

The Second Sunday in Advent focuses on John the Baptist as the forerunner of Jesus. This man of God burst on the scene proclaiming a Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord Himself is coming. John is His advance team to prepare the people for His arrival, as Isaiah announces in the Old Testament Reading (Is 40:1-11)

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

Children Leaving the Sanctuary: 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.

### Bell Choir – “Carol of the Bells”

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### On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*P* In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*C* **Amen.**

*P* Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*P* Our help is in the name of the Lord,

*C* **who made heaven and earth.**

*P* I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

*C* **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*P* O almighty God, merciful Father,

*C* **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

*P* Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*C* **Amen.**

### **Adult Choir**            "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And Cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### **Introit**

*P* Restore us, O God;

*C* **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

*P* Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!

*C* **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

*P* You brought a vine out of Egypt;

*C* **it took deep root and filled the land.**

*P* Restore us, O God of hosts;

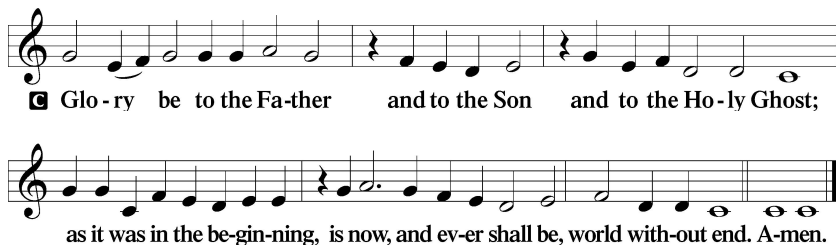
*C* **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**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* Restore us, O God;

*C* **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**



☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## **Kyrie**

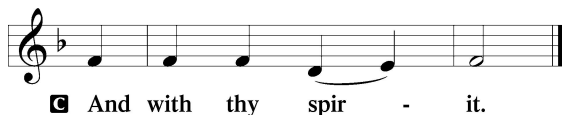
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☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

*P* The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

*P* Let us pray. 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.



☐ A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" <sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. <sup>11</sup>He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

2 Peter 3:8–14

<sup>8</sup>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to His promise we are

waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

*P* This is the Word of the Lord.

*C* **Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia

LSB 190

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the treble staff, with a square box containing a 'C' symbol at the beginning of the first line.

### Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1–8

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for the Holy Gospel. It consists of a single treble clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff. The lyrics 'Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.' are written below the staff, with a square box containing a 'C' symbol at the beginning.

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,  
who will prepare Your way,

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make His paths straight,’”

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt

around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

*P* This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### Apostles' Creed

*C* **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  $\top$  everlasting.**  
**Amen.**

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### When All the World Was Cursed



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na - tion,  
2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,  
3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres - sion,  
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.  
Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.  
Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.  
The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pen - tance voic - ing,



With true fore-run-ner's zeal The great-er One he named,  
 By Jor-dan's roll-ing stream, A new E-li-jah bold,  
 Be-hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a-way our sin,  
 That glad-ly we may walk Up-on our Sav-ior's way



And Him, as yet un-known, As Sav-ior he pro-claimed.  
 He tes-ti-fied of Him Of whom the proph-ets told:  
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a-tone-ment win.  
 Un-til we live with Him In His e-ter-nal day.

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**Sermon Text** "Mark 1:1-8"

**Sermon** "Prepare the Way"

I. John prepared for Jesus by pointing \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

II. John prepares us for Jesus by turning us \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**



1 "Com-fort, com-fort ye My peo-ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par-don, Blot-ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her-ald's voice is cry-ing In the des-ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook-ed; Make the rough-er



saith our God; "Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness, Mourn-ing  
 dark mis-deed; All that well de-served His an-ger He no  
 far and near, Call-ing sin-ners to re-pen-tance, Since the  
 plac-es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum-ble, As be-



'neath their sor-rows' load. Speak ye to Je-ru-sa-lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf-fered man-y a day,  
 King-dom now is here. O that warn-ing cry o-bey!  
 fits His ho-ly reign. For the glo-ry of the Lord





Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver.”  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

*Tune and text: Public domain*

## Installation of Bible Class & Sunday School Teachers and Helpers.

### Prayers of the Church

#### Lord's Prayer

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**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.**

#### Benedicamus

LSB 202

*P* Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Benediction

LSB 202

*P* The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

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### The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,  
2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,  
3 The books are o - pened then to all, A rec - ord tru - ly tell - ing  
4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but car - nal plea - sures,



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -  
And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -  
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was  
Who here de - spised His pre - cious Word And loved their earth - ly



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on  
wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al -  
dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry heart be clear - ly seen, And all be  
tre - a - sures! With shame and trem - bling they will stand And at the



flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.  
might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at His com - mand - ing.  
known as they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.  
judg - e's stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.

My Savior paid the debt I owe  
And for my sin was smitten;  
Within the Book of Life I know  
My name has now been written.  
I will not doubt, for I am free,  
And Satan cannot threaten me;  
There is no condemnation!

May Christ our intercessor be  
And through His blood and merit  
Read from His book that we are free  
With all who life inherit.  
Then we shall see Him face to face,

With all His saints in that blest place  
Which He has purchased for us.

O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way  
In fear and tribulation.

O hear and grant our fervent plea:  
Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev'ry evil.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

### **The Board of Christian Education Needs Your Help!**

The Board of Christian Education is collecting candy to fill the Christmas Goody Bags for the December 16, 2020 Children's Christmas Service. We are asking if you would like to donate individually wrapped candy to help fill up the goody bags. There is a tub in the Narthex to place the candy. Thank you from the BCE

“CHEER TINS” for home-bound members. LWML will be filling tins for delivery. Please bring 18-24 INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED items to the church kitchen on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13. Any donations are appreciated. Thank You!

### **BUDGET INFO:**

Operating budget fund balance as of December 3, 2020 - \$67,100  
**This amount represents over 5 weeks of normal day-to-day expenses of the Church and School ministries.**

**Youth News:** Youth in Grades 4 through 8 are encouraged to participate in this year's Christmas Eve Service. Practices will be on the following Sundays after the second church service (we will start at approximately 12:30 pm) and last approximately an hour: -December 6; -December 13; December 20. *We also may hold an additional practice before*

*the Service itself on December 24th. If you have any questions, please speak with Andy Wildauer.*

THANK YOU to all who helped with our Community Thanksgiving Dinner. We are so grateful to those who roasted turkeys, made pies, filled dinner orders, delivered dinners, and cleaned up. We also thank the Whitlock for the masked potatoes and gravy, and Woodies for the delivery bags!

### Calendar of Events

**TODAY.....December 6, 2020**

Sunday School & Bible Classes.....8:30 am  
Worship Service.....9:30 am  
Worship Service.....11:15 am  
Bell Choir.....5:00 pm  
Adult Choir.....6:00 pm

**MON:**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation.....4:30 pm

**TUES:**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation.....4:30 pm  
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 pm

**WED:**

Day School Chapel.....8:05 am  
School Board Meeting.....6:00 pm  
Advent Worship.....7:00 pm

**THUR:**

Preschool Chapel.....9:30 am

**NEXT SUNDAY..... December 13, 2020**

Sunday School & Bible Classes.....8:30 am  
Worship Service with Communion.....9:30 am  
Worship Service with Communion.....11:15 am  
Bell Choir.....5:00 pm  
Adult Choir.....6:00 pm

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.

**For Your Spiritual Preparation for Next Sunday, Advent 3**

You will want to read Psalm 126; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28. Our theme for the day is: "Great Things", based on the Gospel reading John 1:6-8, 19-28, that we would see beyond the effects of our broken relationship with God to rejoice in the greater reality Jesus brings.

**Sunday School Offerings for the Fall Quarter  
December 6- February 21**

**Pre-K -Grade 2** Nazareth Room

This class will be studying the Old Testament lessons.

The Class will be taught by Linda Tinkey.

**Grade 3-5** Grade 2-3 Classroom

This class will be studying the Old Testament lessons.

Teaching this class will be Joanna Fox.

**Grades 6-8** 6-8 Grades Classroom

Our curriculum for this class has been collected by Ken Eichinger and will study the life of Martin Luther

**High School** Principals Office

Jim Tinkey will lead High School Sunday School class titled "Anchored" for the Winter Quarter.

**Adult Class** Bethany Room

Jim Russell will lead the adult class through a study of Hebrews.

*The Board of Christian Education Thanks all of the teachers that have given of themselves to teach this last quarter.*

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**December Mission of the Month: Bethesda Lutheran Communities**

During 2020 our Sunday School has continued to send \$75.00 each month to a mission. Bethesda's mission is to enhance the lives of

people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through services that share the good news of Jesus Christ.

For more information, go to <http://www.bethesdalcc.org>.

### **Servants for Today's Worship**

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

*Organist:* Anita Eichinger

*Usher:* Mark Matejka

*Acolyte:* Wyatt Beasley

*Elder:* Terry Miller/Jon Rettinger

Dear St. Paul's Church and School Families,

Covid-19 has created issues that I did not anticipate, as a teacher and an Athletic Director. This year has been like no other, but through all of this, I have been comforted by the support of so many people throughout our church and school. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate the uncharted times of this pandemic!

I am asking again for your support and understanding in regards to our home basketball games. It pains me to say this, but in order to meet the Covid-19 guidelines, **we will need to limit attendance at our home games, in order to provide appropriate social distancing for the safety of our players and fans.** At this time, player family members, opposing team family members, and staff will have priority with attendance. Other school and church families will need to wait for conditions to improve within our community for us to be able to increase our attendance capacity, and allow additional spectators. I will continue to review this attendance limitation and revise it as soon as we have the ability to increase our fan base. Please understand that it is our desire to have all of our fans be able to join us when conditions improve and the limitations can be removed.

Again, I thank you for your support of our school, and our basketball program. I have personally seen your team spirit and enthusiasm

throughout my first 5 years here at St. Paul's, and it has created a great environment for our students to compete, and show good character on and off the court. Please keep our players and coaches in prayer for safety and good health throughout this basketball season, so they may compete to the best of their ability.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wildauer  
Principal  
St. Paul's Lutheran School