

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

# Weekly Announcements

December 8, 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 11<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss how does He continue to prepare the Church for his return in "Proclaiming His Promises"? 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

8	Oconomowoc Holiday Train (2:30pm) – <b>NO EVENING YOUTH GROUP</b>
15	Deliver Christmas food bags after the 10:30am service
15	ALL YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY (1-4pm: <b>NOTE THE TIME CHANGE</b> )
22/29	NO YOUTH GROUP

### Ladies Aid

Ladies, don't forget the date change for our Ladies Aid Christmas party. The festivities will be on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4:30pm at The Rosenkrans Pub located in Shorehaven. At 5pm, we will be seated at our table in Rockwell's Restaurant for dinner and our party. If you haven't already done so, please contact either Mary Lou at 262-308-8184 or Pat B. at 262-354-4203 by Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, to make your reservation and dinner selection. The evening is bound to be one of good food, fellowship and lots of fun. Don't forget to bring a wrapped white elephant gift for exchanging.

### 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **Christmas Food Bags**

We will be packing our Christmas food bags (CFB) on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at 9am. Please join us! Plan for 1½ hours. Families are welcome! We will be packing 150 food bags and toiletry bags. We are requesting donations of the food and/or money to purchase the food needed for these bags and for the gift cards (\$15 gift cards to Pick 'n Save/Metro Market or ALDI) for our guests to purchase their own ham or turkey. Approximate cost needed is \$6,000. Monetary donations can be done online <https://splco.org/> to the Lord's Cupboard (scroll down on the donation page to Lord's Cupboard) or put a check or the gift cards in an envelope marked Lord's Cupboard and put it in the offering plate or drop it off to the church office.

Food donations still needed for CFB:

- carrots-200 cans
- mashed potatoes qty-200 bags
- macaroni and cheese-200 boxes
- stuffing qty-100 boxes
- paper grocery bags

Please put these food items in the container across from the elevator, outside of the Fellowship Hall. Contact Mary with any questions at [mary@splco.org](mailto:mary@splco.org). Thank you so much for your donations and your prayers for our neighbors in need and our hard working, faithful volunteers!

### **Christmas Caring Tree gifts**

We have received more gift requests for gifts for kids under 18. If you want to purchase the requested item for one of these kids, choose a red ornament on the tree in the narthex or in the school entryway. **Please have the wrapped gift back to church no later than Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.** We will have to purchase gifts for any of the requests not filled or we would be happy to purchase the gift if you are able to donate a \$25 gift card to Target or Walmart. Please put the gift card or a monetary donation in an envelope marked Lord's Cupboard and put it into the offering plate or take it to the church office. Thank you so much for your generosity and for wanting to share some of God's Christmas love to others!

# 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 Second Sunday in Advent: *Defending and Confirming the Gospel*

December 8 - 15, 2024

### ***Defending and Confirming the Gospel***

Christians should expect their pastors to “have a little John the Baptist in them,” for the Word the pastor brings, “like a refiner’s fire,” (See Mal 3.1-7b) should reveal injustice and call people to repentance. But the pastor, like John the Baptist, knows that “he is not worthy to untie the sandals” of the Savior. Jesus is the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit, who dies and rises for the sins of the world. Jesus is the final judge. (See Lk 3.1-20) Thus, in humility, pastor and people have a “partnership in the Gospel,” a ministry for themselves and for the world, to defend and confirm the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (See Phil 1.2-11)

### ***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:*** Christ gives the Church the Office of the Holy Ministry to defend and confirm the Gospel.

***Verse:*** 1 Timothy 4:4-5 Every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

***Psalm:*** Psalm 80 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 Second Sunday in Advent: *Defending and Confirming the Gospel*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
<b>Sun.</b>	Jesus Walks on Water: Matthew 14	Psalm 24, 25, 110	Luke 3:1-20
<b>Mon.</b>	The Transfiguration: Mark 8-9	Psalm 122, 40, 67	Ex. 14:1-31
<b>Tue.</b>	Jesus Heals a Blind Man: John 9	Psalm 33, 85, 91	Ex. 15:1-27
<b>Wed.</b>	The Beatitudes: Matthew 4-5	Psalm 50, 14, 16	Ex. 16:1-17:16
<b>Thur.</b>	The Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-6	Psalm 18:1-20, 126, 62	Ex. 18:1-27
<b>Fri.</b>	Jesus Feeds Five Thousand People: John 6	Psalm 102, 130, 16	Ex. 19:1-20:26
<b>Sat.</b>	Sunday's Gospel Reading: Luke 19:28-40	Psalm 90, 80, 72	Ex. 21:1-22:31

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

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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–wrist surgery; Kelly Edwards–knee replacement surgery; Dale Jaeger; Dorothy Duchow; Carole Schmeda–colon 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:** Bruce Bojko; 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 Carol Huebner (Don Groose’s sister) who passed away; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

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

***Hymn of the Week: On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry***

**LSB 344**

**Looking forward to the Third Sunday in Advent**

**December 15, 2024**

**Hymns: 349, 345 (338, 333, 402) 331**

***Christ: The Least and The Greatest (Pastor O’Donnell)***

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)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Parent Partnership Workshop

Our fourth Parent Partnership Workshop is scheduled for this Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm in St. Paul’s Fellowship Hall. The youth group activities have now been focused on the Holiday Train from 2:30-5, so while there will not be youth group meetings that night, **we will have the Parent Partnership Workshop**. We will be discussing chapter 4, “Sexualizing Psychology, Politicizing Sex” in Carl Trueman’s *Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution*. In this chapter we address a fundamental change in Western culture. “Why is it,” we’ll ask, “that sexual activity was once something we *did*, but now sexual activity is something that we *are*?” By considering the influence of such thinkers as Sigmund Freud and the Marxist psychologist Wilhelm Reich, we’ll better understand “why modern culture’s portrayal of traditional sexual standards—virginity, chastity, modesty, even monogamy—is engineered to present these values as somehow inadequate, even oppressive and dehumanizing.” Those who haven’t read the book will be able to participate in the workshop, but those who have read the chapter and accompanying study guide should gain further insight by participation.

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

The people of Christ do not sit still or stay silent. We shout, sing, praise, and bless (Psalm 66:1-2, 8). We get to testify after the fashion of the Baptist and loud like the Lord who has opened our lips. May we raise our Gospel-motivated voice For Life to encourage and advocate for those vulnerable to the deception of using death as a solution.

# REFORMATION TAP SOCIETY

Theology and conversation with a bit of hops.



\*ADULTS 18 AND OLDER

**December 15**

**Joy in the Rearview Mirror:**

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

Presenter: Nathan Meador

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

5:00-7:00 pm  
@ BrewFinity

N58 W39800 Industrial Rd., Suite D





*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 9	Lord's Lambs Giveaway	Fellowship Hall	6:00 pm
<b>TUESDAY</b> December 10	Board of Operations' Meeting Board of Elders' Meeting	Room 201 Room 202	5:30 pm 6:00 pm
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> December 11	Midweek Advent Worship Advent Supper Advent Hymn Sing Midweek Advent Worship Lutheran Basics	Church Fellowship Hall Church Church Room 219	12:15 pm 5:00 pm 6:15 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm
<b>THURSDAY</b> December 12	New Member Sponsor Committee Meeting Ladies Aid Christmas Party Church Choir Rehearsal Praise Team Rehearsal	Teachers' Lounge The Rosenkrans Pub Balcony Church	1:00 pm 4:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm
<b>SATURDAY</b> December 14	Journeyman Packing Christmas Food Bags Divine Worship AA Meeting	Maxim's Fellowship Hall Church Fellowship Hall	7:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
<b>SUNDAY</b> December 15	Divine Worship Coffee Fellowship Hour Sunday School Public School Confirmation Class Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship Youth Deliver Christmas Food Bags All Youth Christmas Party Reformation Tap Society	Church Lobby/Hallway Meet in Gym Room 219 Fellowship Hall Church Meet in Lobby Room 219Y/Gym Brewfinity	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm

### 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 8, 2024

#### **The Thankful One**

Bible Truth: Jesus Shows Mercy

Luke 17:11-19

## NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
<b>Readings</b>	Zeph 3:14-20	Ps 85	Phil 4:4-7
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Margie Hertneky	Jackie Meyer	Karen Gotthardt
<b>Elders</b>	Rick Zastrow	Arno Kirchenwitz	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

DECEMBER 15, 2024

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Pastor: Lance Armstrong O'Donnell

Theme: *Christ: The Least and The Greatest*

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 Second Sunday in Advent**

#### **Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:1–7b**

"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them."

#### **Epistle: Philippians 1:2–11**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

#### **Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1–20**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of

Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

December 8, 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 – 47      **Total: 326**  
 8:00 am – 137  
 10:30 am – 142

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



## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

	3pm	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>Anthem</b>	N/A	Church Choir	N/A
<b>Acolytes</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Traci Anderson	Ingrid Kowieski Amber Butler Tina Gartzke	Karen Dentice
<b>Elders</b>	Dave Meyer	Pat Smith	Tom Showen
<b>Greeters</b>	Margie Hertneky Roxie Gerlach	Dutch & Lynda Holland Dave & Bonnie Schlieve	Al Mueller
<b>Live Stream</b>	N/A	Hertneky	N/A
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Tom Krenzke	N/A
<b>Ushering Team</b>	Joel Tesch	Dan Friedrich	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.

**Altar Flowers:** Chris Dobratz in loving memory of her and Greg's 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Radio Broadcast:** A member 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	511
Confession & Absolution	184
<b>+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +</b>	
Introit: Psalm 66:1-12 (insert)	
<b>Malachi 3:1-7b</b>	
<b>Philippians 1:2-11</b>	
Alleluia and Verse	190
<b>Luke 3:1-20</b>	
Nicene Creed	191
Hymn of the Day	344
Sermon	
Offering	
5pm: Offertory	192
8am: Offering Anthem (Church Choir)	
<b>+ Prepare the Way, O Zion (insert)</b>	
Prayer of the Church	
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# Defending and Confirming the Gospel

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The 2nd Sunday in Advent  
8 December, A.D. 2024  
Mal 3.1-7b; Ps 66.1-12; Phil 1.2-11; Lk 3.1-20

## Introduction

CCT: The Lord, Jesus Christ, gives the Church the Office of the \_\_\_\_\_ Ministry to defend and confirm the Gospel.

## I. The Ministry of John the Baptist

Summarize John's preaching in light of Lk 3.3:

Who went out to the wilderness to hear John?

What are the types of things John said to people as he called them to repentance? (See Lk 3)

Why didn't John back down from calling all people to repentance? (See James 3:9)

What happens when people reject the purpose for which they were created, which is the purpose of Baptism? (See Lk 3.16; 7.39-40)



How does God unite us with the death and resurrection of Jesus and give us the Holy Spirit? (See Rom 6.1-4; Acts 2.38-39) What confidence does this give us in light of His coming judgment?

## **II. In Defense and Confirmation of the Gospel**

What is the sacred duty of the Office of the Holy Ministry (pastors)? And of people in support of that ministry? (See Phil 1.7)

What and who are some of things partners in the Gospel must confront? (See Heb 10.25; Eph 4.28; 1 Tim 6.17-18; Ps 139.13-14a; Lk 1.43-44)

## **Conclusion**

Jesus died for whose sins?

What confidence can we have in Christ, even as we receive His refining Word? (See Jn 1.12-13; Mal 3.3)

**Sam Church Choir Offering Anthem:**  
***Prepare the Way, O Zion***

Text by Frans Mikael Franzen (1771-1847)

Music by Sheldon Curry

Prepare the way, O Zion,  
Your Christ is drawing near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
Foretold in sacred story.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came  
In God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;  
He comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom,  
And justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
For grace and joy abounding.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came  
In God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;  
Your Savior's rule embrace.  
Glad tidings of salvation  
Proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before Him,  
Their voices will adore Him.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came  
In God's most holy name.