

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 31, 2020/January 3, 2021

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Welcome to the House of the Lord

We gather this day in the afterglow of celebrating the most important birth the world has ever known. His name is Jesus. He is the Promised One. He is from the line of David. He is the Son of the Most High. He is the Christ, the Messiah, the Savior of the world. As we prepare our hearts and minds to “Come” and “Worship Him,” we look forward.

One person said, “I’m resigning!” Then they added, “I’m resigning from 2020!” The apostle Paul said, “But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 3:13-14) As we enter the new calendar year of 2021 we begin with a prayer similar to Solomon’s prayer to God in our Old Testament reading from 1 Kings. We pray for God’s guidance, for His wisdom for life.

No matter if you are young like the 12-year old Jesus in our Gospel reading or in the sunset of life like the 84-year old Anna in last Sunday’s Gospel reading, God desires to not only give you wisdom for life, but the assurance of your eternal inheritance that our epistle reading from Ephesians talks about.

God bless your worship. God bless your 2021. Come! Let us worship Him!



Opening Hymn

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

375

Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.

Christ, from heav'n to us descending
And in love our race befriending;
In our need His help extending,
Saved us from the wily foe.

Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

Baptism 8:00am *Rhet Chizel Pedersen*

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

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, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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.

Psalmody — Psalm 119:97–104

Oh how I love your law!

It is my meditation all the day.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is ever with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.

I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

I do not turn aside from your just decrees,
for you have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — 1 Kings 3:4–15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and

insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel — Luke 2:40–52

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**



1 With - in the Fa - ther's house The Son has found His home,
 2 The doc - tors of the Law Gaze on the won - drous child
 3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might - y truth to know,
 4 The se - cret of the Lord Es - capes each hu - man eye,



And to His tem - ple sud - den - ly The Lord of life has come.
 And mar - vel at His gra - cious words Of wis - dom un - de - filed.
 To lift the earth - ly veil that hides In - car - nate God be - low.
 And faith - ful pon - d'ring hearts a - wait The full e - piph - a - ny.

Sermon **Increased In Wisdom!**

Offering *Online or in the narthex*

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

O Little Town of Bethlehem 361

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king and peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Away in a Manger 364

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear 366

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, from heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing,
And ever o’er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

All you, beneath your heavy load, by care and guilt bent low,
Who toil along a dreary way with painful steps and slow:
Look up, for golden is the hour, come swiftly on the wing,
The Prince was born to bring you peace; of Him the angels sing.

For lo, the days have come to pass by prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth God’s ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear the song the angels sing.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

390

Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given.

To this vale of tears He comes,
Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes
We may reign in gladness.

We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.

Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,
Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us.



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. Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising - Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005518 Within the Father's House. Text and Tune: Public domain

Serving the Lord in Worship

Pastors	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup	Rev. Mark R. Palmer	
Organists	7:00pm and 11:30am 8:00 and 10:15am	Mrs. Debbie Welch Mrs. Lorraine Doell	
Acolytes	Will Baciak	Garrett Anderson	Paige Niquette

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Bob Buettner, Lori Cathey, Gabe Delzer, David Genke (brother of Randy), Shirley Kieckhafer, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Patrick Luepke, Judy Manthei, Sue Nohr, Donna Seefeldt, Jerry Steif, and Tom Sunnicht.*



Baptism . . . *Rhet Chizel Pedersen*, son of Zachary and Megan Pedersen, will be baptized at our 8:00am service this weekend. His sponsors are Karisa Koch, Shianne Welk, Jen Welk, and Austin Welk.

Wedding . . . Prayer for the marriage of *Jacob Eggert and Megan Goodreau* on December 31 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Rev. Timothy J. Shoup officiating.

We Pray For . . . the family of *Marty Krueger*, brother of Kathy Buchholz and nephew of Dale and Karlyn Lintner and Jean Klemp, who was called to his eternal home on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, and received Christian burial at Graceland Cemetery in Clintonville on December 26.

We Pray For . . . the family of *Ronald Rank*, father of Greg, Chris, Kevin, and Jeff Rank, who was called to his eternal home on Saturday, December 26, 2020, and received Christian burial at St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Pulcifer on December 31, 2020.

Announcements

2021 Contribution Envelopes . . . may be picked up in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 715-758-8559.

Virtual Sunday School coming soon . . . Watch for details.



Attended/Communed — December 24, 25, and 27, 2020

Wednesday	12/16	11:00am	21/ 20
Thursday	12/17	7:00pm	72/ 53
Sunday	12/20	8:00am	131/108
Sunday	12/20	10:15am	71/ 63
Sunday	12/20	11:30am	34/ 27
Thursday	12/24	1:30pm	242
Thursday	12/24	3:30pm	290
Thursday	12/24	5:30pm	93
Thursday	12/24	7:30pm	102
Friday	12/25	9:00am	121
Sunday	12/27	8:00am	101
Sunday	12/27	10:15am	<u>52</u>
Total			1577/364

Online Services/Livestream Views

Sunday	12/20	295
Thursday	12/24	316
Friday	12/25	216
Sunday	12/27	205

Men's Club . . . NO meeting of Men's Club for the months of January and February. Watch for the start of Men's Club meetings again in March 2021.

Special Year-End Offerings . . . St. Paul is grateful for offerings to support our ministry including special year-end offerings. If you would like to make an in-kind offering of stocks/bonds, please call Trisha at 715-758-8532 to receive our brokerage information.

Unused Contribution Envelopes . . . may be dropped off in the box in the narthex or in the church office. The envelopes get recycled for chapel offerings.

The Lutheran Hour . . . The Backstory Behind a Bible 'Contradiction' (*Mark 2:13-28*)

When you open yourself up to hearing the backstory behind the apparent contradiction, you may encounter what the Bible is all about. Tune in next Sunday at 7:30am to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler on WTCH/960 AM, at 10:00am to WRVM/102.7 FM, or go to www.lutheranhour.org.

St. Paul has gratefully accepted memorials in memory of:

Doris R. Hoffman [1924-2020] St. Paul member to: Hope in Him mortgage, 4th and 5th grade teachers, new TV and computer for conference room.

Kasper Westphal [1927-2020] former member of St. Paul Lutheran to:
Hope in Him mortgage.

John G. Dobratz [1942-2020] St. Paul member to:
Hope in Him mortgage, St. Paul Lutheran School repairs and St. Paul General Fund.

Harold and Inez Busch [St. Paul members in eternal rest] to:
Butin, Romania Ministry by their daughter and son-in-law
Kathy and Michael Dorsey.

Rev. Virgil H. Joss [former pastor at St. Paul] to: General Fund
by Marceline Joss (pastor's wife) and their children.

Acolyte Schedule Next Week

January 7 John Parsons
January 10 Charlotte Luepke James Engel

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

January 7 Sheila Bahr
January 10 Maureen Zernicke Amy Schmidt

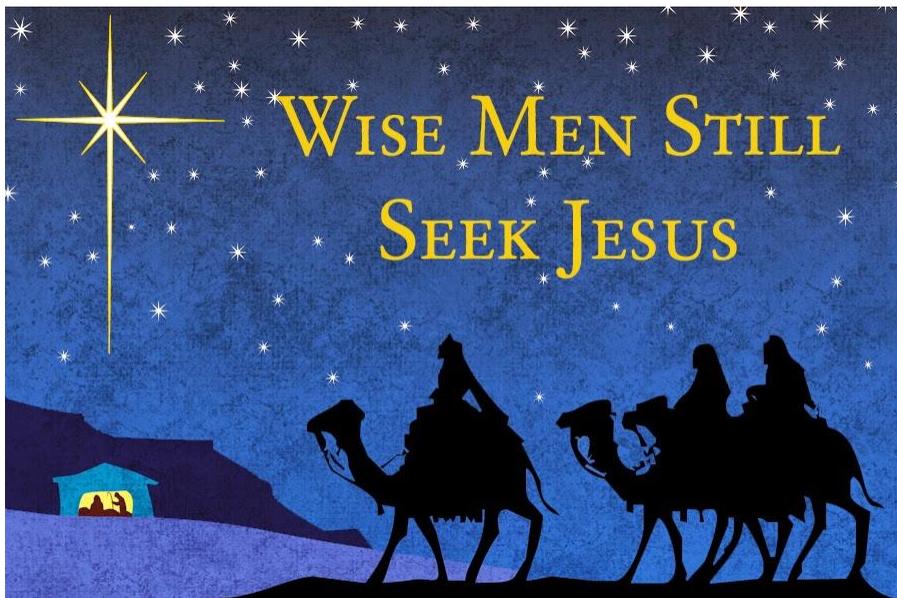
EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- Sunday** **1/3** 8:00am Worship – Holy Communion (*livestreamed*)
10:15am Worship – Holy Communion
11:30am Worship – Holy Communion (**Mandatory Masks**)
- Monday** **1/4** 6:00pm Board of Trustees
6:00pm Board of Parish Fellowship
- Tuesday** **1/5** **NO** 7:00am Bible Study
8:00am Quilting
6:30pm Church Council
- Wednesday** **1/6** *Epiphany*
8:15am Chapel (livestreamed)
9:00am Chapel
5:00pm Public School Confirmation
6:00pm 5th/6th Grade Public School Confirmation
6:30pm SPYRT Youth and Board Meeting
- Thursday** **1/7** 1:30pm Ladies Aid
7:00pm Worship
- Friday** **1/8**
- Saturday** **1/9**
- Sunday** **1/10** 8:00am Worship (*livestreamed*)
10:15am Worship
11:30am Worship (**Mandatory Masks**)



Wednesday 1/6/2021

Epiphany



Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal
Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director
Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director

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