## **OUR WORSHIP SERVICE**

# December 15 & 16, 2019

W

elcome! 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,

- *f* 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.
- *t* Please fill out the Friendship Registers located at the end of each row.
- f If you want to review or share today's service, you can find it on our website.
- *f* For upcoming events and activities, "like" us on our Facebook page.

Please come again and worship with us very soon!

TODAY'S THEME: THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM TO BE IN CHRIST'S KINGDOM

## **Worship Participants**

Liturgist	Pastor Jacob Hoff
Preacher	Pastor Brian Adams
Organist/Accompanist	Miss Heather Schmidt
Pre-Service Music	Miss Lauren Roedel
Senior Choir Director	Dr. David Brightsman

### THE COMMON SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

Christian Worship pg. 15



### Please Stand

### THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



## THE CONFESSION OF SINS

- **P:** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a sinner.



P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

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

#### **GLORY BE TO GOD**



#### THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** The Lord be with you.



#### 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.



Please be Seated

#### THE FIRST LESSON ...... Isaiah 35:1-10

<sup>35:1</sup> The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, <sup>2</sup> it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. <sup>3</sup> Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; <sup>4</sup> say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come,

he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." <sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. <sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. <sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. <sup>8</sup> And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. <sup>9</sup> No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, <sup>10</sup> and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.







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



- Praise the LORD, <u>O</u> my soul.\* I will sing praise to my God as long <u>as</u> I live.
- Do not put your trust in <u>princ</u>es,\* in mortal men, who <u>can</u>not save.
- Blessed is he whose hope is in the <u>LORD</u> his God,\* the maker of heav<u>en</u> and earth.

## Refrain

The LORD gives food to the <u>hungry</u>,\* the LORD sets <u>pris</u>oners free.

- The LORD gives sight <u>to</u> the blind,\* the LORD lifts up those who are <u>bowed</u> down.
- The LORD watches over the <u>out</u>cast\* and sustains the fatherless and the <u>wid</u>ow.
- The LORD remains faithful for<u>ev</u>er.\* He upholds the cause of <u>the</u> oppressed.
- Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

## Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON	James 5:7-11

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup> Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup> Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> As 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

**P:** Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. (*Matthew 11:10 cf. NIV*)



## SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM (8:00 & 10:30 AM) ......"A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us" Words and Music by Nancy Price & Don Besig

A little child will come us lead us; the prophets have foretold. A little child will come to lead us; a miracle will unfold. One cold and wint'ry ev'ning a star will shine above, and a little child will come to lead us with His love, with His love. O come, O come Emmanuel. The promise of your advent we retell. We need the peace and joy you will bring, and long to hear the song the angels sing.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel; come live with us that we may know you well.

A little child will come to lead us; the world awaits that night. A little child will come to lead us and darkness will turn to light!

The joyful alleluias will ring in heav'n above; and a little child will come to lead us with His love, with His love.

#### Please Stand



<sup>2</sup> When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples <sup>3</sup> to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

<sup>4</sup> Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> The 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. <sup>6</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

<sup>7</sup> As 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? <sup>8</sup> If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. <sup>9</sup> Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written:

> "'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>11</sup> 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.



#### THE NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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 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, 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.

## **THE SACRAMENT**

#### PREFACE

**P:** The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts



**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



**P:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD





#### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is a miracle. By God's power, the Lord's body and blood are with the bread and wine. In the Lord's Supper, God gives strength and comfort to His believers. While the Lord's Supper is first about our relationship with Jesus, it is also about our relationship with fellow believers. Therefore, we practice "close communion." We invite all who are members of St. Paul's or visitors who belong to our WELS fellowship to receive the Lord's Supper with us. If you would like to learn more about being a member of our family at St. Paul's, please feel free to contact one of the pastors.



Please Stand

#### SONG OF SIMEON



P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**P:** We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### THE BLESSING

**P:** 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.





THE CLOSING HYMN...... "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" Christian Worship #353 With 1 Praise the who breaks the dark one \_ ness а 2 Praise the who blessed the chil dren With one а 3 Let the Word in us praise car \_ nate, Christ, who lib er ting light; Praise the who frees the а one -strong, yet gen - tle. word; Praise the one who drove out suf - fered in our place; Je sus died and rose vic pris 'ners, blind Turn - ing in - to sight. ness de With the pierc - ing, sword. mons two - edged rious That we know God by grace. to may

Hymn continues on next page





#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALTAR FLOWERS**: This weekend's altar flowers are given by Randy & Nancy Willms in thanksgiving for the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Randy's liver transplant.

**THANK YOU**: Thank you to those that donated to our door collection last weekend. We collected \$670.00 for Southside Ministries.

**ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD CAROLING:** We are once again planning to do our "Neighborhood Caroling" this evening, Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone is welcome to join us. We will meet in the school at 6:00 pm. We will then walk to one of the neighborhoods in the area. Everyone is invited to come to the parsonage afterwards and have some of Pastor Adams' chili. If you are able, you are invited to bring some Christmas cookies to share that night as well at the parsonage.

**CALL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Members of St Paul's, God's grace and peace to you! I am writing to acknowledge that I have received the Divine Call extended to me to serve as an upper grades teacher with an emphasis in 6<sup>th</sup> grade as well as serving as Athletic Director. It is a humbling and gracious privilege to be able to deliberate the opportunity to serve our Savior and your students. My wife and I have already taken this matter to the Lord in prayer, and will continue to do so in the coming days and weeks. I ask that you would also please keep me and my family in your prayers as we deliberate this important decision, asking that the Holy Spirit would grant guidance, insight, and understanding to do HIS will. I know God will bless and be with us all through this process. I welcome any insights, thoughts, or words you may have. My contact information is caclough@uwalumni.com and (414) 736-6461. In HIS service, Chad Clough

**MARY & MARTHA CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Mary & Martha will be having their Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 17th beginning at 6:00 PM. 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.

MARY & MARTHA CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE UPDATE: A huge thank you to everyone who donated cookies to the sale and also to all those who purchased cookies. \$897.00 was raised through the cookie sale and will help fund the ongoing work of Mary & Martha and their support of missions.

**PRESCHOOL & JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**: Everyone is invited to join us for our Preschool & Junior Kindergarten Christmas service this Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM!

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**: Please make note of the many opportunities for worship! Join us!

Preschool & Junior Kindergarten Christmas Service – Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM Children's Christmas Service (Kindergarten-Grade 8) – Sunday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Tuesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM or 10:00 PM Christmas Day Service – Wednesday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM New Year's Eve Service – Tuesday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM **NO CLASSES**: There will be no Adult Bible Study, Sunday School or Public School Confirmation classes on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. We will resume all classes on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.

**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 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.

**10 FOR 10 COMMITMENT CARDS**: If you turned in a commitment card during our "10 for 10" stewardship emphasis, the cards are back in your church mailboxes. Thank you for your prayerful reflections on your giving habits.

**SAVE THE DATE**: Next year's Vacation Bible Camp will be held July 6-10, 2020. Registration will take place later in spring.

**USHERS**: Current ushers – a new usher schedule is in your church mailbox. We currently have (4) open spots in both services. Please consider serving your congregation in this way. If you are able to help or have any questions, 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 19, January 16, February 6 & 20, March 5 & 19, April 2, May 7 & 21. There are extra flyers on the narthex counter to share with a friend!

**WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The annual WLHS Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Sunday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert features the A Cappella, Cantorei, and Freshman Choirs of WLHS, Inspiration, Jubilation Handbell Choir, Wisconsin Lutheran Children's Choir, and numerous instrumentalists. Admission is free.

**LUTHER PREPARATORY CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**: Join Luther Prep for their Christmas Concerts; Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM and Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Concerts will be held in the gymnasium.

### VOLUNTEERS

### **GREETERS FOR THIS WEEK (December 15 & 16)**

8:00 AM – Dave & Dawn Brightsman 10:30 AM – Tony & Mary Tripoli 6:30 PM – Joan Shevey

#### **GREETERS FOR NEXT WEEK (December 22 & 23)**

8:00 AM – John & Barb Migacz
10:30 AM – Carl & Carolyn Streeter; Eli & Sam
6:30 PM – {sign up to be a greeter!}

#### USHERS FOR DECEMBER

8:00 AM – TEAM #4 – Pete Kosovich, Craig Gebert, Matt Gebert, Gordy Lesser, Adrian Boldt
10:30 AM – TEAM #8 – Walter Falkowski, Terry Ganyo, Jacob Marciniak, Fred Socha, Scott Seymer
6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

#### ALTAR GUILD

Dec 11-17 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh Dec 18-24 – TEAM #3 – Jane Koplein, Carol Willms, Connie Myer

#### **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**

Dec 15: Set-up – Don & Marge Gebert, Clean-up – Beverly Garves Dec 22: Set-up – Jerry & Alyce Lehtinen, Clean-up – Andy & Chris Backus

## THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 15
Worship Service with Communion8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/PSCIC9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion10:30 AM
Christmas Caroling6:00 PM
Monday, December 16
Lutheran Girl Pioneers6:00 PM
Worship Service with Communion6:30 PM
Tuesday, December 17
Mary & Martha Christmas Party6:00 PM
Board of Education6:30 PM
Wednesday, December 18
Senior Choir Rehearsal6:30 PM
Thursday, December 19
Preschool Power Hour10:45 AM
Men's Basketball7:30 PM
Friday, December 20
3K & 4K Christmas Service11:00 AM
CDS Dismissal
Sunday, December 22
Worship Service8:00 AM
NO Adult Bible Study/PSCIC/Sunday School
Worship Service
Children's Christmas Service

Statistics – Last Week Attendance: 8:00 AM – 109, 10:30 AM – 142, 6:30 PM – 42 Total Attendance – 293 Sunday Bible Class – 31, Sunday School – 18