Gym	7:30 PM
Thursday, December 14	
Preschool Power Hour	10:45 AM
Friday, December 15	
School Devotion	1:00 PM
Living Nativity.....	6:00 PM
Saturday, December 16	
School Cleaning	9:00 AM
Living Nativity.....	6:00 PM
Sunday, December 17	
Worship Service with Communion	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/Sunday School.....	9:15 AM
Bible Information Class	9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion	10:30 AM
Children's Christmas Worship Service	4:30 PM



Commented [s1]:

present to your spouse, yourself, or a family member! Deadline to register is Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018. Cost and registration details can be found at www.wlhs.org/creationtour.

VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS THIS WEEK (December 10 & 11)

8:00 AM – Jacque & Doreen Vallier

10:30 AM – Richard & Betty Patin

6:30 PM – {Insert your name here – sign up to be a Greeter!}

GREETER FOR MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE (December 13)

6:30 PM – Beverly Garves

GREETERS NEXT WEEK (December 17 & 18)

8:00 AM – Bob & Carol Goelz

10:30 AM – Tony & Mary Tripoli

6:30 PM – Donna LaBlanc

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

8:00 AM – TEAM #4 – Pete Kosovich, Craig Gebert, Matt Gebert, Gordy Lesser

10:30 AM – TEAM #8 – Terry Ganyo, Jacob Marciniak, Fred Socha

6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

USHERS FOR MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE (December 13)

6:30 PM – TEAM #1 – Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Philip Becker

USHERS FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE (December 17)

4:30 PM – TEAM #5 – Mark Klein, Chris Klein, Gary Eickhorst, Dan Mertz, Brett

Abramowski & TEAM #6 – Nick Derouin, Mark Derouin, Connor Henry, Bob

Duchesneau

ALTAR GUILD

Dec 6-12 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh, Karen Hille

Dec 13-19 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh, Karen Hille

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Dec 10: Set-up – John & Jean Terek, Clean-up – Larry & Marion Klug

Dec 17: Set-up – Jerry & Alyce Lehtinen, Clean-up – Chris & Naomi Hathaway

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

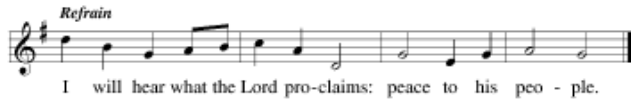
⁶A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

⁷The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

⁹You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.



You showed favor to your land, O LORD;*
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people*
and covered all their sins.

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,*
and grant us your salvation.

Refrain

I will listen to what God the LORD will say;*
he promises peace to his people, his saints.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,*
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together;*
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

YOUTH GROUP: We are in need of volunteers to help with supervision of our Youth Group events. We typically meet one Sunday evening a month for a few hours. If you are able to help, please contact Kyle Brightsman at (414) 335-2906 or kgb5217@gmail.com.

PRESCHOOL POWER HOUR: Join us at Power Hour two Thursdays a month! Open to children ages 0-4 with their caregivers. Meet us in the church narthex from 10:45-11:45 AM on the following dates: December 14th, January 11th & 25th, February 8th & 22nd, March 8th & 22nd, April 12th & 26th and May 10th & 24th. See the insert in today's bulletin for more information. There are also extra copies on the narthex counter to pass along to a friend!

CHRISTMAS AT WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY: Join the Seminary Chorus on December 10th at 3:00 and 7:00 PM for *Christmas at the Seminary*. The men's choir will share the story of Jesus' birth in songs, carols and hymns. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is located in Mequon at 11831 N. Seminary Drive. The concert is held in the campus auditorium, and seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. The 3:00 PM concert is streamed live at <http://livestream.com/WLSLive>.

WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The annual Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Sunday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert will feature the A Cappella, Cantorei, and Freshman Choirs of WLHS, Inspiration, Jubilation Handbell Choir, Wisconsin Lutheran Children's Choir, and numerous instrumentalists. Admission is free, and a freewill offering will be taken during the concert.

LUTHER PREP CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Luther Preparatory School will be presenting their Christmas concerts on Sunday, December 17th at 3:00 PM and Thursday, December 21st at 10:00 AM. Both concerts are in the gymnasium.

CREATION MUSEUM TOUR: Friends of Wisco are invited to attend a special bus tour to visit the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter in Petersburg, Ky., June 7-10, 2018, hosted by WLHS president Pastor Ken Fisher and WLHS Foundation executive director Kristine Metzger. We expect the trip to fill up fast, so consider making this an early Christmas

to greet a couple times this year. We need additional greeters for all services. If you are interested in signing up to greet, please place your completed form in the Greeter bin on the narthex counter by the end of December.

LIVING NATIVITY: Our Living Nativity will be held this Friday, December 15th & Saturday, December 16th. There will be performances with live animals celebrating the birth of the Savior at 6:00pm, 6:30pm and 7:00pm each night. Following each performance there will be refreshments and crafts. St. Paul's families are encouraged to invite family and friends! There are flyers located in the back of church or in the school office that you can feel free to take and use for inviting others. Please consider helping volunteer for this important event where we have an opportunity to share the best news this world has ever received with our community. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church and school office, or contact Caleb Manske at [262-442-4286](tel:262-442-4286) or clmanske@hotmail.com for more information.

USHERS NEEDED: We have re-organized our crews and have open spots where we could really use ushers! Please prayerfully consider becoming an usher for your church – your help is greatly appreciated! If you are interested, please contact Kyle Brightsman at (414) 335-2906 or kgb5217@gmail.com.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT CENTER: The Early Childhood Enrichment Center is now accepting registration for the 2018-2019 school year. In order to enroll, children must be 3 or 4 years old by September 1, 2018. Interested families may contact Mrs. Patti Krizan and Mrs. Nancy Willms at (414) 421-1833. Enrollment opportunities will be opened to the community after February 1, 2018.

SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: We are studying the topic: "Idols We Never Knew We Had." A wood-carved animal figurine. A chiseled stone statue. A golden goddess. Do you have an idol-worship area set up in your home? We would say "Definitely not! I don't bow down to idols!" But sometimes we do worship idols and make them our gods, not even realizing they are there. Our upcoming study will bring to light these idols that hide themselves so easily in our homes and hearts, and through God's guidance and power we'll get help to avoid worshipping these false gods. Please come and join us. We begin at 8:00am. Breakfast is also served. Below is our schedule:

Idols We Never Knew We Had:
Technology – January 13, 2018

THE SECOND LESSON..... 2 Peter 3:8-14

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia! (*Luke 3:4,6*)

Please Stand

THE GOSPEL LESSON..... Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way"—
³ "a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



Please be Seated

CHILDREN'S TALK..... 10:30 AM



DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Advent 2 – December 10 & 11
- Midweek Advent – December 13: 6:30 pm
- Advent 3 – December 17 & 18
- Children's Christmas Worship Service – December 17: 4:30 pm
- Advent 4 – December 24: 9:00 am
- Christmas Eve – December 24: 6:30 pm
- Christmas Eve Candlelight – December 24: 10:00 pm
- Christmas Day - December 25: 10:00 am
- Christmas 1 – December 31: 9:00 am
- New Year's Eve – December 31: 6:30 pm

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE: Everyone is invited to our Children's Christmas Worship Service next Sunday, December 17th at 4:30 PM. Come and enjoy our St. Paul's students joyously proclaim the birth of our Savior!

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Anyone – adults and children -- are welcome to join us on Friday, December 22nd as we once again go Christmas Caroling in the neighborhoods around church. It is a great opportunity to meet and share the message of Jesus' birth through song to our neighbors. It also gives us an opportunity to invite them to join us for Christmas. We will meet at church at 6:00 PM. After caroling, everyone is invited to come to Pastor Adams' house for chili. Please bring cookies to share! If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet located on the counter in the back of church.

NEED A GIFT OR A STOCKING STUFFER? The Mary and Martha Society still has cookbooks available for sale. Cookbooks are \$10 each and are located on the counter in the narthex.

GALA MEETING: Are you interested in learning more about our Gala, and the opportunities available for you to help? Our next Gala meeting will be on Sunday, December 10th from 6:00-8:00 PM. We will be choosing the projects that the classes create for guests to bid on, so come with any ideas you have!

GREETERS: Thank you to everyone who greeted before worship services this year! Please let Cory in the office know if you no longer wish to greet, otherwise you will be placed on the schedule for the new year. If you have not greeted before, please consider signing up

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU: Thank you to all who contributed to the Southside Ministries door collection last weekend. We collected \$840.00 which will be used to fill Christmas stockings for all of the children. We appreciate your generosity!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE: This weekend, the Mary and Martha Society will be selling boxes of Christmas cookies before and after each service. The cost is \$7.00 per box. The proceeds from this sale fund the ongoing efforts of Mary and Martha as well as their support of missions. Thank you to all those who donated cookies and also those who purchased cookies. Your support is much appreciated.

CHURCH DECORATING: As has become the tradition in recent years, the Confirmation Classes at St. Paul's and their families are asked to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. The church decorating will take place today after the 2nd service at about 11:30 AM. Take down of the decorations will be on Sunday, January 7th at 11:30 AM.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE & MEAL: This Wednesday, December 13th we will be having our only Midweek Advent worship service. The Adult Choir and Grades 5-8 will be a part of this special service. The Board of Elders will also be serving a meal prior to the service beginning at 5:30pm. In order to assist in our planning for the meal, we ask you to sign up on the sheets in the back of church if you'd like to attend the meal. If you would like to help bring some of the food items for that meal, there are sign-up sheets on the counter in the narthex as well. (If you are donating food, please have the items at church between 4:00 and 4:30pm that day.) Monetary donations are welcome any time, and there will be a free-will offering gathered at the meal.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT: We have begun the season of Advent. "Advent" is a Latin word that means "coming." The season of Advent is the four week period before Christmas that the Christian Church uses to remember the "coming" of Christ. We celebrate that he came once as a baby in Bethlehem, and that he will come again at the end of time. The focus of the next three Sunday's are:

- Advent 2: The Forerunner Prepares: Christ is Coming
- Advent 3: The Forerunner Explains: The Christ is Here
- Advent 4: The Promised Virgin Birth of Christ

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THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Christian Worship #16

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -

es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
uge and our great re - ward, With - out your grace we
us up to fall no more, Oh, make your face on
vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings,
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there,
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay,
us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine,
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

THE SERMON 2 Peter 3:8-14

Please Stand

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

9

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

Please be Seated

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

(We invite you to sign our Friendship Registers in each pew during the offering.)

THE OFFERING PRAYER

Please Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



Please be Seated

CLOSING HYMN "O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are"

Christian Worship #27

1 O Je - sus, Lamb of God, you are My com - fort
 2 O Lord, my sin in - deed is great; I groan be -
 3 Saint John the Bap - tist points to you And bids me
 4 Help me to change my ways, O Lord, And glad - ly

and my guid - ing star; I come, a sin - ner,
 neath the dread - ful weight. Be mer - ci - ful to
 cast my sin on you, For you have left your
 to o - bey your Word. While here I live, a -

trust - ing - ly And bring my man - y sins with me.
 me, I pray; Take guilt and pun - ish - ment a - way,
 throne on high To suf - fer for the world and die.
 bide with me, Then take me home e - ter - nal - ly.