



St. Paul's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



FOURTH SUNDAY

IN

Advent

Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm traditional • Sunday: 8:00 am traditional

Sunday: 10:30 am contemporary

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | www.splco.org

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, School & Early Childhood Center

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor

Rev. Steve Scharnell, Associate Pastor

Rev. Paul Borgman, Pastor Emeritus

Jill George, Principal

Volume 24

Amanda Rosenberg, Middle School Youth Director

Adam Tanney, High School Youth Director

Diane Bleke, Organist/Choir Director

Christine Flores, ECC Director

Office Hours: 7:00 am – 4:00 pm

Number 51

Please fill out an attendance card
and place it in the offering plate.

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! If you are a guest, the following information may help you:

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul's, an usher will be happy to help you.

Please fill out an attendance card, located on the pew in front of you, and place it in the offering plate.

If you have small children, there are activity bags located behind the back pews that might be helpful for your child.

HOLY COMMUNION

Please read our confession found on page 329-330 of the Lutheran Service Book and indicate your agreement with our beliefs by checking the box next to the names of those communing.

Those who share in our confession of faith of the Lord's Supper are welcome to receive.

If you hold a confession differing from this congregation, please speak with a pastor or elder.

Non-communing, baptized children are welcome to come to the table for a blessing.

If you are physically unable to come to the table, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion.

Communion Wine

The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are rose in color.

As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.

December 23, 2018

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Pastor: Lance Armstrong O'Donnell

Theme: *The Grace that Gives Us Joy*

Traditional Worship
Special Order

Contemporary Worship
Special Order

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 107 **Total: 363**
 8:00 am – 136 **Members: 342**
 10:30 am – 120 **Visitors: 21**

Scan the QR code and give electronically. This is a safe and easy way to offer your gifts to God.



THIS WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Music Leaders	Diane Bleke	Diane Bleke	In His Light
Special Music	Adult Choir	Adult Choir	
Acolytes	TBD	Bobby Edwards	Aidan Truchan
Altar Guild	Martha Blanck	Leslyn Mueller	Audrey Martens & Gerri Zwiig
Elders	Wilbur Pieper	Bryan Polinske	Josh Oddsen
Greeters	Roxie Gerlach	Jim & Marlene Steinberg (church) Shirley Smart (school)	Tom & Denise Showen
Lectors	Russ Meyer	Rick Zastrow	
PowerPoint	N/A	N/A	Jacob Chang
Radio	N/A	Cheryl Tesch	N/A
Ushers	Wilbur Pieper	Dan Friedrich	Truman Seifert

SPONSORS

Radio Broadcast: Gemma Kitzman in loving memory of her parents, Henry & Helen Kitzman

Our 8:00 am Worship Service is broadcast live on WTKM 104.9 and at wtkm.com

Families with small children:
 There are activity bags located in the back of the church that might be helpful for your child.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Office Hours

The church and school office will be closed from December 24th through January 2nd. If you have an emergency when the office is closed, you can call the main number at 262.567.5001, and you will be directed to extension 505 to receive an emergency contact number.

From the Church Leadership Team Desk

Fellowship Hall Renovation during Christmas Break at St. Paul's

This is to inform the congregation that during the scheduled period of the school Christmas break, December 21st through January 2nd, the Fellowship Hall, at St. Paul's, will be undergoing a Renovation Project.

We are asking for your patience and PLEASE BE AWARE OF SAFETY ISSUES as you are passing through the Fellowship Hall during this construction renovation period.



Luke 1:45 *"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."* The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord's own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord's commands in the face of the world's anger and resistance. The same faithfulness in God gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

Family Promise Volunteer Sign-Up January 6th-13th, 2019

2019-A New Year and a new chance to serve

Our Savior's and St. Paul's volunteers will be welcoming families without shelter to stay for food, fellowship and overnight shelter at Our Savior's on January 6th-13th. There are currently 3 families in the program, 5 adults and 4 children (13, 11, 1 and 2 months).

Help us welcome guests and live out our faith in service to our neighbors in need.

Please review the service opportunities still available and sign-up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0544a9ad2ba13-family16>

This link is also on our website: <http://www.splco.org/>

Contact Mary Hickenbottom with questions. 414-333-3421 or mary@splco.org Thank you!!

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
The Fourth Sunday in Advent: *The Grace that Gives Us Joy*
December 23-30, 2018

The Grace that Gives Us Joy (Pastor O'Donnell)

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With the infant John the Baptist, we “jump for joy” (Luke 1:39–45) in the presence of Christ, for He is the manifestation of God’s mercy and gentleness. Christ came to rule His people in peace, to “shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,” yet He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from the little town of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in Word and Sacrament, yet ever-full of the grace that gives us joy.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

Christ-Centered Theme: God comes to us with grace, and that gives us joy.

Verse: John 1:14 The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Psalm: Psalm 96 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule **LSB, p. 304**

	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Daily Psalms								
Morning	24	19	2	116	34	2	96	93
Evening	25, 110	132, 114	98, 96	119:1-24, 27	19, 121	110, 111	132, 97	89:1-18, 19-52

The Catechism: The Creed – Second Article

<p><i>The Creed (Second Article)</i> And [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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.</p>	<p>Preschool +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.</p>	<p>2nd Grade +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean? (continued)</i> Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.</p>	<p>Preschool +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean? (continued)</i> That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.</p>	<p>3rd Grade +</p>

The Fourth Sunday in Advent: *The Grace that Gives Us Joy*

Day	Bible Stories for the Family & School	Daily prayer readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sun.	"Make Straight the Way of the Lord"— John 1:19-28	Is. 43:25-44:20	Rev. 11:1-19
Mon.	Lutheran Service Book Readings	Is. 44:21-45; 13, 20-25	Rev. 12:1-17
Tue.	Lutheran Service Book Readings	Is. 49:1-18	Matt. 1:1-17
Wed.	Lutheran Service Book Readings	Is. 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16	Matt. 1:18-25
Thur.	Lutheran Service Book Readings	Is. 51:17-52:12	Matt. 2.1-12
Fri.	Lutheran Service Book Readings	Is. 52:13-54:10	Matt. 2:13-23

Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul's

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week

Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS – Harriet Groose–Oconomowoc Memorial; Bob Hackbarth (broken ribs); Sheila Rams; Wilbur Pieper; Barb Pieper; Carolyn Pankow (Shorehaven); Don Gauerke; Pastor Paul Borgman–Melanoma; Peggy Lauber–liver and bone cancer; Shirley Dibble–cancer; Laura Gruen–brain tumor; Lucille Campbell–cancer treatment; Mary Buss–cancer; Marilyn Marohn; Katie Waldorf; Glenn Gartzke–Melanoma; Frieda Antoniak–breast cancer; Larry Hansen; Timothy John Bratz–cancer; Bill & Margaret Voss; Ken Groenke; Mabel Fredrick; Linda Hansen (Steve's wife); Rick Ware; Crystal Parker

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer: John Henke (Skye's dad) – stage IV Melanoma; Fran Meyer (Chris Hesse's aunt)–Multiple Myeloma; Jennifer Lemke (Judy Mueller's niece/Wendy Sallam's sister); friend of Marilyn Roecker–pancreatic cancer; Tanya Schoenberger (Richie & Lucy Fredrick's daughter)–breast cancer; Betty (Heather Scheuer's aunt); Erin (Mileager) Rayborn–Hodgkins Lymphoma; Mark Jorgenson–pancreatic cancer; Peg–breast cancer; Mary Sprague–breast cancer; John Whitmar (friend of Pastor & Angie Scharnell)–prostate cancer; Daina Boppre–bone cancer; Sandy–kidney cancer; Debra Thurow (Dona's daughter); Kathy Berkbigler (Pat Borgman's cousin)–breast cancer; Beth–Lymphoma; Naomi Morris; Janice (Diane Bleke's sister); Tom–stage 3 bladder cancer; Liz (Barb Allwardt's sister)–colon cancer; Dylan Coughlin–3 year-old with brain tumor; Mike–bone cancer; Roy Hyatt–cancer returned; Quinn–breast cancer; Julie; Kayla (7 years-old)–brain cancer; Jack Anderson; Kim B.–breast cancer; Jeanie; Karen Peskie (Mike & Cheryl Reiner's sister-in-law)–Lymphoma; Dan (stage-four prostate cancer); Crystal Schultz; Joann Romain–kidney cancer; Ron Rafalski–throat cancer; Nancy–breast cancer

Other: pregnant friend of a member with heart complications; Audrey (Sheila Rams sister)—Alzheimer’s; Yvonne (Sheila Rams sister)—stroke; Erick (Linda Hertneky’s cousin)—kidney surgery; Michael George (Jill & Jamie’s nephew)—recovering from injuries; Gracie Brehm; friend of Virginia Meintz recovering from open heart surgery; John Meisenheimer; Bob Back (friend of Scharnell’s)—Lou Gehrig’s disease; Karen Beardsley (Sharon Peterson’s sister); Anna Mae (George Urban’s mother)—hospice; Jeffery Barney; Susan—memory issues; Sharon—circulation problems; Rev. William Meyer; Merita Dinnauer; Sue Jansen (Shirley Dibble’s niece); Gail Albright; Dan; Karen Nicholson; Armin Tessmann—strength in walking; Phyllis Ecklor (Shirley Dibble’s sister)—hospice; Shawn—vascular problems; Kristal—lung surgery; Doug—CCL; Megan Bertram; Clem—high calcium heart; Bob—prostate problems; Linda—diabetic dementia; Barb (Dave Schlomer’s mom)—severe headaches; Sharon—probiotic/kidney problems; Pat—afib; Fred Sturm (Lynda Rades’s brother); Joel (Tina Gartzke’s nephew); Clarence; Pam; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan’s son)—MS; Paul Fellin

Those serving in the military-deployed: Justin Michener; Zach Howard, Theresa; Phil Preston; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke, Jacob, Brian, Randy, Kyle, Jake, Jeff, Matt, Brad, Ben, Mike & Rob

Those serving God as missionaries: Christie Nelson (China), Ray Wigdal (China), Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer

Those in need: Our Shut-Ins; Teddy; David; those struggling with addiction—Bob, Andy, George, Dan, Dee; Sarah, Keri, Sam

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LSB 361

Looking forward to The First Sunday after Christmas

December 30, 2018

Hymns: 374, 386 (379, 368, 389) 386

The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin and Death (Pastor David Dukovan)

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for “the redemption of Jerusalem” and “the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in “giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,” including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).

St. Paul's Lutheran School

Principal's Report

How wonderful it is to be able to share with you some of the great things that are happening at St. Paul's Lutheran school from the perspective of the principal's desk. It is a busy time of the year as our children from 6 weeks old to 8th grade are preparing to share the message of the Christ Child. Our Early Childhood Center shared their program on Thursday, December 13th. I hope some of you were able to enjoy our littlest angels in their Christmas finest welcome the Baby Jesus.

On Wednesday, December 19, our Day School students will be leading the Advent services at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please join as our students tell "What Child is This". Pre-service music will be offered by our band and guitar students. Additionally you will hear our handbell choirs, both of our school praise teams, and choirs from Kindergarten through the middle school. This is a chance for our students to witness their faith in Jesus Christ who is the center of each day in their classrooms.

We are blessed to have 161 students in K4-8th grade this year. In fact, we have welcomed seven new students in our middle school since August. New parents have told us that they are looking for something different for their children. Thanks be to God that St. Paul's is that something different! It seems that our mission for the last 141 years never grows old as families are always seeking what is best for their children and family. "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10

Learning in a school that supports the Christian values found in one's home grows children who are servant-minded. That servant attitude was demonstrated this week by our second and third graders who took up shovels and began clearing the snow from the sidewalks in front of the school. Many hands make light work! Here is Gary Flanagan, co-chair of the Operation's Committee, getting a helping hand. Also, the 12 members of our L.E.A.D. Team visited our shut-ins and brought the joy of Christmas Carols to them. These students are part of a church leadership development program here in the South Wisconsin District whose mission is "Lifting, Equipping, Affirming & Developing young Christian leaders for service to the Church and the world today and tomorrow!"



I pray that you will all enjoy a blessed, Merry Christmas. I look forward to greeting you in church.

Jill M. George

WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY December 24	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED Family Christmas Worship Service The Nativity of Our Lord The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Midnight	Church Church Church Church	3:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm
TUESDAY December 25	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED Christmas Day Worship	Church	9:00 am
WEDNESDAY December 26	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED Praise Team Practice	Church	7:00 pm
THURSDAY December 27	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED Praise Team Practice	Church	7:00 pm
FRIDAY December 28	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED		
SATURDAY December 29	Praise Team Practice Traditional Worship AA Meeting	Church Church Fellowship Hall	10:00 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
SUNDAY December 30	Traditional Worship Service Contemporary Worship Service	Church Church	8:00 am 10:30 am

BIBLE STUDIES

Adult Bible Study

Sunday: 9:15 am - Fellowship Hall
262-567-5001

Women of Joy

Saturday (1st & 3rd) - 8:00 am
Whelan's

Journeyman

Saturday (2nd & 4th) - 7:30 am
Maxim's

NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Readings	Ex. 13:1-3a, 11-15	Col. 3:12-17	Luke 2:22-40
Acolytes	TBD	TBD	Adam Boldt
Altar Guild	Martha Blanck	Leslyn Mueller	Audrey Martens & Gerri Zwiieg
Elders	Chad Eberhardt	Bruce Bain	Jon Schmeling
Greeters	Rick Zastrow	Ralph & Donna Andrus (church) Jim & Judy Braatz (school)	Wayne & Diane Gartzke
Lectors	Barb Brockway	Don Meyer	
Power Point	N/A	N/A	Jacob Chang
Radio	N/A	Jim Steinberg	N/A
Ushers	Wilbur Pieper	Gary Flanagan	Truman Seifert

December 23, 2018

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Guest Pastor: David Dukovan

Theme: *The Firstborn Son of God Is Our
Redemption from Sin and Death*

Traditional Worship

LSB, Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Contemporary Worship

Special Order

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Micah 5:2–5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men.

Hebrews 10:5–10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Luke 1:39–45

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”