

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! 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!

Worship Participants

Liturgist and PreacherPastor Brian Adams
PianistMrs. Rachel Manske

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

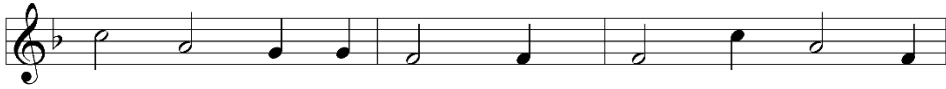
Christian Worship pg. 38

THE OPENING HYMN "Arise, O Christian People"

Christian Worship #14



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



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



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

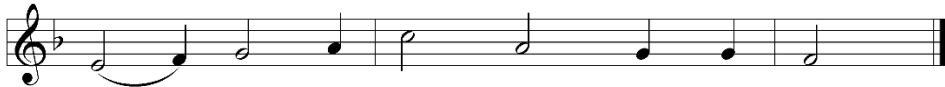


us by grace a - lone The truth and
straight, make plain the way: The low - ly
heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
stall and man - ger low Come now to



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

Hymn continues on next page



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.

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.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics placed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of a single line of music with the lyrics 'A - men.' below it, ending with a double bar line.

Please be Seated

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet foretold that the coming of the Messiah would change everything.

The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, ² 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.

³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;

⁴ 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.”

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ No lion will be there,
nor any ravenous beast;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,

¹⁰ 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.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY **Psalm 16**
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We will sing the refrain and speak the words responsively

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone



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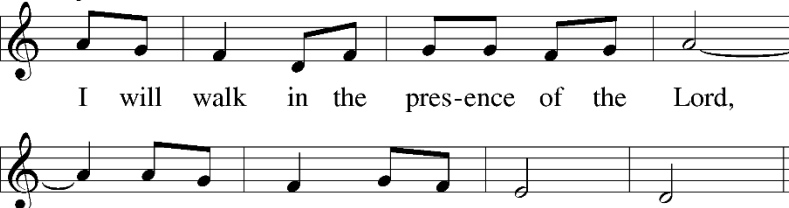
Psalm continues on next page

Keep me safe, O God,
for in you I take refuge.

**I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing.”**

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes.

Psalm tone



*
The musical notation shows a single staff with a treble clef. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of a few notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a half note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. There is an asterisk above the staff.

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,

**because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

You have made known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.

**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

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

Knowing what we do about the Messiah's coming kingdom, we want it now. God's encouragement, however, is for us to be patient.

⁷Be 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

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

Please Stand

THE GOSPEL LESSON..... Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus deals gently with those whose present circumstances lead them to doubt that he is the Messiah.

²When 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.’

¹¹Truly 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.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be Seated

THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

Christian Worship #19



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, How wel - come
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; Love brought you
3 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, Who sit in
4 Sin's debt, that fear - ful bur - den, Let not your
5 He comes to judge the na - tions, A ter - ror



you a - right? Your peo - ple long to greet you,
down to me. Your thirst for my sal - va - tion
deep - est gloom, Who mourn o'er joys de - part - ed
souls dis - tress; Your guilt the Lord will par - don
to his foes, A light of con - so - la - tions,



My Hope, my heart's De - light. O Je - sus, let your
Pro - cured my lib - er - ty. Oh, love be - yond all
And trem - ble at your doom. De - spair not; he is
And cov - er by his grace. He comes, for you pro -
And bless - ed hope to those Who love the Lord's ap -

Hymn continues on next page



Word be A lamp to light my way, To show me
 tell - ing That led you to em - brace In love, all
 near you, He's stand - ing at the door Who best can
 cur - ing The peace of sin for - giv'n, His chil - dren
 pear - ing. O glo - rious Sun, now come, Send forth your



how to please you, To guide me ev - 'ry day.
 love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race!
 help and cheer you And bids you weep no more.
 thus se - cur - ing A her - i - tage in heav'n.
 beams most cheer - ing, And guide us safe - ly home.

THE SERMONMatthew 11:2-11

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 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 "My Soul in Stillness Waits"
 Christian Worship (21) #325



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.



- 1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,
- 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our spir - its;
- 3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,
- 4 O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our pil - grim - age;



your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the
 our thirst-y hearts are yearn-ing for your Word; come, make us
 and in your ad - vent draw us all to you, our hope re -
 we ev - er seek, yet un - ful-filled re - main; o - pen to



hearts of all in dark and shad-ow.
 whole, be com-fort to our hearts.
 born in dy-ing and in ris-ing.
 us the path-way of your peace.

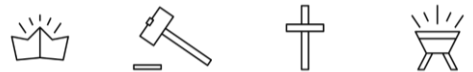
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE CLASS: This Sunday, December 11th will be the last adult Bible class until after New Year's. Thanks to all who participated. You have been a blessing to all.

ALTAR FLOWERS: This weekend's altar flowers are given by Andy & Chris Backus in memory of Robert Pocza on his birthday.

TEACHER CALL: On Monday, December 5th the Voters of the congregation approved the recommendation to call a 1st grade teacher (combined 1st/2nd in the afternoons) for the 2023-2024 school year. We called Mrs. Stephanie Liepert, currently teaching at Mt. Calvary Lutheran School in Waukesha. We received this letter from Mrs. Liepert: To the members of St. Paul's, On Monday, December 5, I received a divine call to serve as your first and second grade teacher. I am honored and humbled by this call. I look forward to learning more about the ministry being carried out at St. Paul's from your church and school leaders as I consider the two calls before me. Please keep my family and the ministries of St. Paul's and Mount Calvary in your prayers as I deliberate where I can best serve. In Christ, Stephanie Liepert
(sliepert@mountcalvarywaukesha.org)

ADVENT 2022: The Latin word *adventus* means "coming." The last words in Scripture are "Come, Lord Jesus!" Thus, the season of Advent begins with the end in mind. We enter a new Church Year with our eyes fixed on the End when Jesus Christ will come and destroy this sin-broken world. Yet, we know that Jesus has come into our world once before. The Son of God became the Son of Man. From the manger to the cross, Jesus did everything necessary to redeem mankind. As this new Church Year walks us through the entire life of Christ, we see God's promises of deliverance fulfilled... God's plan of salvation completed. And so, when Christ comes again, while the universe will be destroyed, we know God's people will be ushered into a new, glorious, everlasting kingdom.



Come, Lord Jesus!

Advent prepares us for Christmas. It enables us to understand the true significance of Christmas. For Advent allows us to see that because of what Christ did when he came the

first time, believers need not fear when he comes again. Instead, we yearn for it. Come, Lord Jesus!

Advent 1 – Come, Lord Jesus! - as King – November 27 & 28

Advent 2 – Come, Lord Jesus! - as Judge – December 4 & 5

Advent 3 – Come, Lord Jesus! - as Messiah – December 11 & 12

Advent 4 – Come, Lord Jesus! - as Immanuel – December 18 & 19

CLASSROOM WISH LISTS: In past years we've had a Christmas tree in our school lobby full of "wishes" for our classrooms. Once again our list is digital! If you would like to grant a classroom wish, please scan the QR Code on the poster in the narthex, or you can find it [here](#). If you aren't able to shop online, you can make a donation using the envelopes on the narthex counter! Thank you for your support of our school!

TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND: St. Paul's has offered assistance to families through a "forgiveness program" in which the congregation has taken on the debt for part of their tuition. On average we have been able to help 10-12 families seek Christian Education here at St. Paul's through this method. What a great gift to share the love of Christ with others using the gifts God has granted us. We have a need and an opportunity to help families and we are asking you to help financially. In addition to your offerings, these additional funds will help support the education for families that may not otherwise be able to afford it. We thank you for considering and remind you of the words recorded in Matthew 25:40 *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* If you would like to give, please fill out the envelopes provided on the narthex counter and place in the offering tower.

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE: We are in the process of updating our church directory. Please take a moment to fill out the yellow contact slips on the narthex tables and return them to the bin on the narthex counter. Thank you for your help in keeping our records up to date!

MEN'S WELS BASKETBALL LEAGUE: The area WELS churches are starting up the men's basketball league again. St. Paul's is looking for interested players, college age and older, who want to be part of our energetic team. The league will run on Sundays from January 8th through March 26th, 2023 with games at several different area gyms. If you are

interested in being part of the SPF team, please contact Caleb Manske with your interest by December 19th at caleb.manske@rasmith.com or 262-442-4286.

MEN'S OPEN GYM: Men's Open Gym will held Thursday nights from 7:30 – 9:00 pm every week starting December 8th. All college age and older men interested in stretching their legs are invited to participate. Please be sure to watch the Weekly Schedule at the end of the church bulletin every week for updates or cancellations as we approach the Christmas Season.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE: During the upcoming holiday season there are many opportunities for worship! Please join us!

Advent Service – Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 3:30 PM and 6:30 PM (supper in between)

Children's Christmas Service (K5-Grade 8) – Sunday, December 18th at 4:30 PM

Preschool & Junior Kindergarten Christmas Service – Friday, December 23rd at 11:00 AM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Saturday, December 24th at 4:30 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Saturday, December 24th at 10:00 PM

Christmas Day Service – Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 AM

Worship Service with Communion – Sunday, January 1st at **10:00 AM** (one service only)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY UPDATE: There are 16 people meeting every other Tuesday with continued lessons on the book "The Narrow Lutheran Middle". Note we will not meet on December 27th as previously scheduled. New dates are December 13, January 3, January 17, January 31, February 14 and February 28. It is never too late to join our group. Just tell Jean Terek or Lucy Ellenberger.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS: A new Bible Information class has begun! We meet at 9:15 AM (between the two worship services). The purpose of the class is to present the basic teachings of the Bible as well as to introduce you to the rewarding life of Christian discipleship. This class is open to anyone interested in learning more about our church, considering joining our church or anyone who would like to refresh their knowledge of God's Word. Anyone is welcome to join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Children ages 3 – Grade 6 are invited to join our Sunday School class, which meets each Sunday at 9:15 AM! Class is located in the After School Care room of the school.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES AT OUR SCHOOL - K4 Aide - Classroom Aide - After School Care:

St. Paul's is blessed to have a great PreK program! We are looking for a teacher's aide to support our growing enrollment numbers. There are also other classrooms that would benefit from a part-time aide.

We are also looking for an individual or individuals that could help with our After School Care program. If you are available for a single day, a few days, or all days please get in touch with us. It is a great opportunity to connect with some of our students and help our families that are unable to pick their children up right away after school.

If you are interested in supporting your school by giving us a hand, please reach out to Principal Schulmeister by email at nschulmeister@stpaulsfranklin.org or by phone at 414-421-1930.

WLHS SACRED CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT: WLHS choral department will present their Sacred Choral Christmas Concert, "Let Our Gladness Have No End" on Sunday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The concert will feature the Freshman and A Cappella choirs, Inspiration Vocal Jazz & Chamber Choir, and Jubilation Handbells. Seating is general admission with a free-will door offering. The concert will also be livestreamed at www.wlhs.org.

WLHS CHRISTMAS CHAMBER ENSEMBLES CONCERT: The WLHS Christmas Chamber Ensemble Concert will be held on Thursday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium and feature small instrumental ensembles, Jubilation Handbells, Inspiration Vocal Jazz & Chamber Choir, and the Wisco Kids show choir. Musical selections will include a variety of genres, including popular, jazz, and familiar Christmas season tunes. Seating is general admission with a free-will door offering. The concert will also be livestreamed at www.wlhs.org.

WLHS WINTER BAND CONCERT: The Wisconsin Lutheran High School band department will present their Winter Concert on Sunday, December 18, at 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Seating is general admission with a free-will door offering, and will also be livestreamed at wlhs.org.

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

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

10:30 AM – TEAM #8 – Walter Falkowski, Jacob Marciniak, Fred Socha, Scott Seymer

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

ALTAR GUILD

December 7-13 – TEAM #4 – Marge Gebert, Renate Nazimek

December 14-20 – TEAM #1 – Beverly Garves, Sherry Kosovich, Vanessa McKee

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

December 11: Set-up – Don & Marge Gebert, Clean-up – Beverly Garves

December 18: Set-up – Don Druml & Connie Myer, Clean-up – Beverly Garves

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 11

- Mary & Martha Cookie Sale *Before & After Services*
- Worship Service.....8:00 AM
- Adult Bible Class/Sunday School/Bible Information Class9:15 AM
- Worship Service.....10:30 AM
- Mary & Martha Christmas Party 6:00 PM

Monday, December 12

- Mary & Martha Cookie Sale *Before & After Service*
- Worship Service..... 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 13

- Women’s Bible Study (in Bible Classroom)9:00 AM
- Church Council..... 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 14

- Board of Elders 5:30 PM

Thursday, December 15

- Men’s Open Gym..... 7:30 PM

Sunday, December 18

Worship Service with Communion.....	8:00 AM
Sunday School/Bible Information Class.....	9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion.....	10:30 AM
Children’s Christmas Service	4:30 PM

Statistics – Last Week

Attendance: 8:00 AM – 95, Communed – N/A
10:30 AM – 83 Communed – 50
6:30 PM – 36, Communed – N/A
Total Attendance – 214
Total Communed – 50+
Midweek Advent Services:
3:30 PM – 153, 6:30 PM – 41