

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 26-27, 2022

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."



Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. Romans 13:11

Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: *"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."*

Welcome! Today is the first Sunday of Advent and a new church year. Welcome to this rich season of worship.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... **WORSHIP NOTES**

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshipping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our church and school have a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

For All Who Worship...If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We also know that kids can be kids. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 203 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You may open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "The Advent of Our King"

LSB, hymn #331

The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.

O Zion's daughter, rise To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise The peace He comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalms 124:8*

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

C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise 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.

Let us humble ourselves before our Good and gracious God.

(Moment of silent reflection)

P: 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. *Luke 18:13*

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

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God,

C: **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.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** *John 20:19-23*

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy (Sung)

Mark 10:47

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

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory To God In The Highest (Sung) *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and be saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

(God's Kingdom Brings Peace)

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their

swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

(Await His Coming!)

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Stand (as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

C: (Sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44

(A Call To Watchfulness)

[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your

Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be Seated)

Children's Sermon

Sermon Hymn: "Savior of the Nations, Come" *LSB, hymn #332, st 1-7*

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh— Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

Sermon: "Wake Up! The Time is Now." *Romans 13:8-14*

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

(Please be Seated)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

OFFERTORY - Create In Me *LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193*

C: **(Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . .

O God, In this season of Advent and as we begin this new Church Year, may we, Your people, continue to be a beacon of Your light and a model of Your love, speaking the truth of Your Word in love and calling the world to repentance and new life in Your name. Lord and King, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Lord Jesus, as Your servant kingship was one of humbleness and mercy as You came to Your people - from Your human birth to Your entry into Jerusalem to Your death on the cross - we give thanks that You still humbly yet mightily come to us today. Come to those we lift up to You now. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especiallly*, . . .). Also be with those

who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). In all things, comfort Your people in knowing that You are their keeper.

C: Be their hope, patience, consolation, and strength.

P: Gracious God, come to the wayward and erring, those who have rejected Your Word, those apathetic to Your grace, or those who have yet to hear the saving good news of Advent hope and Christmas joy.

C: Use us as Your instruments through the gifts of Your Spirit, and bring them to the light of truth that they may follow You in faith.

P: Heavenly Father, come to the nations of the world that war and conflict may cease and instead have peace. Come to the poor and outcast that hope and joy may be found in You. Come, Lord Jesus, Savior and King, to Your Church.

C: Rekindle in us the joy of Your presence that we may welcome and receive You as You come to us in Word and Sacraments. Bless all who worship here, and let Your kingdom come to all who seek You.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, to Your world. Bless all missionaries, pastors, teachers, and laypeople who shine the light of the Gospel, that we may be a sign of Your everlasting love for those in darkness.

C: All these things we pray in the name of our one true King, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray:

C: 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.

Matthew 6:9-13

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:1

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Closing Hymn: “Creator of the Stars of Night” *LSB, hymn #351 [tune 344]*

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people’s everlasting Light:
O Christ, Redeemer, save us all
And hear Thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
Hast found the healing, full of grace,
To cure and save our ruined race.

Thou cam’st the Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to eventide,
The spotless Victim all divine
Proceeding from a virgin shrine.

At whose dread name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things celestial Thee shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.

O Thou, whose coming is with dread
To judge the living and the dead,
Preserve us from the ancient foe
While still we dwell on earth below.

To God the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
 Praise, honor, might, and glory be
 From age to age eternally. Amen.

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer
Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There will be Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that will be wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you are wanting prayer for yourself, someone else or prayer for a concern or situation you may have.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given with prayers of thanksgiving for Bryson Wade's 2nd birthday on November 27th, by parents Abbey & Brody Wade and grandparents Mark & Cheri Rogers. God continues providing the way in miraculous measures and milestones in his journey. Also in loving memory of our brother-in-law Edward Wendinger, who went to be with the Lord on Friday, November 18th, and in thankfulness for God's blessings, by Darrin and Gina Holmes.



ADVENT

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Karl J. Koeppen Senior Pastor	Rev. David Baker Missionary to Mongolia
Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor	Church & School Office: 932-0312
Mr. Richard Nordmeyer Interim Principal	Mary Weber, Family Counselor 932-0312 ext 1458
Church Campus 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee	
School Campus and Church & School Office 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais	
Church & School Website www.stpaulslutheran.net	

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