

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7 & 8, 2014



Welcome in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ! We are happy to have you with us. We pray that your worship will be enriched and blessed by the Word of God. Restrooms are located in the hallway off the west side of the sanctuary. We also ask that you sign one of our Friendship Registers which are located in each of the pews. Please come and worship with us again!

Our Worship Service

Service of the Word and Sacrament, page 26

WELCOME

He Comes to Those in Darkness (John 3:1-21)

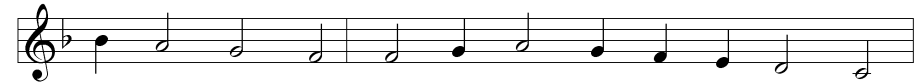
It was a dark night when Nicodemus so carefully approached Jesus. But the darkness wasn't only in the streets of Jerusalem. It was also in the hearts of the Jewish people. Isaiah spoke about this darkness when he wrote: "See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you." (Isaiah 60:2) Things were going to change for Nicodemus and for many others. For Jesus comes to those who are in darkness with life-giving light for the soul.

THE OPENING HYMN....."Comfort, Comfort All My People" *Christian Worship #11*



1 "Com - fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; Speak of peace,"
 2 All their sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out
 3 John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing In the des -
 4 Straight - en out the crook - ed high - way; Make the rough -

Hymn continues on next page



so says our God. "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
 each dark mis - deed; All that well de - serve his an - ger
 ert far and near, Call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance
 er plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Groan - ing from their sor - rows' load. Speak to all
 He no more will see or heed. They have suf -
 For the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn -
 Read - y for his ho - ly reign. For the glo -



Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 fered man - y a day; Now their griefs have passed a - way.
 ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is spread a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er,
 God will change their ach - ing sad - ness
 Let the val - leys rise to meet him
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken



That their war - fare now is o - ver."
 In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 And the hills bow down to greet him.
 That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

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: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

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.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

O LORD, OUR LORD

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Please be Seated

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

Isaiah reminds the people that the Messiah will bring sight to those who are spiritually blind. He will bring strength to those who are weak. He will bring everlasting joy and crown the heads of his believers. He comes to those who are in darkness.

^{35:1}The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, ²it 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. ³Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; ⁴say 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." ⁵Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶Then 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. ⁷The 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. ⁸And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it. ⁹No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰and the ransomed of the Lord 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.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY.....Psalm 24

Christian Worship Pg. 73


Refrain

Let the Lord en-ter; he is the King of glo - ry.

Psalm tone

The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it,*
 the world, and all who live in it;
 for he founded it upon the seas*
 and established it upon the waters.
 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?*
 Who may stand in his holy place?
 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
 he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

Refrain



Let the Lord en-ter; he is the King of glo-ry.

Psalm tone



Lift up your heads, O you gates;
 be lifted up, you ancient doors,*
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is this King of glory?*
 The LORD strong and mighty,
 the LORD mighty in battle.
 Lift up your heads, O you gates;
 lift them up, you ancient doors,*
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is he, this King of glory?*
 The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

**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

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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THE SECOND LESSON..... Matthew 1:2-12

*John the Baptist points out the connection between Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 35 to Jesus.
 Jesus is the fulfillment of that prophecy.*

²When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, "Are you the one who was 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 cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. ⁶Blessed is the man who does not fall away 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 desert 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." ¹¹I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

VERSE OF THE DAY-Sung by Senior Choir 8:00 & 10:30

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Prepare the way for the Lord
 Make straight paths for him
 All mankind will see God's salvation
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*


P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia! Alleluia! (Monday)



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 John 3:1-21

Jesus came to those who are in darkness. It was a dark night when Nicodemus so carefully approached Jesus. But the darkness wasn't only in the streets of Jerusalem. It was also in the hearts of the Jewish people. Things were going to change for Nicodemus and for many others. For Jesus comes to those who are in darkness with life-giving light for the soul.

3:1Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." ³In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." ⁴"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" ⁵Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." ⁹"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. ¹⁰"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? ¹¹I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven — the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be Seated

Senior Choir Anthem..... “A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us”

8:00am & 10:30am

*A Little Child will come to lead us
The prophets have foretold
A Little child will come to lead us;
A miracle will unfold
One cold and wintry evening
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 joy and peace 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 heaven above
And a little child will come to lead us with
With His love, with His love*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

Christian Worship #23

- 1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
- 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
- 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
- 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; 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.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 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: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

THE SERMON..... John 3:1-21
“He Comes to Those in Darkness”

Please Stand

Response to the Sermon..... “Hark The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”
By Congregation: Christian Worship #12, Verse 2

**He comes the captives to release, In Satan’s prison held.
 The gates of brass before him burst; The iron fetters yield.**

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.

Please be Seated

THE OFFERING

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

THE OFFERING PRAYER

Please Stand

THE PRAYERS

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

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

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.



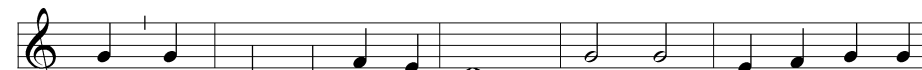
C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



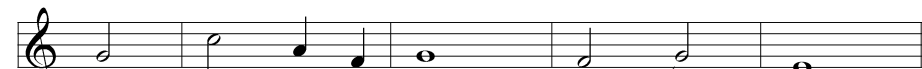
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be Seated

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 the pastor.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "My Soul in Stillness Waits" Christian Worship Supplement #703

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits,

tru-ly my hope is in you. you.

To verses *Last time*

Verses

1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of
 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our
 3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with -
 4 O Key of Know - ledge, guide us in our

glo - ry, Your ra-diance shines in all who look to
 spir - its. Our thirs - ty hearts are yearn - ing for your
 in us, And in your ad - vent draw us all to
 pil-grim-age, We ev - er seek, yet un - ful - filled re -

To Refrain

Hymn continues on next page



you. Come, light the hearts of all in dark and sha-dow.
 Word. Come, make us whole, be com-fort to our hearts.
 you, Our hope re - born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.
 main. O - pen to us the path-way of your peace.

This Advent hymn, based on the ancient "O" antiphons, calls to mind the Old Testament titles of our Savior and the longing of God's people for the Savior to come.

Text: *O Antiphons*, adapted. © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS (11 10 11 and Refrain) Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Please Stand

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news 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!

THE CLOSING PRAYER

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE BENEDICTION

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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“Thank the Lord” Tune: Richard Hillert. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*.
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Please be Seated

THE CLOSING HYMN **“The People that in Darkness Sat”**

Christian Worship #90 vs. 1



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To us a child of hope is born, To us a
3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -
4 His right - eous gov - ern - ment and pow'r Shall o - ver
5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us



light have seen; The light has shone on them who long In
son is giv'n, And on his shoul - ders ev - er rests All
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The
all ex - tend; On judg - ment and on jus - tice based, His
yours a - lone, For you are with the Fa - ther and The

Hymn continues on next page



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.
reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.
Spir - it ev - er one, The Spir - it ev - er one.

Text: John Morison, 1750–98, abr., alt.
Tune: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (86 866) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561.

Worship Participants

Liturgist & Preacher.....Pastor Brian Adams
OrganistMrs. Marie Becker
Senior Choir directed byMrs. Marie Becker

Announcements

PASTORAL CALL INFORMATIONAL MEETING: Over the last several months, the Board of Elders has continued its work of reviewing and discussing the roles and responsibilities of two pastors, as well as articulating the ministry priorities of St. Paul’s going forward. That work was presented to the Church Council on Tuesday, November 11th. The Church Council reviewed that work. They fully support the calling of a second pastor, and are recommending that this proposal be shared with the congregation in a presentation following all the worship services on December 7th and 8th. This information will be presented by Mr. Steve Baade, the current chairman of the Board of Elders. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions in regards to this proposal. Following this informational meeting, any additional concerns or questions will be addressed by the Board of Elders and the Church Council. At that time, the church council will schedule a Voter’s Meeting, in the first quarter of 2015, for the purpose of calling a second Pastor at St. Paul’s.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS CAROLING: We would like to once again go Christmas Caroling into the neighborhoods around church on December 14th. If you would like to join us, please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex. We will meet at church at 6:00pm. After caroling, you are invited to Pastor Adams’ house for refreshments.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP & DINNER: On Wednesday, December 10th, we will be having our only Midweek Advent worship service. The school, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Junior Handbells and Adult Handbells will be a part of this special service. The Board of

Elders will also be serving a meal prior to that service beginning at 5:30pm. If you would like to help bringing some of the food items for that meal, there are sign-up sheets on the counter in the narthex. (If you are donating food, please have the items at church by 4:30pm.) Monetary donations are welcome any time, and there will be a free-will offering gathered at the meal.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES: Our current series concentrates our attention on the coming of Christ to meet the needs of individuals. Waiting and anticipating something is both exciting and scary at the same time. We look forward to some happy event. We also dread things that make us uncomfortable. Yet, we can join with the hymn writer in saying: "*Hark the Glad Song, the Savior Comes.*"

Advent 1: November 30/December 1 – He Comes to Those Who Were Waiting for Him (Mark 1:1-8)

Advent 2: December 7 & 8 – He Comes to Those in Darkness (John 3:1-21)

Advent 3: December 14 & 15 – He Comes to Those Caught in Sin (Luke 19:1-10)

Advent 4: December 21 & 22 – He Comes to Those who Believe (Matthew 1:18-25)

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE: In December, there will be many different opportunities to worship our coming Savior. The schedule is below:

December 7 – Advent 2 (8:00am & 10:30am)

December 8 – Advent 2 (6:30pm)

December 10 – Midweek Advent service (6:30pm)

December 14 – Advent 3 (8:00am & 10:30am)

December 15 – Advent 3 (6:30pm)

December 21 – Advent 4 (8:00am & 10:30am)

December 22 – Advent 4 (6:30pm)

December 23 – Children's Christmas Service (6:30pm)

December 24 – Children's Christmas Service (4:30pm)

December 24 – Candlelight Service (10:00pm)

December 25 – Christmas Day Worship (10:00am)

December 28 – Christmas 1 (8:00am & 10:30am)

December 29 - No Monday Worship

December 31 – New Year's Eve (6:30 pm)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 7th – Advent by Candlelight (3pm – 4:30pm)

December 14th – Christmas Caroling (6pm)

December 20th & 21st – Living Nativity (6pm)

WLHS CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT: Don't miss the annual Christmas Pops Concert on Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. This concert features the WLHS Concert Band, A Cappella Choir, Inspiration, Wisco Kids Show Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Jubilation handbell Choir, and other instrumental ensembles. Admission is free, and a freewill offering will be taken during the concert. Afterward, enjoy a reception of Christmas cookies, coffee, and punch.

WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The annual Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Saturday, December 13 at 7:30 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.

LIVING NATIVITY: Our Living Nativity will be the weekend of December 20 & 21. If you are interested in helping with it or being part of the cast, please contact Pastor Adams, Pete Kosovich or Mark Ziegler.

MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE: Registration for Men of His Word 2015 "A Shelter from the Storm" is now open. The Conference is January 31, 2015 in Oshkosh. Don't miss this chance to gather with hundreds of your fellow Christian men for a day of inspiration. The 20 different sessions will both encourage and challenge you in your walk of faith. For more information and registration go to: www.menofhisword.org.

CHURCH DECORATING: As has become the tradition in recent years, the Confirmation Classes at St. Paul's and their families are invited to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. The church decorating will take place this Sunday, December 7th at about 12:30 pm. Take down of the decorations will be on Sunday, January 11th at 11:30 am.

MARY MARTHA CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE: Taking place after each service Sunday and Monday. The proceeds from the sale will go to Mary & Martha Society's ongoing support of missions.

CHURCH COUNCIL: The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30pm.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION CLASSES (PSCIC) IN DECEMBER:

As a result of the different worship services, school breaks and other meetings and events, we will meet on the following Tuesdays in December:

December 9: No Class (Church Council Mtg.)

December 16: 6-7:00pm (Mary Martha Christmas Party)

December 23: No Class (Children Worship Service)

December 30: No Class (Christmas break)

SOUTHSIDE MINISTRIES DOOR COLLECTION: We will have a door collection, following the services this weekend, for Southside Ministries.

LUTHER PREPARATORY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS: Sunday, December 14, at 3:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 18, at 10:00 a.m.

Volunteers

GREETERS THIS WEEK 12/7 & 12/8):

8:00 AM - Dave & Marlene Horn
10:30 AM- Charles & Sharie Snyder
6:30 PM - Marion Szudrowitz

GREETERS NEXT WEEK (12/14 & 12/15)

8:00 AM- Allyn & Patsy Curler
10:30 AM- Jean Villwock
6:30 PM- Donna LaBlanc

CLEANING CREWS:

December 9- Crew #2-David & Dawn Brightsman Family; Becky Barwick, Jeff & Laura Eichel Family, Gary & Chris Eickhorst Family, Paul & Sue Goral, Kim Guerra Family, Elena Hubred Family,

December 16-Crew #3-Mark & Rosie Derouin; Ken & Carrie Dahm, Josh Derouin, Nick & Sarah Derouin, Matt & Kelly Evans Family, Sheridan Gillis, Jon & Kebi Koeller Family, Doreen Kresa, Michael & Nicole Vullings

USHERS FOR DECEMBER:

8: 00 AM TEAM #1-Pete Kosovich, Craig Gebert, Matt Gebert, Gordy Lesser
10:30 AM TEAM # 8-Mike Destrampe, David Destrampe, DanielDestrampe, Paul Larsen
6:30 PM TEAM # 9-Curt Stellwagon, Dave Long, Max Grueneberg

USHERS FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL DECEMBER SERVICES:

MIDWEEK ADVENT-DECEMBER 10TH 6:30 PM-TEAM #1-Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Philip Becker

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS SERVICE DECEMBER 23RD 6:30 PM TEAM #5-Mark Klein, Chris Klein, Bob Dittrich, Gary Eickhorst, Todd Grunze, Dan Mertz, Brett Abramowski

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 4:30 PM- TEAM#7-Dave Brightsman, Kyle Brightsman, Brandon Wirtz, Austin Wirtz, Ian Wirtz

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 10: 00 PM TEAM #8-Mike Destrampe, David Destrampe, Daniel Destrampe, Paul Larsen

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 10:00 AM TEAM #3-Donn Johnson, Todd Johnson, John Migacz, Steve Migacz, Frank Krajewski
NEW YEAR’S EVE SERVICE 6:30 PM TEAM #1-Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Philip Becker

ALTAR GUILD:

November 26-December 9-TEAM #3 Lois Martin, Jane Koplein, Carol Wilms
December 10-23-Team #4 Marge Gebert, Marilyn Krueger, Renate Nazimek

The Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 7

Worship Service with Communion8:00 AM
Adult Bible/Sunday School9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion10:30 AM
Mary Martha Cookie Sale 9:00 & 11:30 AM
Pastor Call Information Meeting11:30 AM
Chruch Decorating..... 12:30 PM
Advent by Candlelight..... 3:00 PM

Monday, December 8

Worship Service with Communion..... 6:30 PM
Mary Martha Cookie Sale 7:30 PM
Pastor Call Information Meeting 7:30 PM

Tuesday, December 9

Church Council Meeting..... 6:30 PM
NO PSCIC

Wednesday, December 10

Advent Dinner..... 5:30 PM
Midweek Advent Service..... 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 11

Adult Handbells 6:30 PM

Friday, December 12

School Devotion.....8:30 AM

Sunday, December 14

Worship Service8:00 AM
Adult Bible/Sunday School.....9:15 AM

Christmas Caroling 6:00 PM

Statistics - Last Week

Worship Attendance: Thanksgiving Eve: 6:30 PM- 283; Thanksgiving Day 10:00 AM-59; 8:00 AM -91 Communed N/A; 10:30 AM -174, Communed N/A; 6:30 PM -43, Communed N/A; Total Attendance - 607; Total Communed N/A; Bible Study N/A; Sunday School N/A