

# St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

*Growing in Faith, Missions, Living, and Giving*

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 23/24, 2017

## *The Fourth Sunday in Advent*

### **Welcome to the House of the Lord**

If this is a true word – *Rejoice! You are favored by God! The Lord is with you!* – does something else matter? The benefit of worshipping the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, even with our Christmas Eve worship only hours away, is the hearing of the angel Gabriel's message (*in italics above*) from God to the virgin Mary. What God says to Mary, He says also unto you.

Let us begin our Advent worship with the ancient hymn, even as we anticipate our Christmas worship this year, 2017.



### **Opening Hymn**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

(357)

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!

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!

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## Advent Litany

Let's go back in time. It is the 6<sup>th</sup> month of Elizabeth's pregnancy.

**The angel Gabriel is sent from God to the virgin Mary.**

The angel announces, "You will conceive in your womb and bear a son,

**And you shall call His name Jesus**

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

**And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,**  
and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever,  
**and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

Do you believe all this?

**Yes, I believe that by the power of God's word, Mary, a virgin, conceived and gave birth to a son.**

Do you believe that He is the Son of the Most High?

**Yes, I believe that He is God in the flesh.**

Do you believe that He reigns over heaven and earth?

**Yes, I believe His kingdom will have no end.**

Why do you believe this?

**Because Mary's child, after His crucifixion, rose from the dead and after 40 days, ascended into heaven.**

Do you believe He will return again?

**Yes, I believe He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Why do you believe this?

**Because God is the only god in history whose words are backed by action, action people saw. Parting the Red Sea, bringing forth water from a rock, sending down manna from heaven, stopping the Jordan River, falling the walls of Jericho,**

and in the days of Jesus,

**healing lepers, casting out demons, feeding thousands, healing paralytics, blind, and deaf, raising the dead, and rising from the dead – people saw God act.**

You mean that they witnessed His work and presence?

**Yes, and furthermore, Jesus even foretold of His resurrection. I believe He will return because He keeps His word. He keeps His promises.**

Do you believe on account of your own reason and understanding?

**No. I believe because the Holy Spirit has called me. He has converted me to faith. Faith is God's gift to me, to know and believe who Jesus is and what He has done for me.**

Mary, we will hear in today's Gospel reading, was troubled by Gabriel's greeting. Are you troubled at the thought of meeting the Lord when He returns?

**No, I am not afraid to meet Him.**

Why not?

**Because His name is Jesus. "Jesus" means "The LORD saves." Jesus is my Savior from sin and death.**

So, you are sorry for your sins?

**Honestly, I cannot comprehend my depravity, the seriousness of my sin before a righteous God. But I am sorry. I repent. I say with Christians past and present, Lord have mercy upon me, a sinner.**

It is true! You and I are sinful creatures. It is true! "Jesus" means "The LORD saves". By His perfect, sinless conception, birth, life, suffering, and death, He paid the price for your sin and conquered Satan, death and hell. Therefore, as the angel Gabriel announced unto Mary, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce unto you,

Rejoice! You are favored by God! The Lord is with you!

He forgives you all of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Psalmody — Psalm 89:1–5**

O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O LORD,  
**with your faithfulness all around you?**

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

**with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.**

For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;

**in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**

You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

**I have sworn to David my servant:**

'I will establish your offspring forever,

**and build your throne for all generations."**

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,

**your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
is it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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 — 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16**

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.” <sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’” <sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . <sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle Reading — Romans 16:25–27**

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to

all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup> to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Holy Gospel**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,<sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.<sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"<sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.<sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.<sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.<sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,<sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.<sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.<sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God."<sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise be to Thee, O Christ.***

**Apostles' Creed**

**page 192 or inside back cover of hymnal**

**Hymn**

**934**

*My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord*

**Sermon**

**"Mary Was Troubled – And Then She Wasn't"** (*Luke 1:26–38*)

**Offering**

*Please complete the friendship register found at the end of the pew.*

**Offertory**

**page 192**

## Prayers

### The Lord's Prayer

### Benediction

### Closing Hymn

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

(332, 7–8)

From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.



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## *Serving the Lord in Worship*

**Liturgy** Rev. Mark R. Palmer      **Sermon** Rev. Timothy J. Shoup  
**Organist** Mrs. Louise Reisler  
**Acolytes** Kylie Hoeffs      Jake Dreyer

## *Prayers*

**In Need of Healing . . .** *Carol Bartels, John Brodhagen, Carl Busch, Michelle Hermann, Shirley Kieckhafer, Lee Kohn, Gregory Kopitske Jr., Pearl Kyle, Jim Luepke, Brittany Slack, Grant Staszak, Todd Wegner, and Gary Wolf.*



*Prayer  
Requests*

**Birth . . .** *Eliyanah Marilla Welch*, daughter of Bailey & Blaine Welch, was born Saturday, December 16, 2017. Grandparents are Mark and Debbie Welch.

**We Pray for . . .** the family of *Germaine Frank*, who was called to her eternal rest on Sunday, December 17, and given Christian burial at St. Paul on Thursday, December 21.

## *Announcements*

**New Greeter Schedules . . .** may be found on the table in the narthex.

**2018 Offering Envelopes . . .** may be picked up in the narthex.

**Pastor Naumann's Advent Newsletter . . .** may be found on the table in the narthex and on the homepage of our website, [.stpaulbonduel.com](http://stpaulbonduel.com).

### *Attended/Communed – December 16/17, 2017*

Saturday	12/16	7:00pm	198/105
Sunday	12/17	8:00am	161/144
Sunday	12/17	10:15am	<u>149/116</u>
		Total	508/365

**Thank you . . .** for your generous support of the Community Food Pantry. We still have an ongoing need for brown paper bags.

**The Lutheran Hour . . . "Children of Promise"** (*Galatians 4:4–7*) Our identity as God's children encourages us to live in His grace, to embrace the freedom Jesus won, and to resist the ways of the world that strive to keep us captive. Tune in next Sunday to hear Lutheran Hour guest speaker Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook at 7:30am on WTCH/960 AM or at 10:00am on WRVM/102.7 FM. The weekly broadcast may also be heard anytime online at [.org](http://.org).

### **Acolyte Schedule Next Week**

**Dec. 30** Reed Luepke

**Dec. 31** Ben Letter Owen Springborn

### **SCRIP Schedule Next Week**

**Dec. 30** Peggy Buchholz

**Dec. 31** Maureen Zernicke Pam Schmidt

## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- Sun. 12/24** 9:00am Advent Worship  
2:30pm Christmas Eve Worship  
4:30pm Christmas Eve Worship  
7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship
- Mon. 12/25** 9:00am Christmas Day Worship – Holy Communion
- Tues. 12/26** 7:00am **NO** Bible Study  
**NO** 55+ Potluck Luncheon
- Wed. 12/27** 1:30pm Meadowview
- Thurs. 12/28**
- Fri. 12/29** 7:30am Strong Bones  
SCRIP due by noon
- Sat. 12/30** 7:00pm Worship  
SCRIP collected
- Sun. 12/31** 8:00am Worship  
10:15am Worship  
SCRIP collected



Rev. 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

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