

**He will rejoice
over you with
*gladness***

**He will quiet
you by his
*love***

**He will exult
over you with
*loud singing***

**I will gather those
of you who mourn for the
*festival***

Zephaniah 3:17-18

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin
December 12/15, 2024

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Opening Hymn 349 *Hark the Glad Sound*

Baptism 8:00am *Becklynn Lucille Wudtke*

Confession and Absolution page 203

Introit — Psalm 146:5–8

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

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

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Zephaniah 3:14–20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading —Philippians 4:4–7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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 seventh chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written, “‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” ²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

inside back cover of hymnal

Hymn

346

When All the World Was Cursed

Sermon

“Are You Looking?”

Luke 7:19

Offering

Prayer of the Church

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 | 333 | <i>Once He Came in Blessing</i> |
| | 348 | <i>The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns</i> |
| | 339 | <i>Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors</i> |

Nunc Dimittis **page 211**

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



Acknowledgments

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy Rev. Mark R. Palmer
Organists Thursday – Ms. Rhoda Lehrke
 Sunday – Mrs. Lorraine Doell

Sermon Rev. Timothy J. Shoup

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Dianne Adkins, 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.*



Baptism . . . *Becklynn Lucille Wudtke*, daughter of Patrick Wudtke and Lissy Kastning, will be baptized during our 8:00am service this weekend. She was born November 10, 2024, and her sponsors are Sara Steinke, Drew Wudtke, and Mandy Krause. Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."* Matthew 19:14

Announcements

Preparing for next week's worship . . . Micah 5: 2–5a; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–45; Order of Worship–Divine Service Setting Four

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, or if you would like to have envelopes, please contact the church office at 715–758–8559.

Attendance — December 5/8, 2024

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Thursday | 12/5 | 7:00pm | 57 |
| Sunday | 12/8 | 8:00am | 188 |
| (Preschool, 4K, and K Program) | 12/8 | 10:15am | <u>350</u> |
| | | Total | 595 |
| Livestream Views | | 159 | |

Mission Circle Christmas Meeting . . . All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us for a Christmas meeting and program on Thursday, December 19 at 1:00pm in the fellowship hall. The program will also include a Mite Box devotion and special offering for Shepherd’s Watch Christian Academy in Mattoon. Bring a \$5 gift to exchange if you wish, and enjoy a light lunch with fellowship. Please mark your calendar and invite a friend or neighbor to attend with you. Please contact Sharon Schrader if you have any questions.

Christmas Services at St. Paul Children’s Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

2 pm

4 pm

7 pm

Christmas Day

9 am



Monday, December 16

7:00pm

Grades 5–8

Thursday, December 19

7:00pm

Grades 1–4

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.

On behalf of my family, I want to thank the congregation at St. Paul for all the help moving, gifts, cards, prayers, and well-wishes that we have received as we have transitioned to St. Paul and the Bonduel area. We are overwhelmed by the care shown and have felt very welcome. We thank God for his faithfulness shown in the people here at St. Paul and are so excited to be working in God's harvest field with you all.

† *Pastor Fehrmann*

The Lutheran Hour . . . "Does It Matter If Jesus Is God?" *Luke 2:10–11*

Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again. Tune in next Sunday at 10:00am to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on WRVM/102.7 FM, or go to www.lutheranhour.org.

A Note from Tom Sundstrom

St. Paul Congregation,

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve our Lord as the Director of Facilities at Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI. With my departure from St. Paul, I would like to extend a heartfelt **Thank You** for all your prayers, love, and support over the last several years. I will be forever grateful to all of you. If you find yourself in the Three Lakes area, stop in at Camp, I'd love to see you.

Tom "Sonny" Sundstrom

Red Cross Blood Drive . . . Extra special thanks from the Red Cross, serving hospital patients and the community to faithful donors for commitment and compassion in giving the gift of life, the volunteers who worked, and the congregation for sponsoring the blood drive and the facility use. The goal was surpassed with appreciation.

Save The Date . . . Transfer the Blessings Presentation at Wolf River Lutheran High School, January 26, 2025 2:00pm–3:00pm. What are the blessings God has entrusted to you? How will you transfer those blessings to your family and the ministries you care about when the Lord calls you home? Join us at Wolf River Lutheran High School for a special presentation by Gary Vought, who will help you answer these questions. Gary is serving as Planned Giving Counselor for the LCMS Foundation in the North Wisconsin District.

We are grateful for gifts given to St. Paul in memory of:

Marlene J. (Giese) Schmidt [1938-2024], St. Paul member, to
Hope in Him Mortgage and General Fund

Lawrence D. "Larry" Wilke [1941-2024], St. Paul member, to
St. Paul Church and School General Fund

Milton P. Rusch [1931-2024], St. Paul member, to
St. Paul Church and School, General Fund, Hope in Him School Repair,
and Bulletin Sponsor

Jonathon A. Baker [1948-2024], St. Paul member, to
St. Paul Church and School, General Fund, Hope in Him WRLHS,
and Church Workers Scholarship

Linda (Busch) Rowell [1949-2024], Former member, to
St. Paul School

Alice Rose (Jeske) Eggert [1928-2024], mother of Nancy Shoup, to
St. Paul Church General Fund

Warren R. Graf [1953-2015], Former St. Paul member, for
Altar Paraments

Harold and Inez Busch (former members) to
Pastor Vanko Romanian Mission

Shadow Day Opportunities . . . Wolf River welcomes any 8th grader interested in a shadow day or a tour of Wolf River. This invitation is also extended to any possible high school transfer students. Wolf River is always open to providing a tour per request. Mr. Steinhaus would be honored to set up an individual or family/group tour(s). Please call the office at 715-745-2400 for more information.

“Christmas Memories” Concert . . . will be held Sunday, December 15, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at Faith United Lutheran Church, 11465 Old U Rd, Gillett. Light refreshments will follow. See the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for more information.

Philippians Conference

Matt Pleshek, one of our members, attended this one-day conference earlier this year, along with several other members who joined virtually. They all raved about the experience. Now, we're excited to host the event for our church and other congregations in person at St. Paul on January 11, 2025!

The workshop is based on Paul's words in Philippians Chapter 1. In that chapter, and throughout the whole book of Philippians, we see how all the leadership of the congregation is working together in the realm of whole life stewardship: Paul, Timothy, deacons, overseers and lay "partners in the Gospel" are all mentioned within the first three verses. The Philippians Conference gathers pastors, lay leaders and congregational members to look closely at what God's Word teaches us about stewardship, that is, about how we use the life and resources our loving God has given us to gladly honor Him and serve others.

We'll explore the need to assess, strengthen, and even change our congregation's stewardship culture. Mark your calendars for January 11, 2025, and look forward to joining us and our guests for this event!

A promotional poster for the Philippians Conference. The top half features a colorful, abstract background of overlapping shapes in shades of blue, green, and yellow. The title "PHILIPPIANS CONFERENCE" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the top. Below the title, on a dark blue background, are three icons: a calendar, a clock, and a location pin. To the right of each icon is the corresponding event information. At the bottom, there is a yellow text block with the facilitator's name and title, and a circular logo for St. Paul Lutheran Church with its address and website.

**PHILIPPIANS
CONFERENCE**

 Saturday, January 11, 2025

 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

 St. Paul Lutheran Church - fellowship hall

Facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador, SWD mission executive and LCMS National Mission stewardship specialist.

 **St. Paul
Lutheran**
BONDUEL, WISCONSIN

240 E GREEN BAY STREET, BONDUEL, WI
+715-758-8559 | WWW.STPAULBONDUEL.COM

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|--|
| Sunday | 12/15 | 8:00am Worship — Holy Communion 9:15am Fellowship (Men's Club) 10:15am Worship — Holy Communion |
| Monday | 12/16 | 7:30am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Online Ministry 7:00pm Grades 5–8 Christmas Program |
| Tuesday | 12/17 | 7:00am Bible Class 8:00am Quilting |
| Wednesday | 12/18 | 11:00am Worship — Holy Communion 5:00pm Public School Confirmation (Gr. 7-12) 5:30pm SPYRT Christmas Party 6:00pm NO Bell Choir 6:00pm Public School Confirmation (Gr. 5-6) 7:05pm Choir |
| Thursday | 12/19 | 1:00pm Mission Circle 7:00pm Grades 1–4 Christmas Program |
| Friday | 12/20 | 8:10am Chapel |
| Saturday | 12/21 | |
| Sunday | 12/22 | 8:00am Worship 10:15am Worship |

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Dec. 19 | Patti Herrmann | |
| Dec. 22 | Louise Reisler | Amy Schmidt |



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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