

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

January 4/7, 2024

The Epiphany of Our Lord



Opening Hymn 395 *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* 1-3

Confession and Absolution page 203

Psalmody — Psalm 72:1-11

Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the royal son!

May he judge your people with righteousness,

and your poor with justice!

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,

and the hills, in righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,

give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

May they fear you while the sun endures,

and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,

like showers that water the earth!

In his days may the righteous flourish,

and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

May he have dominion from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth!

May desert tribes bow down before him

and his enemies lick the dust!

May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands

render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

May all kings fall down before him,
all nations serve him!

**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 **395** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* **4–6**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Ephesians 3:1–12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—
²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.

⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse page 205

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may

come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed *inside back cover of hymnal*

Good News For Kids

Hymn **397** *As with Gladness Men of Old*

Sermon **“What Star Causes You to Rejoice?”**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament **page 208**

For our guests desiring the Lord’s Supper...

Holy Communion is the eating and drinking of Christ’s crucified and risen body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, for strength for this life, and for the assurance of everlasting life with Him. It is a miraculous gift full of grace.

The Bible also teaches that anyone who receives the Lord’s Supper who does not believe or has not been taught our Lord’s teaching, or who is unrepentant, receives Christ’s body and blood to his or her harm. Out of love for you, we kindly ask you to speak to one of our pastors before communing if you are not a member of an LCMS congregation.

Distribution Hymns **400** **394** **399** **409**

Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon **page 211**

Benediction **page 212**



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

Serving the Lord in Worship

Pastors Rev. Timothy J. Shoup

Rev. Mark R. Palmer

Organist Mrs. Lorraine Doell

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Jon Baker, Bonnie Buss, Bruce Heling, Ron Kohn, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Tom Kriehn, Sue Nohr, Theresa Runge, Marlene Schmidt, Dalton Schmidt, Aurelia Steinbach, Leon Stuewer, Tracy Sundstrom, Orpha Swift, Marilyn Tessmann, Dick Wegner, Mark Welch, and Jacob Worthington.*



Announcements

Special Voters' Meeting . . . A special voters' meeting will be held in the fellowship hall next Sunday, January 14, after the 10:15am service. Information concerning the Ukraine Refugee Sponsorship Program will be shared.

Attention Youth in Grades 5-12 . . . The annual statewide Bible Bowl will be held on April 6 at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Wausau. This year's book to study will be *Acts*. ***New this year: students in Grade 5 are welcome to participate.*** What does this involve? Read the book of Acts, attend the practices between services on Sundays, beginning January 7, enjoy fun and fellowship while learning more about a particular Bible book, and compete in the Bible Bowl! Please contact Dave Doell at 715-853-4473 for more information or if you have any questions.

The Lutheran Hour . . . "How Could She Ever Forgive Him?" *Matthew 18:27*
Dr. Michael Zeigler explains why it's not a contradiction to offer forgiveness while insisting on justice. Tune in next Sunday at 7:30am to WTCH/960 AM, or WRVM/102.7 FM at 10:00am, or go to www.lutheranhour.org.

More about All Things St. Paul QR Code . . . Members: Please use the QR code today, found on the back of the bulletin, **to find opportunities to be in the Word – 2024**, update your email address, phone number, and mailing address. Also please provide an online review of our church or school.

Guests... You are welcome to use the QR code on the back of the bulletin to learn more about St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, and request information about membership or enrollment at our school.

Contribution Envelopes . . . for 2024 are available in the narthex. If you no longer use the envelopes, please call the church office at 715-758-8559.

Attendance—December 28/31, 2023

Thursday	12/28	7:00pm	85
Sunday	12/31	8:00am	141
		10:15am	<u>115</u>
		Total	341
		Livestream Views	145

Pastoral Call Process and Questionnaire Update

Our prayer is to call an associate pastor in 2024. Pastor Palmer intends to retire in June of 2025. Our next step is to describe our congregation to the District President, and identify preferred skills in a new pastor. Results from the survey regarding pastoral traits will be posted this month. In the next couple of months we aim to have a list of pastoral candidates. St. Paul members will also be welcomed to submit names of potential candidates. A form to do so will be forthcoming.

Director of Church Ministry – DCM

At the October 24 Quarterly Voters' Meeting, our congregation elected to expand our ministry by calling a part-time DCM who will help expand the gospel ministry at St. Paul by assisting our pastors with coordinating events, visiting shut-ins and members in need as assigned, teaching Bible class, helping lead evangelism, and facilitating communication with our members and the community. One person has expressed the desire to serve as DCM, an interview is being scheduled, and our congregation will possibly vote to call a part-time Director of Church Ministry at the annual meeting January 28, 11:30 am.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- Sunday 1/7** 8:00am Worship — Holy Communion
9:00am Fellowship (Parish Fellowship #2)
Bible Bowl Practice (**Gr. 5–12**)
Bible Study
Sunday School
10:15am Worship — Holy Communion
- Monday 1/8** 7:30am Strong Bodies
6:00pm Board of Parish Fellowship
- Tuesday 1/9** *Amico's Pizza Fundraiser – Mention St. Paul SPYRT*
7:00am Bible Class
8:00am Quilting
- Wednesday 1/10** 8:15am Chapel
4:00pm Food Pantry
4:30pm Board of Stewardship
5:30pm Public School Confirmation
6:00pm Bell Choir
6:30pm Church Council
6:30pm SPYRT Youth and Youth Board Meeting
- Thursday 1/11** 7:00pm Worship
- Friday 1/12** 7:30am Strong Bodies
- Saturday 1/13**
- Sunday 1/14** 8:00am Worship
9:00am Fellowship (Altar Guild)
Bible Bowl Practice (**Gr. 5–12**)
Bible Study
Sunday School
10:15am Worship
11:30am **Special Voters' Meeting**

A Spaghetti Dinner . . . will be held at Wolf River Lutheran High School on Sunday, January 14, 10:30am – 1:00pm, cost is \$8, children 5 and under are free.

Rummage Sale . . . Faith United Lutheran Church, 11465 Old U Road, Gillett, is having a rummage sale January 18 20, Thursday and Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm, and half price Saturday 8:00am – noon.

Thrivent Choice . . . Thrivent members have allocated \$9,031 to St Paul Lutheran Church in 2022. Since the inception of the program in July of 2010, Thrivent members have directed more than \$210,442! March 31, 2024 is the deadline for Thrivent members to designate their 2023 Thrivent Choice funds. Visit www.thrivent.com/choice to designate your dollars. You may also call Thrivent's home office at 800-847-4836.



All Things St. Paul



Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
Mr. Aaron M. Landgrave, Principal
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director
Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532
240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107
Website: www.stpaulbonduel.com