

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
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[www.siuoxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siuoxcitystpauls.org)



FOURTH SUNDAY IN

*Advent*

8:15 a.m. Sun., December 19, 2021  
Sermon: "He shall be their Peace" Micah 5:2-5a



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(6 p.m. Sat. December 18, & 8:15 a.m. Sun. December 19, 2021)

### Servants of God's House Today:

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenny Hsu   **DCE Intern:** Grace Wolfgram

**Organists:** 8:15 a.m. Sun. Mabel Huldeen

**Ushers:** Doug Lehr

**Missionaries:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,  
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

**Elders:** 8:15 a.m. Sun. Bob Greene

**Readers:** 8:15 a.m. Sun. Dallas Schulz

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**WELCOME!** We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

**AS WE GATHER** "And He shall be their peace." That is how the prophet Micah described the coming Messiah. God's people will not find their peace in a big bank account. Nor will our peace be found in being part of the right social circle. Nor will our peace be found in a political leader or even in a political ideology. Nor will our peace be found in our living good and upright lives. Our peace is found in the Messiah, in Jesus, in the Good Shepherd whose strength is the Lord. Mary's circumstances were difficult; the angel's announcement of her pregnancy had to be quite a surprise. Pondering all these things in her heart, she found peace in God, who blessed her. So she sang God's praises, a song that we sing still today, the Magnificat, a powerful reminder that "He shall be their peace."

**HOLY COMMUNION** The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** 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.

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

## The Ringing of the Bells

## The Wave of Fellowship

Hymn of Invocation "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"  
(stand as you are able for the last verse)

LSB 347

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

### The Invocation

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

**C: Amen.**

### Opening Sentences *Luke 1:49–51, 54, adapt.*

P: The mighty Lord has done great things and holy is His name.

**C: We thank You, O Lord!**

P: The Lord's mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

**C: We adore You, O Lord!**

P: The Lord has shown the strength of His arm.

**C: We praise You, O Lord!**

P: The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy.

**C: We worship You, O Lord!**

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath *All four Advent candles are lit.*

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Confession Absolution

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

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

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, 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.

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

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Into this world of turmoil, You, O Lord, bring peace.

**C: Let the peace that calmed the troubled heart of Mary so rule in our hearts and minds**

P: that by Your power we may all become peacemakers

**C: in our homes, in our community, and in our church;**

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading Micah 5:2–5a (Out of little Bethlehem will be born a ruler for God’s people, a Good Shepherd, who will bring peace.)



<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>4</sup>And 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. <sup>5</sup>And he shall be their peace.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.  
*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

**C: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## The Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 10:5–10

(Because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, we live.)



<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup>Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

<sup>8</sup>When 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), <sup>9</sup>then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Stand as you are able)

## The Alleluia and Verse *Matthew 1:23a*

**C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Luke 1:39–45 (Even while in Mary's womb, the presence of Jesus caused Elizabeth and the baby in her womb to rejoice!)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

## Gospel Reading

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she

exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

## Children's Message

**TODAY'S SERMON**



“He shall be their Peace” Micah 5:2-5a



P: As we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's coming, we turn to the Lord in prayer.

*(A brief time of silence may be observed.)*

P: O Desire of nations, bless the leaders of nations, our president and Congress, our governors and local leaders. Move all leaders to cease envy and boastfulness, injustice and corruption. Guide our leaders to be honorable people who do not neglect the poor and who strive toward the flourishing of all human beings. Bless those who serve in our armed forces and lift up refugees and all victims of war. Bring peace between us and our enemies and let Your peace reign over this broken world. We pray,

**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: O Dayspring from on high, come to the aid of all who are in need. As You humbly entered this world as a vulnerable baby, help all of us humbly to enter the lives of those who are sick, facing surgery, or dying, to offer comfort and hope, especially Helen Eriksen, Verlie Yockey, Bernie Attema and Gabriel Hannemann. We continue to pray for those weak and dealing with ongoing sicknesses: Mary Kay Holiday, Natalie Powell, Deb Chellew, Lowell Chellew, Bethamy Lewis and Suzy Awe. Bring healing according to Your will and peace to those whose suffering endures. Thank You for the work of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals who work toward healing and restoration of wholeness. Guide scientists searching for cures for diseases that bring suffering to the world that their work might lead to healing for many. We pray,

**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: O Key of David, let Your peace flow freely in and among the families of this congregation. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel and comfort families who are separated by many miles. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. We pray,

**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: O Lord of might, let the peace that surpasses human understanding, the peace that comes from being in Christ, so fill our hearts that we become signs of Your peace in this chaotic world. We pray,

**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: You, O Lord, remember those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Tom Brown, Jeff Donadson, Kenny Kasdorf Jr., Kim Strom, Beau Wagner, Kamryn Behrens, Brandon Dodds, Joe Sulzbach, Nicole Castro, Tim Bratvold Jr., Kristyn Rolfes, Richard Meek, Amanda Swearingen. We pray,

**C: hear us, coming Lord.**

P: You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts and hear those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All our prayer we entrust to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.



**St. Paul's members** have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings. Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

**To our guest:** Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card and Communion Card** in the box at the back of the church.

*Psalm 138:2—I bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things Your name and Your Word.*

### Offertory Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LSB 361

(Stand as you are able)

### *Service of the Sacrament*

### Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, born of the Virgin Mary in the little town of Bethlehem brought peace and joy into this tumultuous world by His preaching, miracles, death, and resurrection.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Page 208

**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!**

Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

Agnus Dei Lamb of God (*Sung*)

**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.**

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

“Savior of the Nations, Come” LSB 332

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord LSB 352

(Stand as you are able)

The Post Communion Collect

P: Lord God, we give You thanks for Christ's body and blood, this amazing gift by which we receive a renewed relationship of peace with You and with one another. Help us all to grow as peacemakers; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Benedicamus & Benediction *Luke 1:54–55; Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

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.**



Silent Prayer

Postlude

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**St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)**

**Worship Services** Traditional (Sat., 6:00 p.m. & Sun., 8:15 a.m.)  
Contemporary Service (10:45 a.m.)

**Sunday School:** 9:30 a.m.

**Youth & Adult Bible Classes** 9:30 a.m.

**Special Holiday Services**

**Christmas Eve Services**— 6 and 11 p.m. Friday, December 24th

**Christmas Day Service**— 9 a.m. Saturday, December 25th

**New Year’s Eve**—6 p.m. Friday, December 31st

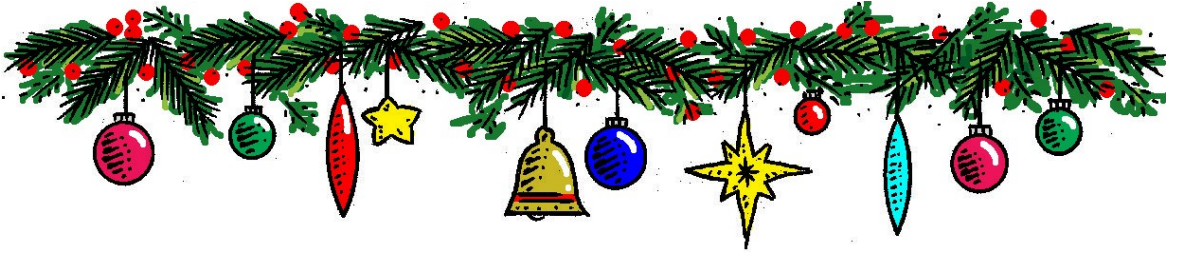
All these services will be In Person, Live Streamed on Facebook, and also available on our Church Website and App the following day.

Facebook Page: [www.Facebook/stpaulslutheranchurchschool](http://www.Facebook/stpaulslutheranchurchschool)

Website: [www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)

App: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Sioux City





# SERMON NOTES

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