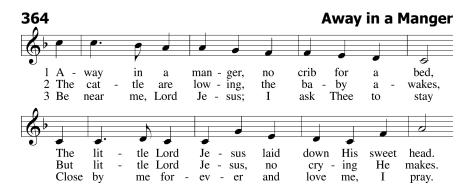
First Sunday after Christmas.....December 27, 2020

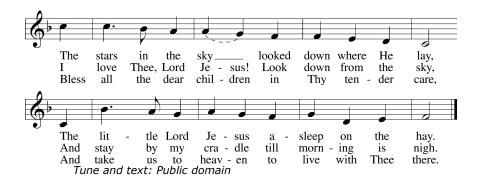
By the First Sunday after Christmas, by and large, the culture has completely finished with its observance of Christmas. In testimony that the blessings of the true Christmas are never finished, the Church continues its Christmas celebration for a full twelve days, a celebration which itself only ends by transitioning to Epiphany, a further celebration of Immanuel, God with us!

<u>There is a Cry Room</u> available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

<u>Children Leaving the Sanctuary:</u> This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. Thank you

The Lord's Supper is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.





CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- \mathcal{P} In the name of the Father and of the \top Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- \mathcal{C} who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

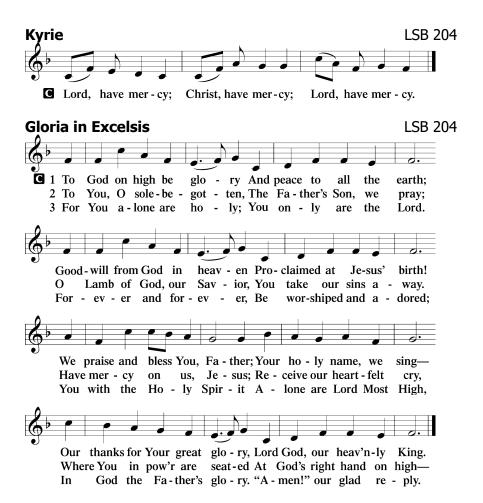
P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

- P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
- \mathcal{C} and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
- *C* His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.
- P The LORD has made known His salvation;
- \mathcal{C} He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- P He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
- $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$ All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
- C break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
- C and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

\mathcal{C} And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. ¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Proper

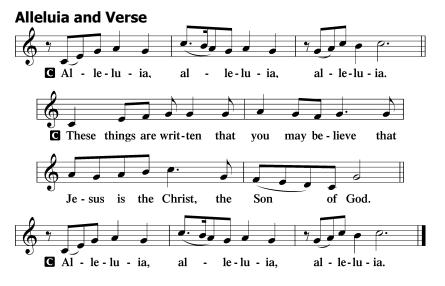
- P To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given;
- *C* and the government shall be upon His shoulder.
- P And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
- *C* Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- P Sing to the Lord a new song,
- C for He has done marvelous things!

Epistle

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

- *P* This is the Word of the Lord.
- \mathcal{C} Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹ Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the Child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.

- *P* This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \top of the world to come. Amen.



He is a servant, I a lord: How great a mystery!How strong the tender Christ Child's love! No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He. He is the key and He the door To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more. To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.
▲ Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.
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Sermon Text	Galatians 4:4-7
Sermon	"No Longer a Slave"
I. We were all	
II. But Christ, God's Son, came to	
(vv 4-5).	
III. Therefore, we now live as	
(Gal 4:5-7).	

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

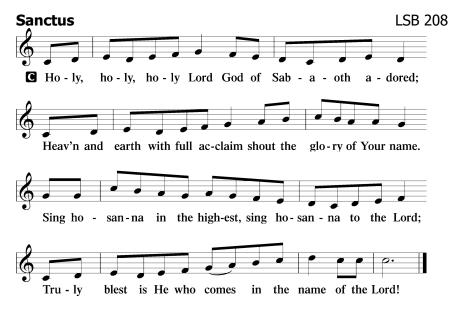
LSB 208

- *P* The Lord be with you.
- \mathcal{C} And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- \mathcal{C} We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

\mathcal{C} It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your onlybegotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

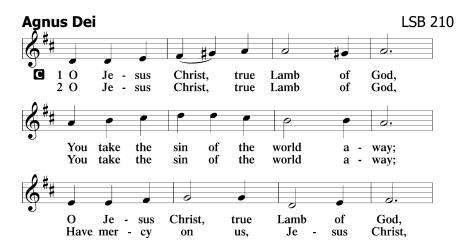
Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

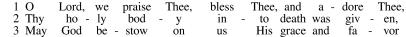
The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- *P* The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

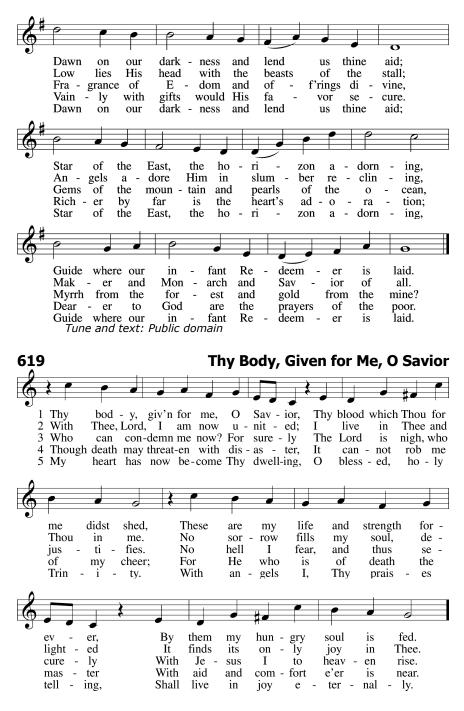


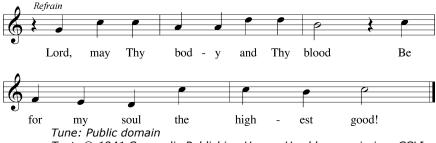




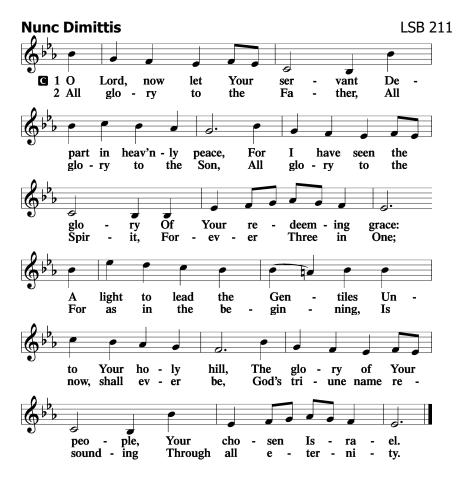








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Post-Communion Collect

- P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

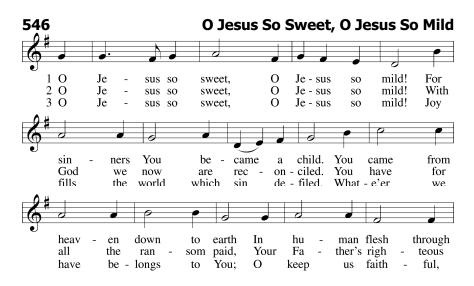
Benedicamus

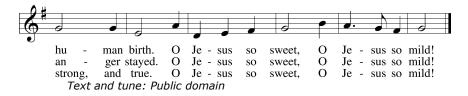
LSB 212

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ⊤ give you peace.
- C Amen.





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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<u>ALTAR FLOWERS</u> today are provided by Wayne & Robin Spicher in celebration of Tara & Wayne Andrew's anniversary.

BUDGET INFO:

Operating budget fund balance as of Dec. 23, 2020: \$74,100 This amount represents just under 6 weeks of normal day-today expenses of the Church and School ministries.

September preliminary operating budget fund donations \$44,440 September preliminary operating budget fund spend <\$56,232>

<u>MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP</u> will meet at the church at 6:30 am on December 30th, January 13th and January 27th.



Wondering what you can do to help the pastoral selection committee? Let's pray together! Prayer meetings continue each Tuesday at 7:00 pm. We meet together in the Narthex for a brief time of prayer lifting up the call committee's work and the ministries of the church. This will be a regular weekly prayer meeting as we seek God's will for the future of his ministries at St. Paul's. Call Terry Miller if you have any questions 248-1770.

150 Psalms in 151 Days

Friday Jan 1—Psalm 1 Saturday Jan 2- Psalm 2 Sunday Jan 3-Psalm 3 Monday Jan 4—Psalm 4 Tuesday Jan 5—Psalm 5

Wednesday Jan 6 Psalm 6 Thursday Jan 7—Psalm 7 Friday Jan 8—Psalm 8 Saturday Jan 9 Psalm 9 Sunday Jan 10—Psalm 10

The first 41 Psalms are intensely personal Psalms of David. They end with a Doxology in Psalm 41 verse 13.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! Patsy Schlemmer would like to thank all those who have sent her cards over the past year; she has received more than ever before. Also, thank you for the Christmas cookies and other treats this Christmas season! Mel is also thankful. God bless you all!

Jim and Lillian Salyer would like to thank the members of St. Paul's for all the cards and the Christmas treats. May God grant us all the peace of Christmas!

For your spiritual preparation for next Sunday, you will want to read Psalm 119:97-104; 1Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52. On January 3rd, Pastor Fiechtner will be our guest pastor.

VACATION: Pastor Wonnacott and family will be on vacation December 28th- January 3rd, 2021.

Calendar of Events

School Corner Update

When will "normal days" return, next week? Will life be normal in 2021? As we ponder this question, we can be grateful that our Lord and Saviour did not wait for "normal" to come. The census was the 1st, while Quirinius was Governor...that wasn't normal. The Messiah being born in a stable, lying in a manger bed, while angels appeared singing to the shepherds tending their flocks...that was not normal either. Christ was "Sent to Serve" more than 2,000 years ago, and the birth of our Saviour changed everything. May we always remember to trust God and His plan for each of us, keeping Christ as the focus of our celebrations this Christmas and into 2021!

The 2020-2021 school year has made it to the halfway point. We give thanks to God, that our preschool and day school have met in-person each of the 84 days of school, in the 1st and 2nd quarters. Thank you to our church and school family for your continued prayers and support during this school year. Blessings are all around us, even during this pandemic.

Servants for Today's Worship

Assistant Pastor: Neil Wonnacott 546-2332 or 574-301-9291

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Usher:

Acolyte: Bradin Schmitt

Elder: 1st Terry Miller; 2nd Jim Kaiser

Communion Assistant: 1st Mike Gumz; 2nd Jon Rettinger