

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Growing in Faith, Missions, Living, and Giving

Bonduel, Wisconsin
December 17/18, 2016

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Today, as we gather in the house of our LORD, with our eyes focused on the first Advent of our King to be celebrated throughout the world this coming weekend, we hear the voice of the prophet Isaiah. He speaks of the “sign” that God will give. “The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” “Oh come oh come Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel!” In our reading from Romans, chapter one, we are reminded that this gospel of God, was “promised beforehand through His prophets in holy Scripture.” And our Gospel reading from Matthew pushes us right up to the birth of our Lord, as we read, “Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.” A blessed Jesus CHRISTmas to you and your family. And blessings on your worship today!

(Next Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day Sunday – One worship service at 9:00am)



Opening Hymn

350

Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Confession and Absolution

page 151

Psalmody

Psalm 24

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
for he has founded it upon the seas

and established it upon the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

He will receive blessing from the LORD

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Such is the generation of those who seek him,

who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,

that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

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.

Hymn of Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 1:1–7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Music

8:00am

The King of Glory

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to

shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Good News for Kids

Hymn **352** *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament **page 160**

Note for those desiring to commune... Our practice of close communion is the Biblical and historic practice of the Christian church. It is prompted by love, both for God’s Word and for His people since it seeks to prevent spiritual damage to those who do not recognize the true body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine in this Holy Supper (1 Cor. 11:29). Furthermore, it does not deny that members of other denominations are Christians. Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible’s deep concern for doctrinal truth (Romans 16:17) and the Bible’s witness that the Lord’s Supper is the highest expression of fellowship and doctrinal unity (Acts 2:42). For this reason, guests who are not a member of a sister LCMS congregation are asked to speak to a pastor before communing.

Distribution Hymns **341** **392** **362** **348**

Post-Communion Canticle **page 164**

Benediction

Closing Hymn

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Hark the Glad Sound



Acknowledgments

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SERVING THE LORD IN WORSHIP

Liturgy	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup	Sermon	Rev. Mark R. Palmer
Organists	Saturday Ms. Rhoda Lehrke		
	Sunday Mrs. Debbie Welch		
Music	8:00am Handbells Choir		
Acolytes	Austin Prochaska	Hailey Zernicke	Charlie Tauchen

PRAYERS

In Need of Healing . . . *J.J. Brusewitz, Kay Brusewitz, Makenzie Dingeldein, Kathy Ebert, Michelle Hermann, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Mary Luepke, Brittany Slack, David Wegner, Gary Wolf, and Pat Wudtke.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24 – 2:30pm, 4:30pm, and 7:30pm

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25 – 9:00am

Poinsettia orders . . . are due **today, Sunday, December 18.** Sign up in the narthex or you may call Karen Baker at 715–853–9137. Cost is \$16 per plant. Checks should be made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church.



Attendance– December 10 & 11, 2016

Saturday	12/10	7:00pm	141
Sunday	12/11	8:00am	127
Sunday	12/11	10:15am	461
		Total	729

Endowment Fund requests . . . are now being taken. An electronic form may be found on the St. Paul website at www.stpaulbonduel.com on the Links page under the Resources tab. Email the form to t.anderson@stpaulbonduel.com.

Church Offerings

We have given 2% more than last year through the first five months of this fiscal year. We give thanks to God for this. However, our offerings are less than what we planned/budgeted to receive so far. ***Our General Fund operating debt (which covers our total church and school budget) has increased to \$146,000.*** At Christmas time, our joy in giving becomes especially apparent. While our response for the “So They Set Their Hope in Him” emphasis is truly amazing, surely we will continue to give to the Lord with joy and thanksgiving to support our week to week needs as well. Printed below is the allocation to date, as well as the amount already received to date, for our “Hope in Him” emphasis.

**So They Set Their Hope in Him
Stewardship Emphasis Update**

Mortgage	School Repair	WRLHS	Missionaries	Total	Received
\$541,755	\$384,750	\$107,044	\$38,172	\$1,071,721	\$104,688

Applications for Shawano County Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) are available October 1- May 15 . . . WHEAP assistance is a one-time payment during the heating season (October 1–May 15). The amount of the energy assistance benefit varies depending on a variety of factors, including the household’s size, income, and energy costs. If you are a Shawano county resident and would like more information please contact the Shawano county department of human services at 715–526–4740 or visit the Home Energy Plus website at [.homeenergyplus.wi.gov](http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov).

Lutheran Hour . . . "What We Really Want" (Galatians 4:4–5) What do you want this Christmas? Jesus is God's greatest gift to a sinful world. Tune in next Sunday to hear Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus at 7:30am on WTCH/960 AM or at 10:00am on WRVM/102.7.

Join us for IF: Gathering 2017 . . . This is a women's ministry event that desires to "gather, equip and unleash women to live out their calling." Our desire is that women across denominations can gather together, unified, to be inspired and return to their home church excited to serve God and the world around them. This event is on the evening of Friday, February 3, and Saturday, February 4, at Hope Community Church in Shawano. The goal of the event is to disciple the next generation of women to live out God's calling on their lives. If you want more information, please call Cheri Weier at 715–758–6432. (She is our church's representative for this event.) If you want to register, go to www.shawanochurch.org/if, or call Cassie Beyer at 715–304–9808. The cost is \$25. Snacks and refreshments will be provided as well as lunch on Saturday.

ThedaCare At Home needs volunteers for the Hospice and Therapy Dog programs in Shawano and surrounding areas . . . Hospice volunteers visit patients in their homes and at nursing homes and provide support and companionship for both patients and their families. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Angie Krueger at 715–460–1280 or angela.krueger@thedacare.org. The pet therapy program provides visits by registered therapy dogs and their handlers to Hospice patients for the purpose of love, support, and comfort. Dogs must be a minimum of one year of age and be calm, gentle, and comfortable interacting with unfamiliar people. Comprehensive therapy dog training and registration is provided at no cost to the handler by Molly Johnson, owner and consultant with Canine Comfort, LLC. Please contact Molly at 920–716–1890 or mjohnson@caninecomfort.us.

Acolyte Schedule Next Week

12/24	Abby Ard	Kendall Wilcox
12/25	Ella Hischke	

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- SUN. 12/18** 8:00am Worship – Holy Communion
9:15am Bible Bowl Practice
9:15am Bible Class (8th grade room)
10:15am Worship – Holy Communion
- MON. 12/19** 7:30am Strong Bones
7:00pm Grades 5 – 8 Christmas Service
- TUES. 12/20** 7:00am Bible Study
8:00am Quilting
9:30am Circuit Pastors' Winkel
- WED. 12/21** 11:00am Worship – Holy Communion
1:30pm Meadow View
5:00pm Public School Confirmation
6:00pm 5/6 Grade Confirmation
7:05pm Choir
- THURS. 12/22** 7:00pm Grades 1 – 4 Christmas Service
- FRI. 12/23**
- SAT. 12/24** 2:30pm Christmas Eve Worship
4:30pm Christmas Eve Worship
7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship
- SUN. 12/25** 9:00am Christmas Day Worship – Holy Communion



ev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director
Mrs. Donna Niles, Preschool/4K Director

Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532
240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107

Website: www.stpaulbonduel.com email: st.paul@stpaulbonduel.com

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