

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Growing in Faith, Missions, Living, and Giving

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 30/31, 2017

The First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Take it all in. Trying to embrace everything that comes our way in life, home, church, work and community is sometimes like trying to take a drink of water out of a fire hydrant. It must have been that way for Mary and Joseph. The season of Advent had them waiting for the fulfilling of the angel's greeting from heaven. Then the birth unexpectedly taking place in such an unassuming venue as the dark, cold and very possibly, smelly barn. Then the shepherds visit with quite the story of more angels. Take it all in. To Jerusalem they go for their purification according to the Law of Moses and to offer a sacrifice accordingly. They meet Simeon and Anna. Mary and Joseph's heads must have been swirling around trying to take it all in.

As we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child this Christmas season, may God's Spirit strengthen us in our being able to take it all in. May this season long meditation lead to growth in appreciation along with praise and thanksgiving to our gracious God for the gift of His Son, born for you, for me! Blessings on your worship!



Opening Hymn

379 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

O merciful and faithful God,

You sent the long-expected deliverer to Bethlehem, born to be my Savior from sin and death. I confess before You my unworthiness. I am, according to Your Word, by my nature a lost and condemned creature. Forgive me all my sins.

For Jesus' sake, take away my sin and cleanse me from all unrighteousness that I may enter into Your gracious presence with joy as Your redeemed child.

As Simeon beheld the Christ child and uttered, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel", I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalmody — Psalm 111

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;
they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever!

**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.

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.

Amen.

Hymn

375 *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising*

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 2 – Women

Stanza 3 – Organ

Stanza 4 – Men

Stanzas 5 & 6 – All

Old Testament Reading — Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

I 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.

^{62:1}For 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,⁵ to 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

And when 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. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Inside back cover of hymnal

Hymn

937 *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace*

Sermon

The Long Wait Was Over

Offering

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

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn

390 *Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*



Acknowledgements

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup	Sermon	Rev. Mark R. Palmer
Organist	Mrs. Lorraine Doell		
Acolytes	Reed Luepke	Ben Letter	Owen Springborn



Prayers

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

Altar Flowers . . . are placed to the glory of God by the family of *Freda Krueger*, who celebrated her **100th birthday** on December 30.

A Floral Arrangement . . . has been placed by the family of *Jennifer Hacker*, whose birthday was January 1.

Bulletin Sponsor . . . This weekend's bulletin is sponsored by Randy and Chris Robaidek in memory of *Sheri Bahr*, who passed away 21 years ago on December 31.

We pray for . . . the family of *Herman Wasmund Jr.*, father of Sue Styczynski, our school custodian.

Announcements

The Lutheran Hour . . . "Breaking News!" (Isaiah 60:1–6) Epiphany calls us to believe that the Light has come into the world. A New Year's message about confidence, if you'll believe it! Tune in next Sunday to hear Lutheran Hour guest speaker Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer 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](#).

<i>Attended/Communed – December 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 2017</i>			
Tuesday	12/19	7:00pm	446
Wednesday	12/20	11:00am	21/ 20
Thursday	12/21	7:00am	466
Saturday	12/23	7:00pm	41
Sunday	12/24	9:00am	115
Sunday	12/24	2:30pm	570
Sunday	12/24	4:30pm	365
Sunday	12/24	7:30pm	203
Monday	12/25	9:00am	<u>205/148</u>
Total			2,432/168

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

SUN.	12/31	8:00am Worship 10:15am Worship
MON.	1/1	<i>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</i>
TUES.	1/2	NO 7:00am Bible Study
WED.	1/3	5:00pm Public School Confirmation Class 6:00pm 5/6 Grade Confirmation Class 7:00pm Board of Elders NO Bell Choir or Adult Choir Practices
THURS.	1/4	1:30pm Ladies Aid 7:00pm Men's Club
FRI.	1/5	7:30am Strong Bones SCRIP due by noon
SAT.	1/6	7:00pm Worship – Holy Communion
SUN.	1/7	8:00am Worship – Holy Communion 9:00am Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study (Martin Luther) 10:15am Worship – Holy Communion

Acolyte Schedule Next Week

Jan. 6	Ben Reisner	
Jan. 7	Tatum Sporisky	Audrey Weier

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

Jan. 6	Patti Herrmann
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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
Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532
240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107
Website: www.stpaulbonduel.com email: .paul@stpaulbonduel.com