

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 22, 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Opening Hymn 357 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 1-4

Confession and Absolution

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

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.

There is none holy like the LORD;
there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.

The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.

**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 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 — Micah 5:2–5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of

the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Hebrews 10:5–10

When Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” ⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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 — Luke 1:39–45

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed *inside back cover of hymnal*

Hymn 357 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 5–7

Sermon “The Mother of my Lord” *Luke 1:43*

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Benedicamus page 212

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 933 *My Soul Rejoices*



Acknowledgments. Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy Rev. Ryan J. Fehrmann

Sermon Rev. Mark R. Palmer

Organist Mrs. Louise Reisler

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Dianne Adkins, Marge Bleick, Tom Bohn, Darlene Dehn, Allie Gardner, Briana (Buss) Ghbein, Jim Grunewald, 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.*



Prayer . . . in thanksgiving from *Thomas and Kathleen Kriehn* for their **61st** wedding anniversary on December 21.

Announcements

Preparing for next week's worship . . . Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15; Colossians 3:12–17; Luke 2:22–40. Order of service: Divine Service Setting One

Attended/Communed — December 12/15, 2024

Thursday	12/12	7:00pm	61/ 51
Sunday	12/15	8:00am	185/152
		10:15am	<u>145/107</u>
		Total	388/310
		Livestream Views	202

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.

Christmas Services at St. Paul



Christmas Eve

2 pm

4 pm

7 pm

Christmas Day

9 am

Lutherans for Life Signature Ad . . . Lutherans for Life is planning a Signature Ad in the Market Messenger. Please stop by the table in the Narthex to sign up. A donation of \$3 is suggested and appreciated. Wisconsin Right to Life March usually has a walk for Life in January. Check your local paper for information. We must do all we can to keep this organization that speaks for LIFE going. Contact Sue Ebert with questions.

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!



**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**
Lutheran Reformation
Bondel, Wisconsin

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Hymn Festival

Plan to come! We expect people from Green Bay, the Fox Valley, and Wausau to join us Saturday, February 15 at 4:00pm for a Hymn Festival. Rev. Dr. Jon D. Vieker from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will join us. Look forward to choral and instrumental music to accompany our singing of a select number of hymns built on the theme: *Christ Is Our Redeemer!*

The Lutheran Hour . . . "No Getting Better Than This" *Colossians 3:12-17*

The Good Life--what is it? Life is truly good when it's life the way God meant it to be. Tune in next Sunday at 10:00am to hear guest speaker Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies on WRVM/102.7 FM, or go to www.lutheranhour.org.

A Thank You from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation . . . was received for the generous support our congregation gave them with our mission gift. They are most grateful and it will bring joy to the world where LHF works.

SAVE THE DATE . . . A Transfer the Blessings presentation will take place at Wolf River Lutheran High School on January 26 from 2:00pm-3:00pm. Join us at Wolf River Lutheran High School for a special presentation by Gary Vought, who is the Planned Giving Counselor for the LCMS Foundation in the North Wisconsin District.

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE FOR LISA LEMHOUSE

For about the past two decades Lisa's Flowers, operated by Lisa Lemhouse with husband Steve at her side, has served the area, and especially St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, with totally faithful and unselfish service. Under Lisa's direction our congregation has received special treatment through her care in selecting only the best flowers, replacing flowers and arrangements that didn't meet her high standards, sacrificing her own profits to keep prices lower than some market values and going out of her way to make certain we received flowers on time.

The depth of her caring attitude is not often seen in today's commercial world. Although she may not be closing up shop completely, the end of 2024 will also find her scaling back in her hours and business. We join ranks in expressing our deepest gratitude to Lisa and Steve and all her employees over the years. The Church Council, on behalf of the entire congregation of St. Paul Lutheran, thanks you, and may God bless you in your eventual retirement and future endeavors.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday	12/22	8:00am Worship 10:15am Worship
Monday	12/23	6:30pm Snacks and Y.A.C.K.S.
Tuesday	12/24	<i>CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TIMES</i> 2:00pm, 4:00pm, and 7:00pm
Wednesday	12/25	<i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i> 9:00am Worship with Holy Communion
Thursday	12/26	7:00pm Worship
Friday	12/27	
Saturday	12/28	
Sunday	12/29	8:00am Worship 10:15am Worship

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

Dec. 26	Sandy Staszak	
Dec. 29	Patti Rosin	Peggy Buchholz



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
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