

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)



FIRST SUNDAY IN

*Advent*

10:45 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021  
Sermon: "Days More Important Than Others"  
Text: Jeremiah 33:14-16



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- A Family to Whom You Belong -  
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

## THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

10:45 a.m. Sunday, November 28, 2021

### **Servants of God's House Today:**

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

**Praise Team Leader:** Doris Hill

**Usher:** Tim Draube

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

**Reader:** Judy Seaman

---

**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** Some days in our lives stand out as more memorable than others. The birth of a child, a long-awaited graduation, a particular vacation, or a family gathering are all days of joy that become part of the stories of our lives. A terrible illness, the death of someone dear, the loss of a job—these days, too, stand out as moments seared in our memories of pain that never seems to go away entirely. Some days stand out more than others. Today's Readings declare the days when Jesus came into the midst of all our joys and sorrows to bring joy, restoration, and hope. Our salvation was won on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. And the day is still coming when Christ will return and all creation will be restored. Jesus fills our days—good or bad, joyful or sorrowful—with His gracious presence from now until He returns on that great Last Day.

### **Worship Service**

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

**The Ringing of the Bells**

**The Wave of Fellowship**

**The Invocation and Opening Sentences** *Jeremiah 33:14–15; Luke 21:27, 33, adapt.*

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

**C: Amen.**

P: The LORD says, "I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah."

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

P: The LORD says, "My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up."

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

P: The LORD says, "You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

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

P: The LORD says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

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

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**—*One Advent candle is lit.*

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle 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.**

**Opening Song** "We Believe"

In this time of desperation when all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only one foundation we believe, we believe

**Verse 2**

In this broken generation when all is dark, You help us see  
There is only one salvation we believe, we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father we believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion we believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection And He's comin' back again, we believe

**Verse 3**

So, let our faith be more than anthems Greater than the songs we sing  
And in our weakness and temptations we believe, we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father we believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion we believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection And He's comin' back again

**Bridge**

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised  
In the here and now, let love invade  
Let the church live loud, our God we'll say  
We believe, we believe  
And the gates of hell will not prevail  
For the power of God, has torn the veil  
Now we know Your love will never fail  
We believe, we believe

**Chorus**

We believe in God the Father we believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion we believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection And He's comin' back  
He's comin' back again

**Outro**

He's comin' back again  
We believe We believe

Words and Music by Travis Ryan, Matthew Hooper, and Richie Fike CCLI #11440148 and 20162974

## Apostles' Creed

**First Lesson** Jeremiah 33:14–16 (The prophet Jeremiah foresees a day when God would come to bring righteousness to His people.)

<sup>14</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**Second Lesson** 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13 (Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

<sup>9</sup> What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

**Holy Gospel** Luke 21:25–36 (The kingdom of God is near.)

<sup>25</sup>“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

### **Confession and Absolution Psalm 25:6–7**

P: Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

*(A time of silence is observed.)*

P: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**C: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**C: according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

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.**

### **Children's Message**

#### **The Song of Instruction "Amazing Love"**

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken I'm accepted, You were condemned  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit lives within me Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me  
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken I'm accepted, You were condemned  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit lives within me Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me  
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.

You are my king  
You are my king  
Jesus, You are my king  
Jesus, You are my king

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me  
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.  
(Words & music by Billy Foote, EMI Christian Music Publishing, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

**The Word** "Days More Important Than Others" Text: Jeremiah 33:14-16

## **WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING**

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** in the box at the back of the church.

*Luke 16:11 — If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth (money), who will entrust to you the true riches?*

### **Offertory "Give Thanks"**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say,

"I am rich" because of what the Lord has done for us,

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say,

"I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." (Repeat)

Give thanks!

(Words & music by Henry Smith, copyright 1992 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

### **The Prayer of the Church**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **The Benediction**

### **The Going Out Song "Jesus"**

There is a truth older than the ages.

There is a promise of things yet to come.

There is One born for our salvation: Jesus.

There is a light that overwhelms the darkness.

There is a kingdom that forever reigns.

There is freedom from the chains that bind us: Jesus, Jesus.

Who walks on the waters?

Who speaks to the sea?

Who stands in the fire beside me?

He roars like a lion, He bled as the Lamb.

He carries my healing in His Hands. Jesus.

There is a name I call in times of trouble.  
There is a song that comforts in the night.  
There is a voice that calms the storm that rages.  
He is Jesus, Jesus.

Who walks on the waters?  
Who speaks to the sea?  
Who stands in the fire beside me?  
He roars like a lion, He bled as the Lamb.  
He carries my healing in His Hands. Jesus.  
Messiah, my Savior, there is power in Your name.  
You're my Rock and my Redeemer.  
There is power in Your name, in Your name.

You walk on the waters,  
You speak to the sea,  
You stand in the fire beside me.  
You roar like a lion,  
You bled as the Lamb.  
You carried my healing in Your hands.

God, You walk on the water,  
You speak to the sea,  
You stand in the fire beside me.  
You roar like a lion, You bled as the Lamb.  
You carried my healing in Your hands.  
Jesus, there is no one like You.  
Jesus, there is no one like You.

*(Words and Music by Chris Tomlin and Ed Cash. CCL: used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)*

## **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.

624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)

Like us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchSchool](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchSchool)

# 2021 Advent Midweek Services

## *"When Heaven Met Earth:*

### Advent Answers to Hard Questions Hardly Anybody Is Asking"

We all have questions, though for a variety of reasons some choose not to ask them. It is true in a classroom and in various aspects of life, and it is also true in our lives of faith. Some teachers tell their students, "There is no such thing as a bad question," and for the most part that encouragement and attitude is a good one. Our heavenly Father would carry the same sentiment as He invites whatever we bring before Him, including our questions. This Advent season, a few hard questions will be asked about our Lord, and our answers will be found in His Word & through the awaited Savior born for us.

*(There will be a meal provided following the 6:00 p.m. Service)*

Date	Time	Theme
Dec 01	12:15 & 6 PM	<b>The Birth of God: How . . . and Why?</b> Luke 1:26–38
Dec 08	12:15 & 6 PM	<b>The Obedient Child: Did He Know?</b> Luke 2:41–52
Dec 15	12:15 & 6 PM	<b>The Man's Man: Why Would Jesus Ever Cry?</b> Luke 19:41–44; John 11:30–36

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

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

**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