

# St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 26, 2024

## *Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr*



**Opening Hymn**      **380**      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**Confession and Absolution**      **page 151**

**Introit — Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b**

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

**They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

**in your righteousness deliver me.**

For you are my rock and my fortress;

**and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.**

Into your hand I commit my spirit;

**you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.**

**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 152**

**Hymn**      **368**      *Angels We Have Heard on High*

**Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, in the midst of our sufferings for the sake of Christ grant us grace to follow the example of the first martyr, Stephen, that we also may look to the One who suffered and was crucified on our behalf and pray for those who do us wrong; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Amen.*

## **First Reading — Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51–60**

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. <sup>10</sup>But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. <sup>11</sup>Then they secretly instigated men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” <sup>12</sup>And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, <sup>13</sup>and they set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” <sup>15</sup>And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

<sup>1</sup>And the high priest said, “Are these things so?” <sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia and Verse**     page 156

**Alleluia.**  
**Lord, to whom shall we go?**  
**You have the words of eternal life.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Holy Gospel**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-third chapter.

*Glory to You, O Lord.*

[Jesus said:] “Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, <sup>35</sup>so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. <sup>36</sup>Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

<sup>37</sup>“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! <sup>38</sup>See, your house is left to you desolate.

<sup>39</sup>For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to You, O Christ.*

**Apostles’ Creed**

*inside back cover of hymnal*

**Hymn**

*Good King Wenceslas*

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen,  
when the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.  
Brightly shown the moon that night, though the frost was cruel,  
when a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.

“Hither, page, and stand by me. If thou know it telling:  
yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?”

“Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain,  
right against the forest fence by Saint Agnes fountain.”

“Bring me flesh, and bring me wine. Bring me pine logs hither.  
Thou and I will see him dine when we bear them thither.”  
Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went together,  
through the rude wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.

“Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger.  
Fails my heart, I know not how. I can go no longer.”  
“Mark my footsteps, my good page, Tread thou in them boldly:  
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly.”

In his master's step he trod, where the snow lay dented.  
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.  
Therefore, righteous men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing,  
ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing!

**Sermon**      “A Martyr at Christmas”

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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**      **390**      *Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*



Acknowledgments

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# *Serving the Lord in Worship*

**Pastor** Rev. Ryan J. Fehrmann

**Organist** Mrs. Debbie Welch

## *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.*



**Baptisms . . .** *Addison Leigh Mathew and Ainsley Ann Mathew, twin daughters of Brett and Erin Mathew, will be baptized on Saturday, December 28, 2024. They were born August 9, 2024. Ainsley's sponsors are Danielle Welcing, Taylor Welcing, and Desirae Owen. Addison's sponsors are Ryan Mathew, Nicole Mathew, and Desirae Owen. 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*

**Altar Flowers . . .** are given to the glory of God in memory of *Jenny (Wickman) Hacker*, given by the family.

## *Announcements*

**Preparing for next week's worship . . .** 1 Kings 3:4–15; Ephesians 1:3–14; Luke 2:40–52.  
Order of service: Divine Service Setting One

**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.

**The Lutheran Hour . . .** "In the Beginning Was Dialogue" *John 1:1*  
Do you need more faith? Then you need the Word. Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ. Tune in next Sunday at 10:00am to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on WRVM/102.7 FM, or go to [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org).

**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.

**STEWARDSHIP? . . .** When you do something for someone else or your church you make a bigger impact than you know. The little bit you have – time, talent, offerings – is more than enough in the hands of God.

**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. 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 is the Planned Giving Counselor for the LCMS Foundation in the North Wisconsin District.

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## Philippians Conference

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.

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

## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12/29</b>	8:00am Worship 10:15am Worship
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12/30</b>	7:30am Strong Bodies 7:00pm Men's Club
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12/31</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1/1</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1/2</b>	7:00pm Worship — Holy Communion
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1/3</b>	7:30am Strong Bodies
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1/4</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/5</b>	8:00am Worship — Holy Communion 9:00am Fellowship (Parish Fellowship #1) 10:15am Worship — Holy Communion

## SCRIP Schedule Next Week

<b>Jan. 2</b>	Sheila Bahr	
<b>Jan. 5</b>	Barb Swiecichowski	Barb Wickman

## *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!*



**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  
240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107

Website: [www.stpaulbonduel.com](http://www.stpaulbonduel.com)    email: [st.paul@stpaulbonduel.com](mailto:st.paul@stpaulbonduel.com)