

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 12, 2021



Third Sunday of Advent

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

Amen.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

(Isaiah 9:2)

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#254, vs. 1

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

**As we light the candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts
as we await the Lord's coming in glory.**

Three candles are lit on the Advent wreath.

Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.

**Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#254, vs. 2

As people of God, called to wait, we profess our faith in the One who is, who was, and who is to come...

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

please stand as you are able

Opening Hymn

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

#242

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14 - 20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. 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 home, at the time when I gather you; 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

³**With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4 - 7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

"Word of God, Come Down to Earth"

#510 vs. 1

Gospel

Luke 3:7 - 18

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

"People, Look East"

#248

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering

please stand as you are able

Offertory

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"

#204

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Jesus Christ, our pathway and our peace. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Words Of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

by Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

"Once in Royal David's City"

#269

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

#279

please stand as you are able

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ for whom we wait. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Joy to the World"
(see next page)

#267

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



"WE ARE PEOPLE OF HOPE"



Welcome: On this Third Sunday of Advent, we encourage everyone to think often about God's gift to us in Christ. What love God has for each of us! And what love we should have for one another! Welcome in the name of our Lord.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: "Unspoken prayer concerns", Debbie Vaughan, Rocky Goyette, Jon Beckman, Kevin Tatum, Margie Gerken, Irene Viebrock, Kyle Luetjen, and Greg Ives.



Tim Berendzen, Junior & Nancy Webb (brother & sister-in-law of Glen Webb), Rev. Don Marshall (Executive Director of Oaks), John Turley, Pat Arline (friend of Taylor Vanderlinden), Rebecca Heimsoth (friend of Norma Schlesselman), Dieter Knowle (brother of Kim Knowle-Zeller), Debbie Viebrock (daughter-in-law of Delbert Viebrock), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin & Ruth Lackas (sister & brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Mary Fuelling (sister-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Reagan Phillips, Greg Wright (family of Jim & Kim Gumbel), Rick Osborne (friend of Gale Logan), Bill Russell (friend of Florence VonHolten), Gina Smith, Baby Emma Ruth Eckhoff, Bill Hamilton, Marvin Bockelman (brother of Margie Gerken), Alex Stevens (friend of Tina Ives), Jeffery Jones (son of Bonnie Bohling), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling, Margie Gerken: *Ambrose*. Luella Viebrock, Marie Viebrock, Florence VonHolten & Cecelia Wiedemann: *GSCC*. Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms*.

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, Cpt. Joseph Strathman, Sgt. Russell J. Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann) and Cpt. Wayne Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann).



With Sympathy: We also pray for those families who have lost loved ones; family and friends of Larry Harms and Scott Robinson (friend of Pastor Stephen).



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.

Thank You: Thank you to all who helped with Christmas Tour of Churches!! There were about 65 folks who stopped by to see our sanctuary all decked out for Christmas. Many were "first timers" in our sanctuary, often coming from a distance; others who had not been in the church for decades; and still others who just dropped in to see and gather in conversation. The "light supper" was successful with serving about 130 people. **Thank you** to all who helped to decorate the sanctuary, those who made the "supper" preparations, the servers, the wonderful cookie bakers, and the greeters who shared their knowledge of the church. It took many to make the day a success!!



USHERS



Ushers: There is a need for ushers for 2022. If you are interested please contact Greg Bredehoeft or Bruce Wienberg.

Children's Christmas Program Practice: Practice for this year's Christmas Eve Children's Program continues, at 9:00 am, for grades 1-8 in the Fellowship Hall, and continue through December.



Prayer & Devotion: Each Wednesday throughout Advent, Pastor Stephen will share a short time of prayer and devotion, virtually, at 7:00 pm. Stop by the St. Paul's Facebook page right at 7:00, or catch a recording of the video later at your convenience.

LBPS: Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **December 14th** and Wednesday, **December 15th** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.



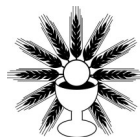
Meeting: The Council will meet on Tuesday, **December 14th** at 7:30pm.


Choir Practice: After a long hiatus, our adult choir will share special music on Christmas Eve. If you would like to be a part of the choir for Christmas Eve please come to two choir rehearsals on Wednesdays, **December 15th** and **22nd**, at 7:30 pm, in the Chapel. There will also be some conversation at these rehearsals about how to continue forward. See you there!



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **December 16th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.


Ambrose: Pastor Stephen will be offering communion at Ambrose Park on Friday, **December 16th**, at 2:00pm in their small dining room. All are welcome.



 **Hope & Healing:** Our annual Service of Hope and Healing will happen virtually on Wednesday, **December 22nd**, at 7:00 pm. **HOPE & Healing** This service is an invitation to pause, breathe, and pray before the arrival of Christmas. We will recognize the winter solstice (also known as the "longest night") and lift up our prayers of grief and lament to the God who comes to us in the flesh in order to walk alongside of us. So grab a candle, share this invitation with a friend, and join us for this virtual invitation to sit in the presence of God.

Worship Service: We will enjoy the story of the birth of Jesus on **Christmas Eve**. Worship will begin at 7:00pm. We will also have worship service on **Christmas Day** at 10:00am. Please bring your family and share this wonderful time of the year with your church family.



 **Secret Sisters** - Just a reminder that now is the time for the Secret Sister Reveal!! Also, there are sign-up sheets at the ushers' stand for the Secret Sisters for 2022! Sign up and enjoy the fun!!
Secret Sisters



Wise Men: "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage," asked the wise men from the East as they came seeking the newborn Jesus. Over the next few weeks of Advent, be on the lookout for some of those wise men around

Cole Camp who are still seeking the Savior. They will be stopping in different yards in town as they make their way to find Jesus, here at St. Paul's on Christmas Eve. If you or anyone you know happen to see them, stop and get a picture with them and post that picture to the St. Paul's Facebook page. You just might get a little prize!

Saint John's Bible: Coming in **Lent 2022 (March)**, St. Paul's is excited and honored to host an exhibit of 17 illuminated prints from the Saint John's Bible. The Saint John's Bible is a work of art and a work of theology. It is the first handwritten and illuminated Bible since the invention of the printing press. This contemporary Bible was created by a group of 23 scribes, artists and assistants under the artistic direction of Donald Jackson, Senior Scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office at the House of Lords. For five weeks, St. Paul's will have on display 17 of the prints. We'll be opening the building for the wider community to experience this powerful exhibit. We hope and anticipate that many individuals and groups will come to see these prints. We will be incorporating the prints in our worship and education opportunities. If you'd like to volunteer to be a docent, being present while visitors come to see the prints, let us know! This is an incredible opportunity for immersing ourselves in God's Word.



~ * ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ * ~



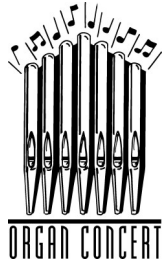
Music Boosters: Music Boosters will have a pulled pork dinner **today** from 11:00am until 1:00pm. The menu includes pulled pork, posh potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert and drink. You can dine-in or take it to-go. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. Encore Choir will showcase their program following the dinner!

Live Nativity: Mt. Hulda Lutheran will have its Live Nativity Displays **today**. Viewing starts at 6:30 until 7:30pm. Please enter from Highway 'B' onto Mt. Hulda Ave. Stop by the church for refreshments and caroling.



Booster Clinic: The Benton County Health Department will host a covid vaccine booster clinic on Friday, **December 17th** here at St. Paul's. To set up an appointment to receive the booster please call the Health Department at 660 - 438 - 2876.

Advent and Christmas Organ Concert: Holy Cross Lutheran Church will be hosting an Advent and Christmas organ concert on Sunday, **December 19th** at 7:00pm. Guest organist, Karen Bretz, of Jefferson City will play a variety of music on the newly renovated historic Kilgen Organ. The concert is free of charge, but there will be a door offering taken to go toward the cost of the organ renovation. Please come and enjoy the sounds of Advent and Christmas!



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, December 12:	9:00am	Christmas Program Practice
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult
	10:00am	Worship
		Holy Communion by Stations
Tuesday, December 14:	8:00am	LBPS
	7:30pm	Council
Wednesday, December 15:	8:00am	LBPS
	7:00pm	Virtual Advent Devotions
	7:30pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, December 16:	8:00am	BCHD
	2:00pm	Communion at Ambrose
Saturday, December 18:	5:30pm	Casual Worship Service
Sunday, December 19:	9:00am	Christmas Program Practice
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult
	10:00am	Worship
		Holy Communion by Stations



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

December 24	Christmas Eve Worship Service & Program
December 25	Christmas Day Worship Service
January 16	Annual Meeting

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers	..... The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister	..... Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist	..... Lois Viebrock
Pianist	..... Jeannette VonHolten
Altar Guild	..... Ellen Harms & Sharel Wienberg
Ushers	..... Greg Bredehoeft, Head Usher
.....	Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs, Chester Schlesselman & Kelly Viebrock



Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 12, 2021

Assisting Minister	..... Melisa Balke
Reader	..... Bill Viebrock
Children's Sermon	..... Kim Knowle-Zeller
Communion Assistants	..... Jake Jackson & Justin Tinney
Acolyte	..... Lauren Brown & Bradyn Rehmer
Flowers	..... Advent Wreath
Fellowship Hour	.....



Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 19, 2021

Assisting Minister	..... Tom Oelrichs
Reader	..... Bob Farrington
Children's Sermon	..... Paul Fuelling
Communion Assistants	..... Lauren Bailey & Miles Bailey
Acolyte	..... Ethan Goosen & Shelby Nash
Flowers	..... Advent Wreath
Fellowship Hour	.....

