

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

# Weekly Announcements

December 15, 2024



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

splco.org

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Midweek Advent Worship Services

Advent is a time of preparing for Christ's coming. It seems like a simple sentence, but we aren't just talking about getting ready for Christmas. As the Church, we are also preparing for Christ's coming at the end of all things.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we'll talk about how do we, the Church, reflect who we are, and what we've already been given in the *"Wonder of Worship: Receiving Restoration and Giving Grace"*?

In these three questions we get a clearer picture of The Church, The Office of Holy Ministry, and the mission given to them. Come join us this Advent Season as together we anticipate the Coming of Christ and rejoice in Christ who continues coming to us now.

## St. Paul's Youth Group

### December Events

- 15 Deliver Christmas food bags after the 10:30am service
- 15 ALL YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY (1-4pm: **NOTE THE TIME CHANGE**)
- 22/29 NO YOUTH GROUP

## 2025 Flower Chart

The 2025 flower chart is now posted in the church narthex (west side) for those of you who would like to sign up (please include your phone number) for flowers for the Worship Services for the coming year. The cost is \$45.00 for two bouquets. Checks should be made to St. Paul's Altar Guild. Payment should be put in a separate envelope addressed to the Altar Guild and placed in the offering plate or the Altar Guild mailbox. Flowers can be picked up after the 10:30 worship service. Thank you.



Christmas Hymns and  
Carols with

*Women of Joy*

Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
8:00 AM

Whelan's Coffee & Ice  
Cream Shop | 163 E.  
Wisconsin Ave. (upstairs in  
the back room)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Donald Groose funeral arrangements**

Our brother in Christ, Don Groose, passed away on December 6<sup>th</sup>. His funeral arrangements are at St. Paul's on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, as follows:

- Visitation: 9-11am
- Funeral Service: 11am

### **Frederick Boldt funeral arrangements**

Our brother in Christ, Fred Boldt, passed away on December 10<sup>th</sup>. His funeral arrangements are as follows:

**Pagenkopf Funeral Home:** Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

- Visitation: 4-7pm

**St. Paul's:** Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

- Visitation: 8-10am
- Service: 10am
- Reception: 11am

### **Lutherans for Life – Life Thoughts in the Church Year**

Gospel-motivated voices For Life bring reasonableness to the cultural conversation about life issues (Philippians 4:5). It means a message of joy and hope instead of just another angry and fearful demeanor. The sanctity of life proclaims good news to neighbors made poor (Luke 7:22) by pressures toward abortion and physician-assisted suicide. God remains mighty to save (Zephaniah 3:17), even in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis.



**Philippians 4:5–6 – “The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”** Wouldn't you like to be free from worry and anxiety? Isn't it worry and

anxiety that often keep us from living the generous life God has called us to? St. Paul contrasts anxiety with prayer, supplication and thanksgiving in making our requests known to God. In other words, when you are tempted to anxiety and worry, pray to the Lord with a thankful heart and pour out your supplications before Him.

# Advent & Christmas Worship Opportunities

## Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesdays: December 4, 11 and 18

12:15pm & 6:30pm (hymn sing at 6:15pm)

A meal will precede the evening service at 5pm  
(free-will offering)

## Children's Christmas Service

Tuesday: December 17

9am & 5:30 pm

## Christmas Eve

3pm: Songs of Christmas

5pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight

8pm: Christmas Midnight

## Christmas Day

10am: The Nativity of Our Lord



# Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Third Sunday in Advent: *Christ: The Least and the Greatest*

December 15-22, 2024

## ***Christ: The Least and The Greatest***

We have a lot to sing about, a lot for which to rejoice, (Phil 4.4) for God has kept his promise to “take away all the judgements against us.” (Zeph 3.14-15) Indeed, though He looked outwardly to be an insignificant peasant, Jesus fulfilled the ancient promises to God’s people, promises of a full restoration, eternal peace, and the healing of body and soul. He, the least, is actually the greatest of all. (See Lk 7.18-28)

## ***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:*** Outwardly, Jesus seems to be the least, but in fact He is the Promised One, the greatest of all.

***Verse:*** Romans 7:18 I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

***Psalm:*** Psalm 85 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule **LSB, p. 304**

## Catechism: The Lord's Prayer – Fourth Petition

<p><i>The Lord's Prayer (Fourth Petition)</i>  <b>Give us this day our daily bread.</b></p>	<p>Preschool +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean?</i>          God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Grade +</p>
<p><i>What is meant by daily bread?</i>          Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of this body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.</p>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade +</p>

## The Third Sunday in Advent: *Christ: The Least and the Greatest*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
<b>Sun.</b>	Jesus Sends the Seventy-Two: Luke 10	Psalm 24, 25, 110	Luke 19:28-40
<b>Mon.</b>	The Good Samaritan: Luke 10	Psalm 122, 40, 67	Ex. 23:1-24:18
<b>Tue.</b>	The Good Shepherd: John 10	Psalm 33, 85, 91	Ex. 25:1-27:21
<b>Wed.</b>	A Psalm of David: Psalm 23	Psalm 50, 14, 16	Ex. 28:1-29:46
<b>Thur.</b>	Jesus Raises Lazarus: John 11	Psalm 18:1-20, 126, 62	Ex. 30:1-31:18
<b>Fri.</b>	Jesus Seeks the Lost: Luke 15	Psalm 102, 130, 16	Ex. 32:1-35
<b>Sat.</b>	Sunday's Gospel Reading: Luke 7:18-28	Psalm 90, 80, 72	Ex. 33:1-23

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; 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** – William Kuebler–cancer; Jason Schmittinger; Kelly Edwards; Dorothy Duchow; Carole Schmeda–colon cancer; Bruce Bojko–cancer; Ruth Polcha; Bill Anderson; John Lindemann; Gary Flanagan; Virginia Meintz; Belle Romback; Nancy Wolter; Don Meyer–cancer; Ann Duggan; Jim Duggan; Marilyn Marohn; Sally Eubanks; Dick Allen; Truman Seifert–acute myeloid leukemia; Carolyn Nagel–Aurora Summit; Don Schmitt; Karen Meyer–cancer; George Menden–prostate cancer; Diane Gartzke; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Richard Schultz; Vernon Schilling–cancer; Marcus Pankow–cancer; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell–cancer treatment

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer:** Lisa Kruk (Hannah Christiansen's mom); Pat Venes (Sue Beles' sister-in-law); Daniel (Bill Merten's brother); Curt Duchow (Dorothy's son)–mantle cell lymphoma; Tim–friend of Duke & Debbie Maynard; Rhonda–breast cancer; Hailey–13 year-old w/ brain tumor; JoyAnn; Dan Faltersack–COPD; Jeff–stage four colon cancer; Dick Watt; Betty Dow (Linda Uttech's cousin)–Leukemia; Jeff–non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; Jayne Roberts' husband–lymphoma; Cheech Counsell (Dona Thurow's son-in-law); Tyler; Christopher–cancer; Tanner–2 year-old with cancer; Missy (Sheila Ram's niece)–breast cancer; Dawn–lung cancer; Jim (Jackie Meyer's dad); Jim (Laura Grubba's brother-in-law); Phyllis; Mike; Elizabeth–breast cancer; Kayla–thyroid cancer; Kelly Bratz (Bob's daughter-in-law)–breast cancer; Erin (Mileager)–Rayborn–Hodgkins Lymphoma; Mary Sprague–breast cancer; Debra Thurow (Dona's daughter); Kathy Berkbigler (Pat Borgman's cousin)–breast cancer; Ron Rafalski–throat cancer; Nancy–breast cancer

**Other:** Dorothy Steinke—Alzheimer’s; Trish Lederer—vision issues; Patricia Eberhardt (Chad’s mom); Bob (Sheila Rams’ brother-in-law)—broken arm and pelvis; Brent (Barb Allwardt’s brother)—Alzheimer’s; Katy—HG w/ pregnancy; Cindy Counsell (Dona Thurow’s daughter)—massive stroke; Paul; Bob; George; Paul; Liz Peronto (Barb Allwardt’s sister); Doug—CCL; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan’s son)—MS; Paul Fellin

**Those serving in the military-deployed:** Joe; Sam Duggan; 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:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump & family; Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer; Rev. Ted Krey, Deaconess, Tirzah Krey in the Dominican Republic; all seminary students in the Dominican Republic, and all other pastors and missionaries in Latin America

**Those in need:** Our Shut-Ins; the family of Fred Boldt, who passed away; the family of Patricia Kosley (John Hertneky’s aunt), who passed away; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

**Public Reception of New Members:** Scott, Laurie and Ian Feldschneider

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

*Hymn of the Week: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

LSB 345

Looking forward to the Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2024

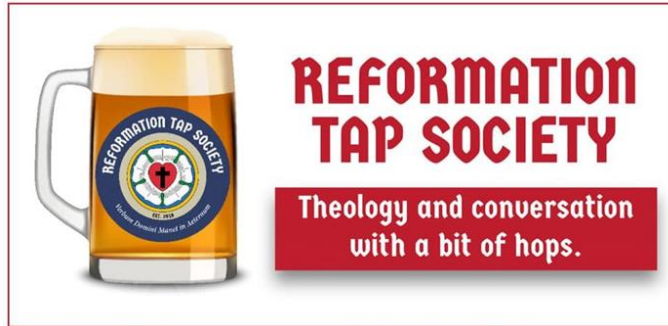
Hymns: 346, 357 (342 356, 431) 933

***The Blessed Redeemer (Pastor O’Donnell)***

Elizabeth knew that Mary trusted The LORD’s promises to her. (Lk 1.45) Elizabeth and Mary knew that—whatever might be the case with their civil government—true peace had come (Mic 5.5a) in the Child of Mary’s womb. They knew that they were sanctified by The LORD, and in time the whole world would be sanctified “through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Heb 10.10) Blessed are those who believe Christ’s promises.)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Reformation Tap Society talks are casual and thoughtful adult conversations about important things. The 2024-2025 RTS season explores many facets of grit and endurance under the theme “Unshakeable Joy in Christ.” Though we welcome adults of any age, topics and language are aimed at those 18-35. Our speakers understand that RTS is a public event, so the conversation won’t be raw, but our speakers are encouraged to practice candor geared towards adults. Parents of young ones should collaborate on a babysitter, then come and enjoy the beverages, food, and conversation. RTS is an opportunity to hear perspectives not regularly heard in popular culture. All are welcome.

RTS is held on the 3rd Sundays, September through May. We gather at 5 p.m., have a “beer talk” from the brewmaster at about 5:25, and at about 5:30 our speaker takes the mic. The speaker will present on a topic of interest, then take questions until 6:15 or so. (BTW, you’re welcome even if you’re not a beer fan. Other beverages are available.) For more information, visit <https://splco.org/church/reformation-tap-society/>.

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### December 15

**An Adult Child of God Reflects on Holidays in a Broken Home**

Presenter: Nathan Meador

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**5-7p.m.**

**BrewFinity Brewery**

N58W38900 Industrial Rd. Suite D

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

[www.brewfinitybrewing.com](http://www.brewfinitybrewing.com)

**First time guests  
get a free  
beer or soda on us!**



*St. Paul's ECC*

# *Silent Auction*



OPENS DECEMBER 11 @ 7AM  
CLOSES DECEMBER 18 @ 8AM



RAISING FUNDS FOR ECC CLASSROOM FLOORING  
& PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS



BASKET THEMES INCLUDE PACKERS GAME  
DAY, PIZZA PARTY, MOVIE NIGHT, NEW  
YEARS EVE KIT, SUMMER FUN, TASTE OF  
ITALY, ICE CREAM SOCIAL & MUCH MORE!



*LOCATED IN THE  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
CENTER*



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>MONDAY</b> December 16	Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal	Parking Lot	5:30 pm
<b>TUESDAY</b> December 17	SPLS Children's Christmas Service SPLS Children's Christmas Service	Church Church	9:00 am 5:30 pm
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> December 18	Fred Boldt Visitation Fred Bold Funeral Fred Boldt Reception Midweek Advent Worship Advent Supper Advent Hymn Sing Midweek Advent Worship	Church Church Gym Church Fellowship Hall Church Church	8:30am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:15 pm 5:00 pm 6:15 pm 6:30 pm
<b>THURSDAY</b> December 19	Church Choir Rehearsal Praise Team Rehearsal	Balcony Church	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
<b>SATURDAY</b> December 21	Women of Joy Caroling Don Goose Visitation Don Goose Funeral Divine Worship AA Meeting	Whelan's Church Church Church Fellowship Hall	8:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
<b>SUNDAY</b> December 22	Divine Worship Sunday School Public School Confirmation Class Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship	Church Meet in Gym Room 219 Fellowship Hall Church	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am

### BIBLE STUDIES

#### Life Application Bible Study

**Sunday: 9:15 am - Fellowship Hall**

262-567-5001

#### Women of Joy

**Saturday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) - 8:00 am**

Whelan's

#### Journeyman

**Saturday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) - 7:30 am**

Maxim's

#### Sunday School

**Sunday: 9:15 am – Meet in Gym**

December 15, 2024

#### **The Kingdom of Children**

Bible Truth: Jesus loves children.

Luke 18:15-17

# NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
<b>Readings</b>	Mic 5.2-5a	Ps 80.1-7	Heb 10.8-10
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Margie Hertneky	Barb Hentz Cindy Fredrickson	Delaney Heffern
<b>Elders</b>	Dave Meyer	Chuck Laabs	Erik Benes
<b>Greeters</b>	Mark & Sue Baganz	Duane & Sharon Peterson Bruce & Mary Bojko	Karen Meyer
<b>Live-Stream</b>	N/A	Grace Schockman Brenainn O'Donnell	N/A
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
<b>Ushering Team</b>	Dave Meyer	Bob Bratz	Erik Benes

DECEMBER 22, 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Pastor: Lance Armstrong O'Donnell

Theme: *The Blessed Redeemer*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg. 184

10:30am Worship

Special Order

## ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music  
Jill George, Principal

Rev. Jason Schockman, Associate Pastor  
Christine Flores, ECC Director

Office Hours: 7:00 am – 3:30 pm (Monday-Friday)

### ***The Third Sunday in Advent***

#### **Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

"Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

The Lord your God is in your midst,

a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you in,

at the time when I gather you together;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes," says the Lord.

#### **Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say,  
Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to  
everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious  
about anything, but in everything by prayer and  
supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be  
made known to God. And the peace of God, which  
surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts  
and your minds in Christ Jesus.

#### **Holy Gospel: Luke 7:18-28**

The disciples of John reported all these things  
to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to  
him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the  
one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"  
And when the men had come to him, they said,  
"John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are  
you the one who is to come, or shall we look for  
another?'" In that hour he healed many people of  
diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many  
who were blind he bestowed sight. And he  
answered them, "Go and tell John what you have  
seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the  
lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear,  
the dead are raised up, the poor have good news  
preached to them. And blessed is the one who is  
not offended by me."

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus  
began to speak to the crowds concerning John:  
"What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A  
reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go  
out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing?  
Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing  
and live in luxury are in kings' courts. What then  
did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you,  
and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is  
written,  
"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.'  
I tell you, among those born of women none is  
greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the  
kingdom of God is greater than he."

December 15, 2024



# St. Paul's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



### Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

262-567-5001

[www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

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

- † Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate. † *As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.*

## GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! We're delighted that you've joined us for worship.

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul's, a greeter, elder, or pastor 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.

We welcome young children to the service. Try sitting closer to the front by a side aisle. There are activity bags located behind the back pews, and a simulcast downstairs if necessary.

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is not a private meal, but a body-and-soul communion with Christ and His body, the Church. In keeping with the Lord's instruction (cf. 1 Corinthians 11.17-34) and with the common historical practice of the church, St. Paul's welcomes only those who are in full confessional agreement to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If you hold a confession differing from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or are not yet confirmed in our confession of faith, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing (Please indicate by folding your hands over your heart.). If you are physically unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion. Those communing should mark this on the attendance card. If you have questions, our pastors will be pleased to speak with you.

### Distribution and Communion Wine

Please place open hands out to receive the Body of Christ and also to indicate whether you are receiving the Blood of Christ from the common cup or the individual cup. The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are dark in color.

## LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 82      **Total: 397**  
8:00 am – 197  
10:30 am – 118

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



## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

	5pm	8am	10:30am
<b>Celebrant</b>	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
<b>Preacher</b>	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell
<b>Musicians</b>	Allison Mackie	Allison Mackie	Praise Team
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Traci Anderson	Jackie Meyer	Barb Star
<b>Elders</b>	Rick Zastrow	Dave Meyer	Ryan Schneider
<b>Greeters</b>	Char Binney	Chris & Pam Kroupa Jim & Judy Braatz	Tom & Denise Showen
<b>Live Stream</b>	N/A	Edwards	N/A
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Chuck Laabs	N/A
<b>Ushering Team</b>	Rick Zastrow	Gary Flanagan	Dan Lennington

### Prayer before communing:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this Holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Altar Flowers:** Kurt & Abby Baneck in praise to God for blessings received

**Radio Broadcast:** Spencer & Gail Frosch in praise to God for blessings received

## ST. PAUL'S MEDIA

- † **Radio: LIVE Sunday at 8am on WTKM (104.9 FM)**
- † **YouTube: LIVE Sundays at 8am (stpaulsev.lutheranchurch7279 )**
- † **Web: Anytime at [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org) or YouTube**

## DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book

Setting 3, pg. 184

Greeting	
Hymn of Invocation	349
Confession & Absolution	184
<b>+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +</b>	
<b>Psalm 85 (insert)</b>	
<b>Zephaniah 3:14-20</b>	
<b>Philippians 4:4-7</b>	
Alleluia and Verse	190
<b>Luke 7:18-28</b>	
Nicene Creed	191
Hymn of the Day	345
Sermon	
Offering	
Offertory	192
<b>5pm: Reception of New Members</b>	
† <b>Scott &amp; Laurie Feldschneider, Ian</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
<b>+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +</b>	
Distribution Hymns	
† <b>338, 333, 402</b>	
Nunc Dimittis	199
Post-Communion Collect	201
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Closing Hymn	331
Announcements	

## Reading: Psalm 85



LORD, you were favorable | to your land;\*  
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your | people;\*  
you covered | all their sin.**

You withdrew | all your wrath;\*  
you turned from your hot | anger.

**Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,\*  
and put away your indignation | toward us!**

Will you be angry with us for- | ever?\*

Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?

**Will you not revive | us again,\*  
that your people may re- | joice in you?**

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,\*  
and grant us your sal- | vation.

**Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,\*  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his  
saints;**

**but let them not turn back to | folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,\*  
that glory may dwell | in our land.

**Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each | other.**

Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,\*  
and righteousness looks down | from the sky.

**Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,\*  
and our land will yield its | increase.**

Righteousness will go be- | fore him\*  
and make his foot- | steps a way.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

# Christ: The Least and The Greatest

by Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 3rd Sunday in Advent  
15 December, A.D. 2024  
Zeph 3.14-20; Ps 85; Phil 4.4-7; Lk 7.18-28

## Introduction

We have a lot to \_\_\_\_\_ about . . .

### I. Jesus Answers John's Messengers

John the Baptist sent messenger to ask Jesus, “. . . Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” (Luke 7:20b, ESV) What did Jesus say? (See Lk 7.22-23; Isa 29.18; Isa 35.5-6; Isa 53.2)

In answering that way, what was Jesus proclaiming?

Less than 3 years after John's messengers came, Jesus fulfilled His declaration (See Isa 53.3-5). How does all this help us understand when Jesus said this:

*“I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. **Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.**”* (Luke 7:28, ESV)



CCT: Outwardly, Jesus seemed to be the least, but in fact He is the Promised One, the \_\_\_\_\_.

Who really is Jesus? What has He done for us? Why has He done this? (See Luther's explanation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Apostles' Creed)

## **II. Least and Greatest**

Jesus was misjudged, in part, because of appearances. What are some of things we do because we misjudge ourselves?

What does God do for us in our Baptism? (See Eph 4.5-6; Rom 8.39; Gal 3.27)

## **Conclusion**

Because of God's declaration, what are we, actually? (See 1 Cor 6.19)

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Mar. 2	Jun. 1	Sept. 7	Nov. 27
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