

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 Fourth Sunday in Advent

Old Testament Reading: 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.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

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.

Holy Gospel: 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."

December 22, 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

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 – 62 **Total: 353**
 8:00 am – 142
 10:30 am – 149

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
Celebrant	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
Preacher	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell
Musicians	Allison Mackie	Allison Mackie	Praise Team
Acolytes	Caleb Meyer	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	Margie Hertneky	Barb Hentz Cindy Fredrickson	Delaney Heffern
Elders	Dave Meyer	Chuck Laabs	Tom Showen
Greeters	Mark & Sue Baganz	Duane & Sharon Peterson Bruce & Mary Bojko	Karen Meyer
Live Stream	N/A	Grace Schockman Brenainn O'Donnell	N/A
Radio	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
Ushering Team	Dave Meyer	Bob Bratz	Tom Showen

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.

Radio Broadcast: Carolyn Nagel in loving memory of her husband, George's, birthday on December 21st

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 or YouTube**

DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book

Setting 3, pg. 184

Greeting	
Hymn of Invocation	346
Confession & Absolution	184
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +	
Psalm 80:1-7 (insert)	
Micah 5:2-5a	
Hebrews 10:5-10	
Alleluia and Verse	190
Luke 1:39-45	
Nicene Creed	191
Hymn of the Day	357
Sermon	
Offering	
Offertory	192
Prayer of the Church	
+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +	
Distribution Hymns	
+ 342, 356, 431	
Nunc Dimittis	199
Post-Communion Collect	201
Benediction	202
Closing Hymn	933
Announcements	

Reading: Psalm 80:1-7 (chanted responsively)



Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, |
shine forth.

Before Ephraim and Benjamin and
Ma- | nasseh,*
stir up your might
and come to | save us!

Restore us, | O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

O LORD | God of hosts,*

how long will you be angry with your |
people's prayers?

You have fed them with the | bread of tears*

and given them tears to drink in full | measure.

You make us an object of contention for our |
neighbors,*

and our enemies laugh a- | mong themselves.

Restore us, O | God of hosts;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

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.

The Blessed Redeemer

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

The 4th Sunday in Advent
22 December, A.D. 2024
Mic 5.2-5a; Ps 80.1-7; Heb 10.5-10; Lk 1.39-45

Introduction

Elizabeth's Wonder

What did Elizabeth say was "blessed"? (See Lk 1.45)

How did Elizabeth know this? (See Lk 1.5-38)

What had God promised, in Micah 5.2-5a etc. to which Elizabeth and Zechariah, Mary and Joseph looked?

Blessed Are Christ's Promises

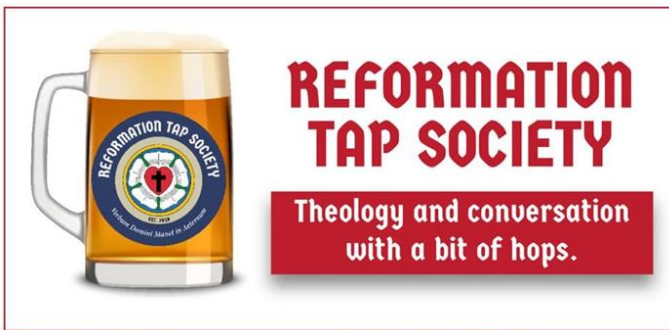
1. The Christ was _____.

2. Christ lived a perfect _____ on your behalf.
3. Christ died a sacrificial _____ on your behalf, as we are told in Hebrews 10: *“And by [the will of God] we have been sanctified [made “holy”] through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”* (Hebrews 10:10, ESV)
4. Christ _____ from the dead.
5. Christ promises that in your Baptism you are buried and _____ with him. (You are, therefore, a “_____ child of God.” (1 Jn 3.1))

CCT: Blessed are those who _____
Christ’s promises.

Why is that sometimes hard?

What is God’s promise for those who believe Christ’s promises? (See Lk 1.45)



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/>.

January 19

**In Your Presence There is Fullness of Joy:
How Church Buildings Confess the Joy of Christ**

Presenter: Dave Juhl

5-7p.m.

BrewFinity Brewery

N58W38900 Industrial Rd. Suite D

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

www.brewfinitybrewing.com

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

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

Weekly Announcements

December 22, 2024



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

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A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Paul's Youth Group

December Events

22/29 NO YOUTH GROUP

January Events

- January 5th HS Youth Group (7-8:30pm)
- January 8th-11th Girls' Warrior Classic
- January 12th MS Youth Group (5:30-7pm); HS Youth Group (7-8:30pm)
- January 15th-18th Boys' Warrior Classic
- January 19th Tubing at Sunburst (MS and HS) after the 10:30am service
- January 26th MS Youth Group (5:30-7pm); HS Youth Group (7-8:30pm)

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.

Lord's Cupboard thanks you!

The generosity of our members is amazing! We are extremely grateful for all the donations (food, gifts, gift cards, money) to help our neighbors in need have a nice Christmas. We were able to give 30 Shorehaven residents with no family a gift card for the nurses to purchase what they need and to have something to open on Christmas Day. There were 93 children given gifts/gift cards to make their Christmas special. We served 217 meals "to go" during our distribution on Monday, 12/16. We were blessed to help over 228 households with food which is 700+ people. *Thank you so very much!* Please continue to pray for our guests who come to Lord's Cupboard and for our dedicated volunteers who share the love of Jesus and our Heavenly Father with their caring ways. God's richest blessings to you and your family this Christmas and in the New Year!



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, just as it gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
The Fourth Sunday in Advent: *The Blessed Redeemer*
December 22-29, 2024

The Blessed Redeemer

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.

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: Blessed are those who believe Christ's promises.

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

Catechism: Creed – Second Article

<p><i>The 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>1st 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>2nd Grade +</p>

The Fourth Sunday in Advent: *The Blessed Redeemer*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
Sun.	Jesus Heals Ten Men with Leprosy: Luke 17	Psalm 24, 25, 110	Luke 7:18-28
Mon.	Jesus and the Little Children: Mark 9-10	Psalm 122, 40, 67	Ex. 34:1-35
Tue.	Jesus and Zacchaeus: Luke 18-19	Psalm 33, 85, 91	Ex. 35:1-36:38
Wed.	The Widow's Coins: Mark 12	Psalm 50, 14, 16	Ex. 37:1-38:31
Thur.	The Triumphal Entry: Matthew 21	Psalm 18:1-20, 126, 62	Ex. 39:1-40:38
Fri.	The Lord's Supper: Luke 21-22	Psalm 102, 130, 16	Lv. 1:1-17
Sat.	Sunday's Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40	Psalm 90, 80, 72	Lv. 2:1-3:17

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 – Jim Braatz; 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); 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; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

Thanksgiving: Jim Braatz for those who came to his aid last Sunday during his medical emergency: Dale Stratil, Pat Borgman, Rachelle Eifert and Elaine Mason

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

Hymn of the Week: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357

Looking forward to the First Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2024

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

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).

WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY December 23	NO SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS (9am-12pm)		
TUESDAY December 24	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED Songs of Christmas Divine Service Christmas Candlelight Divine Service Christmas Midnight (obs.) Divine Service	Church Church Church	3:00 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm
WEDNESDAY December 25	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED The Nativity of Our Lord Divine Service	Church	10:00 am
THURSDAY December 26	NO SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS (9am-12pm) Praise Team Rehearsal	Church	6:30 pm
FRIDAY December 27	NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED		
SATURDAY December 28	Journeyman Divine Worship AA Meeting	Maxim's Church Fellowship Hall	7:30 pm 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
SUNDAY December 29	Divine Worship Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship	Church Fellowship Hall Church	8:00 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 (1st & 3rd) - 8:00 am

Whelan's

Journeyman

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

Maxim's

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:15 am – Meet in Gym

December 22, 2024

The Passion Prediction

Bible Truth: Jesus is God's plan to save us.

John 12:1-8

NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Readings	Ex 13:1-3a, 11-15	Col 3.12-17	Lk 2.22-40
Acolytes	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	Michelle Wilson	Ingrid Kowieski	Karen Dentice
Elders	Jim Juneau	Arno Kirchenwitz	Jerad Luedtke
Greeters	Dan Maynard	Jim & Jody Arndt Rick Zastrow	Tom Miller
Live-Stream	N/A	Edwards	N/A
Radio	N/A	Cheryl Tesch	N/A
Ushering Team	Mark Baganz	Joel Tesch	Mike Neff

DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Pastor: Jason Schockman

Theme: *The Firstborn Son of God is our Redemption from Sin and Death*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg. 184

10:30am Worship

Special Order