# Twenty-third Sunday of Pentecost November 23 & 24, 2014

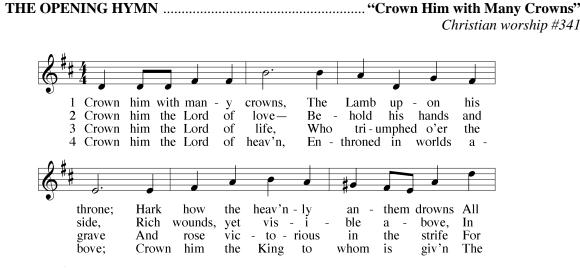


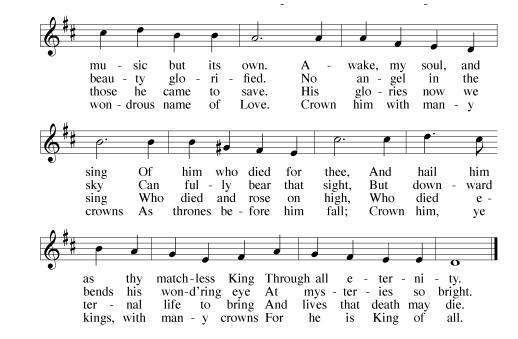
WELCOME

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, page 38





Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, st. 1-2, 4, abr., alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3. Tune: DIADEMATA (SM D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

#### 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**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

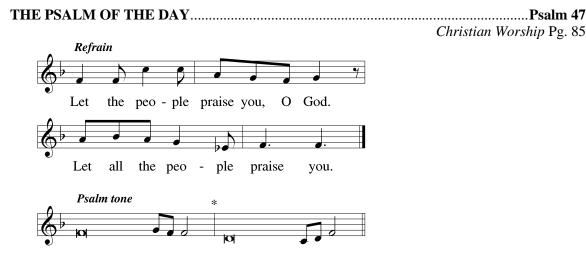


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THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 35:8-10

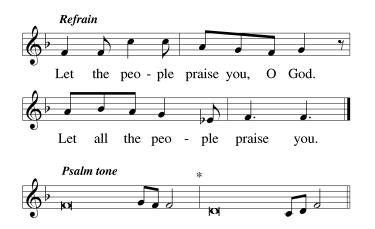
Joy is a condition of the heart that the believer possess through faith in Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup>And 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. <sup>9</sup>No 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, <sup>10</sup>and 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.



Clap your hands, all you <u>na</u>tions;\* shout to God with <u>cries</u> of joy. How awesome is the <u>LORD</u> Most High,\* the great King over <u>all</u> the earth! God reigns over the nations;\*

God is seated on his <u>holy</u> throne.



God has ascended amid shouts of joy,\* the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises;\* sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth;\* sing to him a psalm of praise.

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: Dale Wood. From Seasonal Psalms. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

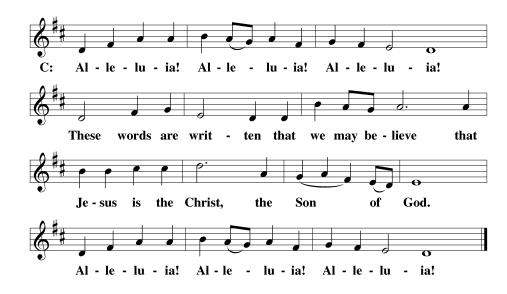
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Christians through faith in Christ know God and have hope. This is not the expectation that something may or may not happen, like hoping it will rain. It is a solid and sure hope. Therefore, we have no fear of the End Times of this world.

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:13)



### ST. PAUL'S FACULTY HYMN ...... "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

Christian Worship #382

*My* hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare to make no other claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain *His oath, his covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;* When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain When he shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in him be found, *Clothed in his righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before his throne.* Refrain

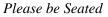
Please Stand

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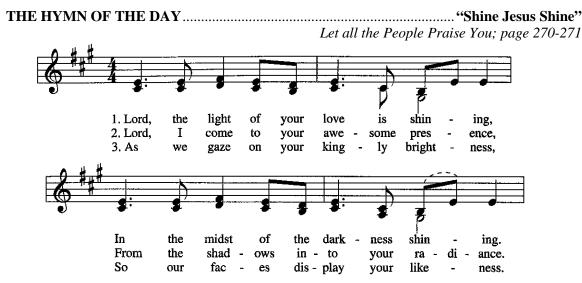
Never was pagan mockery more prophetic! Jesus is indeed the King of the Jews. He is the King of kings. Unlike other kings, our Savior is a King who conquers by allowing himself to be conquered. It is Christ the King's suffering and death that makes the Christian's hope of eternal life so certain.

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. <sup>30</sup>They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup>After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.



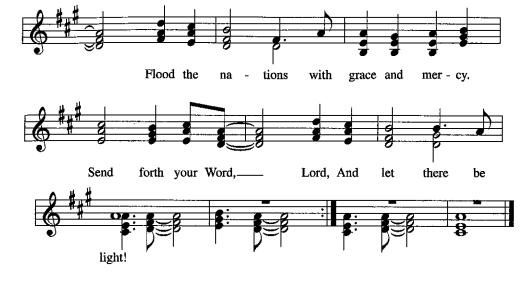








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THE SERMON	Peter 1:3-4
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The End Times: The Christian's Hope

#### 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

#### THE OFFERING

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

### THE OFFERING PRAYER

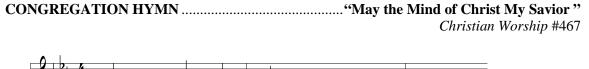
Please Stand

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.

Please be Seated





Hymn continues on next page



Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1859–1928, alt. Tune: ST. LEONARD'S (87 85) A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1891–1953.



**P:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### THE BENEDICTION

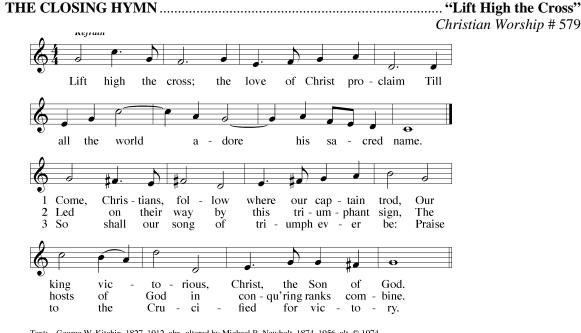
**P:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



Please be Seated



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912, abr., altered by Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt. © 1974 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: CRUCIFER (10 10 10) Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947. © 1974 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# **Worship Participants**

Liturgist and Preacher	Pastor Brian Adams
Organist	Mrs. Sharon Larsen
Special Singers-All Services	

## Announcements

**WE REMEMBER:** As we close another church year, we celebrate our family members at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, who have escaped the sorrows of this world during the past church year, and now, because Jesus is their Savior, are "Saints Triumphant" in heaven. They are:

Londyn House – Death: 1-24-14; Funeral: 1-30-14 Ruby Zibell – Death: 2-8-14; Funeral: 2-12-14 Irene Klenke – Death: 2-14-14; Funeral: 2-20-14 Mildred Bertram – Death: 2-22-14; Funeral: 2-26-14 Norma Reszka – Death: 3-21-14; Funeral: 3-23-14 John Ottenburg – Death: 8-14-14; Funeral: 8-21-14 Lillian Generotzke – Death: 5-25-14; Funeral: 5-31-14 Daniel Henschel – Death: 10-9-14; Funeral: 10-14-14

**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. Please mark December 7th or 8th on your calendar.

- **THANKSGIVING WORSHIP:** Everyone is invited to join us for our special Thanksgiving worship this week on Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm and Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.
- **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE CLASS:** There will not be Sunday adult bible class & Sunday School next weekend (November 30<sup>th</sup>/December 1<sup>st</sup>) because of the Thanksgiving weekend.
- **MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP & DINNER:** On Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 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.

#### NEW ADVENT SERMON SERIES BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND:

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

We begin a new series that 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. John the Baptist, along with the Jewish people, was looking forward to the day when the Messiah would come. However, when he did come, many didn't like the message of repentance that he would bring. John the Baptist's role was to prepare people's hearts for the One that were waiting for so long.

#### Advent 2: December 7 & 8 – 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.

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

You can tell a lot about a person by the company he keeps. That's what the Jewish leaders thought when they commented about Jesus: "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." (Luke 19:7) Yet, that is the exact reason why Jesus came into this world. He came to be among sinners, in order to keep the law perfectly for us and for this world. That was also the message that Jesus wanted to bring to Zacchaeus. If Jesus wanted to avoid any contact with sinners, he would have had to remain in heaven. Zacchaeus was a "chief tax collector." He was at the top of his game. Yet, he had nothing without the treasure of Jesus. Jesus went to his house that evening to tell us all that he comes to those who are caught in sin.

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

Christmas is about God's gift to the world, and His gift of his very own Son. This is a gift that lasts, as new and real as when Jesus was born. All other gifts, like the ones that people give and receive, have only temporary value. But God's gift to the world has eternal worth. As we begin to celebrate the anniversary of Jesus' birth, we remind ourselves that Jesus is God's Son sent to be our Savior. Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds would be brought to believe in Jesus as their Savior. May we also remember that He comes to those who believe. Through faith in Jesus, we have eternal life in heaven.

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

November 26 – Thanksgiving Eve (6:30pm) November 27 – Thanksgiving Day (10:00am)

- November 30 Advent 1 (8:00am & 10:30am) December 1 – Advent 1 (6:30pm) 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
- MARY MARTHA BAKE/CRAFT SALE UPDATE: The Mary and Martha Society bake and craft sale held last weekend raised \$550 for missions. \$200 will be given to Christian Aid and Relief, \$200 will be given to the Jesus Cares Ministry and \$150 to WELS Ministry to the Military. A huge thank you to everyone who supported this project with their baked goods and craft items as well as their purchases and donations. Your support here enables us to support others. Thank you.
- MARY MARTHA COOKIE SALE: A signup sheet is located in the narthex 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 6. The sale will take place after each service on Sunday and Monday, December 7th and 8th. The proceeds from this sale benefit the ongoing work of the Mary and Martha Society and their support of missions.
- 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 7:00 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.
- **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT:** Our Advent by Candlelight is a special time for women (ages 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up) to ponder and reflect on the coming of Jesus' birth. Our special service will focus on a Christ filled message, music, fellowship and dessert. The special service is for women of St. Paul's, but please invite your friends, relatives and neighbors, too. A sign up sheet is on the counter in the narthex. This year Advent by Candlelight will be **Sunday**, **December 7<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:30 p.m.** Notice the time change from other years. We look forward to seeing many of you there. God bless and keep all of you. ~St. Paul's Advent by Candlelight Committee. **The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, November 25.**
- **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.

# Volunteers

#### GREETERS THIS WEEK 11/23 & 24):

8:00 AM -	Pete & Sherry Kosovich
10:30 AM-	Doreen Kresa
6:30 PM -	Donna LaBlanc

6:30 PM- Thanksgiving Eve Don & Marge Gebert 10:30 AM – Thanksgiving Day John & Barb Migacz

#### **GREETERS NEXT WEEK** (11/30 & 12/1)

8:00 AM-	Larry & Marilee Stujenske; Courtney
10:30 AM-	Dave & Cindy Wirtz; Brandon, Austin & Ian
6:30 PM-	Donna LaBlanc

### **CLEANING CREWS:**

**November 25-Crew #24-***Tim & Michelle Yenter;* Kerry Burrow, Karen Connor Family, Linda Jones, Patrick & Kim Noonan, Nicole Parato Family, Aaron & Loree Raap Family, Glenn & Michelle Wilke

**December 2-Crew #1-***Steve & Irva Baade;* Nathan & Jill Archer, Tina Just, John & Barb Migacz Family, Bill & Linda Petrie, Jerry Reinke, Jim & Lois Schachtschneider, Steve Schachtschneider, Chris & Jenny Triplett

#### **USHERS FOR NOVEMBER:**

8:00 AM TEAM # 3-Donn Johnson, Todd Johnson, John Migacz, Steve Migacz, Frank Krajewski

10:30 AM TEAM #7-Dave Brightsman, Kyle Brightsman, Ian Wirtz 6:30 PM TEAM # 9-Curt Stellwagon, Dave Long, Max Gruenberg

#### **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

#### **ALTAR GUILD:**

November 12-25-TEAM #2 Jane Koplein, Karen Hille, Kelly Cannistra November 26-December 9-TEAM #3 Lois Martin, Jane Koplein, Carol Wilms

# The Weekly Schedule

Sunday, November 23	
Worship Service	
Worship Service Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	
Worship Service	
Monday, November 24	
Worship Service	
Tuesday, November 25	
PSČÍC	
Wednesday, November 26	
School Devotion	
Thanksgiving Eve Worship	
Thursday, November 27	

Thanksgiving	Worship	10:00 AM

#### Sunday, November 30

Worship Service	
Worship Service	e10:30 AM

## **Statistics - Last Week**

Worship Attendance: 8:00 AM –199, Communed 130; 10:30 AM –143, Communed 88; 6:30 PM –58, Communed 43; Total Attendance – 400; Total Communed 261; Bible Study 18; Sunday School 12