

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 5/8, 2024

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Opening Hymn **345** *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

Confession and Absolution **page 203**

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

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Introit — Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But my people did not listen to my voice;

Israel would not submit to me.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,

that Israel would walk in my ways!

**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.**

Kyrie page 204

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Malachi 3:1–7b

“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Philippians 1:2–11

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

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 third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed *inside back cover of hymnal*

Hymn **344** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Sermon **“Who Can Endure His Coming?”** *Malachi 3:2*

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn **343** *Prepare the Royal Highway*



Acknowledgments

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy Rev. Timothy J. Shoup

Sermon Rev. Ryan J. Fehrmann

Organists 7:00pm Mrs. Debbie Welch

8:00am Mrs. Lorraine Doell

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Dianne Adkins, Lynn Barkhaus, Marge Bleick, Tom Bohn, Darlene Dehn, Allie Gardner, Briana (Buss) Ghbein, Brice Huntington, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Todd Krull, Sue Nohr, Theresa Runge, Connie Rusch, Julie Schneider, Andrew Schoepke, Linda (Ken) Spreeman, Mark Welch, and Jacob Worthington.*



Announcements

Preparing for next week's worship . . . Zephaniah 3:14–20; Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 7:18–28; Order of Worship–Divine Service Setting Four

<i>Attended/Communed— November 26/27, December 1, 2024</i>				
(Thanksgiving Worship)	Wednesday	11/26	7:00pm	197
	Thursday	11/27	9:00am	<u>144</u>
		Total		341
(Advent 1 Worship)	Sunday	12/1	8:00am	207/184
			10:15am	<u>156/134</u>
		Total		363/318
	Livestream Views		119	

The Christmas Giving Tree . . . is up in the church entrance. This is a wonderful way to lend a helping hand to a few of our fellow St. Paul families. If you'd like to help, choose an ornament (or two) from the tree. Each ornament represents a Christmas wish or need for a family. Purchase the item and then return it back to the school office before December 18. This holiday tradition has been very successful in the past, and the response from our congregation has been truly heartwarming.

Christmas Poinsettias . . . Orders are now being taken for poinsettias to be used to beautify the sanctuary during the season of Christmas. The cost is \$20 per plant. Please write your information on the envelope provided and enclose a check or correct cash, and place the envelope in the wooden box in the narthex. The deadline for ordering is Wednesday, December 18. Checks should be made out to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Questions may be directed to Jean Hedtke at 715–758–2728.



2025 Offering Envelopes . . . may be found in the narthex. If you do not find yours, please contact the church office at 715-758-8559.

"I Love Watching My Grandkids Ball Games On Livestream!" . . . This is great news! Ball games at St. Paul Bonduel are now being live streamed. Go look on Facebook! Thank you Ryan Rosenthal for setting all the cameras and software up! Thanks for the Trustees who installed the wiring and cameras! Parents, Grandparents and others needed to receive a short training to help us have volunteers to point the cameras towards the athletes for each of our games. Call the church office or Andrew Moscinski at 920-268-8170 to sign up for the training. Go Comets.

SCRIP News . . . Looking for that little something extra? Quickscrip has added \$10 seasonal cards. In addition to the standard \$10 cards to Amico's, Arby's, Burger King, Culver's, Dairy Queen, Kwik Trip, McDonalds, Papa Murphy's, Subway, and Walmart, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, IHOP, Pizza Hut, and Starbucks will be available for a limited time. Still not what you are looking for? Check out the full list of available cards at www.raiseright.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry . . . Please note that there will be no meeting this month.

The Lutheran Hour . . . "Sorrow Welcomed Here" *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

The church welcomes people, but does it also welcome their problems, or should the church should be a place that makes room for both joy and sorrow? Tune in next Sunday at 10:00am to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on WRVM/102.7 FM, or go to www.lutheranhour.org.

WRLHS Shadow Day Opportunities . . . All 8th graders and high school students are welcomed to participate in a shadow day or a tour of Wolf River Lutheran High School. Principal Paul Steinhaus would be honored to set up an individual or family/group tour(s). Any 7th grader interested in Wolf River is invited to attend the 7th Grade Visit Day on Wednesday, December 11. Call the office at 715-745-2400 for more information.

A FREE Family Fun Event . . . will be held on Saturday, December 14 from 4:30-6:30pm at Wolf River Lutheran High School. This will be a game night and build your own pizza event. Please RSVP to Sarah 920-475-8619.

Food Pantry . . . The food pantry will be open only one Wednesday in December.

“Christmas Memories” Concert . . . will be held Sunday, December 15, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at Faith United Lutheran Church. See the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for more information.

Thanksgiving and Joy from Viola Fronkova and Pastor Dusan Vanko!

Our dear friends in Eastern Europe - Viola Fronkova in Slovakia and Pastor Vanko in Romania - recently received the generous mission offerings and the special greeting cards sent by our St. Paul members and School children. Their “Thank You” letters follow. As you read them, notice the words they use to describe your love and support – precious, wonderful, overwhelming, miraculous. Pastor Vanko and his family and Viola humbly give glory and praise to God for your support and continued prayers for them and for the challenging ministries God has entrusted to them. *“You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which ... will produce thanksgiving to God. For this is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.” II Cor. 9:11-12*

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From Viola:

Dear brother senior pastor Timothy,

Best wishes, may the Lord be with you and with your family, with brothers and sisters at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Bonduel. May the Lord bless you, at the beginning of the Advent season! His protection, His loving care be with you all.

On Thursday 27th November I have received the large envelope, with 1st Thess. 1:2-3 Scripture message and precious handwritten wonderful greetings on that huge picture! 20 years of your love to poor sheep Viola. Also individual pictures/greetings from the children and students from the Church school. What a Christmas gift I have received from those children and all students!

I am with overwhelming feelings, how to say Thank you for your generous care and financial support for me and the work I have to do, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you so very much! It gives a very good help for my expenses:

- ★ for the additional printing of the 1st volume of the book The Church Under Oppression;
- ★ preparations for the finishing, completion of the 3rd volume of the book;
- ★ and my personal and our family expenses, and what else shall come.

I would like to write about my days and weeks here:

- 15th of November - Programme Producers from the Slovak National TV visited me here at the Centre for Old people. **They would like to include into the Christian TV programmes perhaps 10 special videos about the Lutheran pastors who suffered imprisonment during the last atheistic regime.** What a joy for me - yes, people have to know what the Church went through - yet what a task for me, only with the Lord's guidance to choose ten names - pastors from those three volumes of the book The Church Under Oppression. They hope to begin with the first programme for January 2025.
- Sunday 24th November - The Lutheran Circuit Mission Meeting for Women - what a task for me, to give a lecture about the Persecution and illegal oppression of the Church under the atheist Communist regime in Slovakia (for about 150 people who came). I had such a difficulty to concentrate in my thoughts - up to the very last minute I had been so perplexed, what is going to happen – Lord, please, take care of this message about the imprisoned faithful pastors.

Then I was speaking very fluently for about 40 minutes, especially also about some pastors from that Circuit. A tremendous listeners [audience] listening very, very carefully, then prayers. Next morning I had such a simple, clear answer to my perplexed fearful thoughts, with a simple well-fulfilled lecture. *"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:38* **This is the result of your prayers for me - in the Name of the Lord Jesus, before the throne of our Father in heaven.**

Thank you so very much, His mercy be with you for your kind care for myself!

Precious Slovakia and Advent greetings and prayers,

Yours in Him,

Viola

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From Pastor Vanko:

Dear brother pastor Tim!

I received your wonderful greeting! It is miraculous to read so many messages, congratulations and wishes, signed by children, young and old members of your congregation and families. It is for me a very precious proof of our cooperation and your great love. May our Lord Himself repay you all for your expressions of love and friendship.

Your love and generosity also reached us through your generous donations, for which I thank you with all my heart, on behalf of our entire family. *We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. (Col. 1:3)*

In Butin and in Nadlac we are doing well, we try to serve our Lord God in the congregations and family. Our children are 17, 14 and 11 years old (Timotej, Teofil and Emanuela).

In Morava (Semlacu Mare) we continue with the renovation of the church.

In September we celebrated the Thanksgiving for harvests, with a participation of the bishop Peter Mihoč from East Distrikt of the Evangelical Church in Slovakia. And in October in Nadlac we had a Congregation Day, with the participation of a Youth Groupe from Košice, Slovakia.

Also in October I was invited to the Synode of the Evangelical Church in Slovakia (church of sister Viola Fronkova), where I preached and had a presentation about our work and life in our Slovak congregations in Romania. The following weekend I was present at the synod of our church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania, for the jubilee of our bishop where I participated at the liturgy of the festive service.

Our Lord God bless You all! Your families and all congregation!

With brotherly love,

Dušan Vanko

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	12/8	8:00am Worship 9:15am Fellowship (Mission Circle) 10:15am Preschool — Kindergarten Christmas Program
Monday	12/9	7:30am Strong Bodies 5:00pm Board of Christian Education
Tuesday	12/10	7:00am Bible Class 8:00am Quilting 7:00pm Board of Elders
Wednesday	12/11	<i>Amico's Pizza Fundraiser — Mention SPYRT</i> 8:10am Chapel 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Public School Confirmation (Gr. 7-12) 5:00pm Board of Evangelism 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:00pm Public School Confirmation (Gr. 5-6) 6:30pm Church Council 7:05pm Choir
Thursday	12/12	7:00pm Worship — Holy Communion
Friday	12/13	7:30am Strong Bodies
Saturday	12/14	3:00pm P.T.L. Open Gym
Sunday	12/15	8:00am Worship — Holy Communion 9:15am Fellowship (Men's Club) 10:15am Worship — Holy Communion

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

Dec. 12	Sheila Bahr	
Dec. 15	Maureen Zernicke	Barb Wickman

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

Children's **Christmas** Programs

Dec. 8 @ 10:15 am -
Preschool & Kindergarten

Dec. 16 @ 7 pm - Grades 5 - 8

Dec. 19 @ 7 pm - Grades 1 - 4



All Things St. Paul



Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
Rev. Ryan J. Fehrmann, Associate Pastor
Mr. Aaron M. Landgrave, Principal
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Director of Parish Music
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director

Mr. James Meyer, Director of Church Ministry

Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532

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