

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:
REJOICE, CHRIST HAS COME!

Worship Participants

Liturgist Pastor Brian Adams
Preacher Pastor Jacob Hoff
Organist Mrs. Marie Becker

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship pg. 38

THE OPENING HYMN “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Christian Worship #7

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the
 3 You saints, who here in pa - tience Your cross and
 4 A - rise, De - sire of na - tions; O Je - sus,

lights ap - pear; The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing,
 Bride - groom near; Go forth, as he ap - proach - es,
 suf - f'ring bore, Shall live and reign for - ev - er
 now ap - pear, The Hope and Ex - pec - ta - tion

And dark - er night is near. The Bride - groom
 With al - le - lu - ias clear. The mar - riage
 When sor - row is no more. A - round the
 Of ev - 'ry Chris - tian here. With hearts and

is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh. Up,
 feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand. A -
 throne of glo - ry The Lamb you shall be - hold; In
 hands up - lift - ed We plead, O Lord, to see The

pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
 tri - umph lay be - fore him Your shin - ing crowns of gold.
 day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets your peo - ple free.

Please stand

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 -

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.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Please be seated

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSONJob 1:6-22

One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. ⁷The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

⁸Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

⁹"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied.¹⁰"Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

¹²The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

¹³One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁴a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, ¹⁵and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁹when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
may the name of the Lord be praised."

²²In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY.....Psalm 146

Christian Worship pg. 120



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.



Praise the LORD, O my soul.*
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,*
in mortal men, who cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

Refrain

The LORD gives food to the hungry,*
the LORD sets prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight to the blind,*
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

The LORD watches over the outcast*
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD remains faithful forever.*
He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

Psalm continues on next page

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.



I will praise your name for - ev - er, my King and my God.

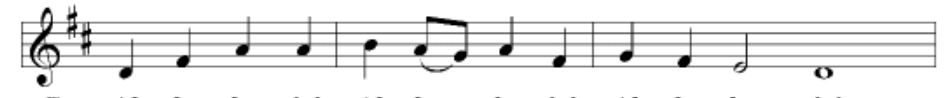


THE SECOND LESSON.....James 5:7-11

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near. ⁹Don’t grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job’s perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand

THE GOSPEL LESSON.....Matthew 3:1-12

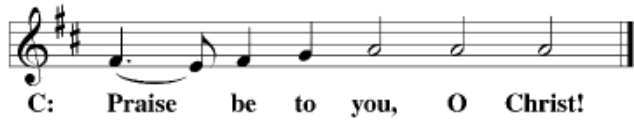
When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

⁴Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

⁷As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. ⁹Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written:

“‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’”

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



Please be seated

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



THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... "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.

THE SERMON**Job 1:6-22**

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.

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.



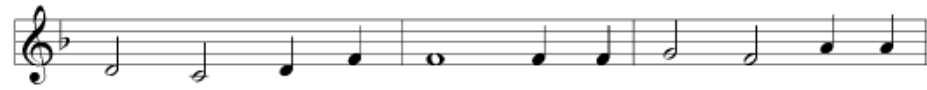
Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Christian Worship #353



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the
strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out
suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
to - rious That we may know God by grace.



Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing



ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing
what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -



thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace.
wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Advent 3 - December 11 & 12 - 8:00am & 10:30 am; 6:30 pm Monday
Advent 4 - December 18 & 19 - 8:00am & 10:30 am; 6:30 pm Monday (Song Service)
Christmas Eve Children's Christmas Service - December 24th - 4:00 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24th - 10:00 pm
Christmas Day Worship - December 25th - 10:00 am (Please note only 1 service)
December 26th - No Worship Service - 6:30 pm
New Year's Eve - December 31 - 6:30 pm
New Year's Day - January 1 - 10:00 am (Please note only 1 service)
January 2nd - No Worship Service - 6:30 pm

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Anyone, adults and children, are welcome to join us as we once again go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 11th 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, anyone is invited to come to Pastor Adams' house for chili and snacks. If you would like to join us, please sign-up on the sheet located on the counter in the back of church. You can also email the office at: Office@stpaulsfranklin.org. Please come and join us!

LIVING NATIVITY "CHOIR": As part of the Living Nativity program, we have invited anyone to come and help us sing a couple of carols. Anyone may join us. We will sing a couple verses of "Away in the Manger," "Silent Night," and "Joy to the World." If you are able to come, please sign-up on the sheet in the back of church.

MARY MARTHA COOKIE SALE: A signup sheet is located in the narthex at church for anyone in the congregation who is interested in making Christmas cookies for the annual Mary & Martha cookie sale. Please consider baking a batch of cookies (100 cookies if possible) for this sale. Please have your cookies labeled "Mary & Martha cookie sale" and dropped off at church by 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 10th. Anyone from St. Paul's is welcome to come and help pack the cookie boxes on Saturday, December 10th at 9am. The sale will take place after each service on Sunday and Monday, December 11th and 12th. The proceeds from this sale benefit the ongoing work of the Mary and Martha Society and their support of missions.

MARY MARTHA CHRISTMAS PARTY: Mary & Martha will be having their Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 13 beginning at 6:00. Husbands are also invited. Bring a dish for the potluck dinner and 6 cookies to share. Everyone should bring a white elephant gift and Mary & Martha members should bring Secret Pal gifts. New This Year: Anyone in the congregation is welcome to join us. Just bring a dish to share and a white elephant gift. Contact Sherry Kosovich at 761-7664 if you plan to attend.

LIVING NATIVITY: Our Living Nativity will be held on December 17th & 18th. There will be performances with live animals celebrating the birth of the Savior at 6:00pm, 6:30pm and 7:00 pm each night. Following each performance, there will be refreshments and crafts. There are various ways that you can help;

- Sign up to help on the easel in the back of church.
- Support the Living Nativity event with a monetary gift.
- Invite people to this event through the use of yard signs, invitation cards and personal invitations.
- Come!

For more information, please talk to one of the pastors or Caleb Manske (Chairman of the Board of Outreach) at 262-442-4286 or clmanske@hotmail.com.

2017 MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE: Have you seen the news lately? It's crazy out there. The world attacks our Christian values from every direction on a daily basis. To counter these attacks, the MOHW Conference uses God's Word to empower and equip men to carry out their God-given mission in their homes, churches, communities and the world with the theme, "BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS." Whether you attend for the keynote speaker (Pastor Mike Novotny from The Core in Appleton), the relevant, thought-provoking sessions (20 to choose from) or the worship experience with 600 other men (with Koine', the worship band), God's Word will speak to you. The 8th annual MOHW Conference will be held at the Oshkosh Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Additional details and online registration are available at www.menofhisword.org for the first 650 men (\$40 by January 29th; \$50 from January 30th - February 5th). Please join us for a day in God's Word that you will not soon forget!

LUTHER PREPARATORY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS: Join Luther Prep for their Christmas Concerts today, Sunday, December 11th at 3:00 PM and Thursday, December 15th at 10:00 AM. Both concerts are in the gymnasium.

NEW BIBLE CLASS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer has been a part of the Christian Church for the past 2,000 years. Christians know it well. Many a Christian have begun their day or ended their day with the words of the Lord's Prayer. It is a part of nearly every worship service at St. Paul's. Yet, do we always focus on the wonderful things that we are asking God in each of the petitions of the Lord's Prayer? We continue our Bible Class on The Lord's Prayer, meeting each Sunday morning at 9:15am. Please come and join us!

"THE STORY" BIBLE CLASS: Our next bible class will be Saturday, January 14th. As we continue to look at God's story in the Bible, our lesson focuses on the theme: "The Beginning of the End".

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 to greet a couple times this year. We especially need people to greet at the 10:30 a.m. and Monday evening services. If you are interested in signing up to greet, please place your completed form on the narthex counter by the end of December.

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE: We are still in need of a few more members for our Refreshment Committee to help out in both services. The sign-up sheet is on the narthex counter, or you may can contact Tony Tripoli at (414) 232-5817 if you would like to help!

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 15th, January 5th & 19th, February 2nd & 16th, March 2nd & 16th, April 6th & 20th and May 4th & 18th.

WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The annual Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Sunday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert, titled "How Great Our Joy!" 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.

VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS THIS WEEK (December 11 & 12)

- 8:00 AM – Pete & Sherry Kosovich
- 10:30 AM – Steve & Irva Baade
- 6:30 PM – Dave & Janet Long

GREETERS NEXT WEEK (December 18 & 19)

- 8:00 AM – Andrew & Renate Nazimek
- 10:30 AM – Mark & Rosie Derouin
- 6:30 PM – Joan Shevey

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

- 8:00 AM – TEAM #4 – Pete Kosovich, Craig Gebert, Matt Gebert, Gordy Lesser
- 10:30 AM – TEAM #8 – Nolan Romeis, Kyle Brightsman, Pete Eppen
- 6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Dave Long

ALTAR GUILD

- Dec 7-13 – TEAM #4 – Marge Gebert, Marilyn Krueger, Renate Nazimek
- Dec 14-20 – TEAM #4 – Marge Gebert, Marilyn Krueger, Renate Nazimek

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

- Dec 11: Set-up – Pete & Sherry Kosovich, Clean-up – Larry & Vanessa McKee
- Dec 18: Set-up – Tony Tripoli & Connie Myer, Clean-up – Tony Tripoli

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 11

- Worship Service 8:00 AM
- Adult Bible Study/Sunday School..... 9:15 AM
- Worship Service 10:30 AM
- Mary Martha Cookie Sale
- Neighborhood Caroling..... 6:00 PM

Monday, December 12

- Worship Service 6:30 PM
- Mary Martha Cookie Sale

Tuesday, December 13

- NO PSCIC
- Mary Martha Christmas Party..... 6:00 PM
- Church Council 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 14

- Adult Choir Rehearsal (tentative) 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 15

- Preschool Power Hour 10:45 AM

Friday, December 16

- School Devotion 8:30 AM

Saturday, December 17

- School Cleaning..... 9:00 AM
- Living Nativity..... 6:00-7:30 PM

Sunday, December 18

- Worship Service with Communion 8:00 AM
- Adult Bible Study/Sunday School..... 9:15 AM
- Worship Service 10:30 AM
- Living Nativity..... 6:00-7:30 PM

Statistics – Last Week

- Attendance: 8:00 AM – 155, Communed – 107
- 10:30 AM – 106, Communed – 68
- 6:30 PM – 47, Communed – 40
- Total Attendance – 308, Total Communed – 215
- Sunday Bible Class – 25, Sunday School – 9