

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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www.siouxcitystpauls.org



FOURTH SUNDAY IN

Advent

10:45 a.m. Sunday, 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

10:45 a.m. Sunday, December 19, 2021

Servants of God's House Today:

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

Elders: Don Lantis **Praise Team Leader:** Doris Hill

Ushers: Dallas Schulz

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

Reader: Ralph Schroeder

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.

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

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.

Opening Song “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come thou long expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in thee

Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart

Born thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring

By thine own eternal spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to thy glorious throne

By thine own eternal spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to thy glorious throne

Raise us to thy glorious throne

Words by Charles Wesley; Music by Rowland H. Prichard. CCLI License 11440148 and 20162974)

Nicene Creed

First Lesson Micah 5:2–5a (Out of little Bethlehem will be born a ruler for God's people, a Good Shepherd, who will bring peace.)

<p>² 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. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall</p>	<p>return to the people of Israel. ⁴And 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. ⁵And he shall be their peace.</p>
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The Epistle Hebrews 10:5–10 (Because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, we live.)

<p>⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" ⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in</p>	<p>sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.</p>
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(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

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>³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and</p>	<p>blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."</p>
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Children's Message

The Song of Instruction “Only By Grace”

Only by grace can we enter, only by grace can we stand, not by our human endeavor, but by the blood of the Lamb;

Into Your presence You call us, You call us to come,
into your presence you draw us and now by your grace we come.
Now by your grace we come.

Lord, if You mark our transgressions, who would stand?
But thanks to Your grace we are cleansed by the blood of the Lamb.
Lord, if You mark our transgressions, who would stand?
But Father, thanks to Your grace we are cleansed by the blood of the Lamb.

Only by grace can we enter, only by grace can we stand,
not by our human endeavor, but by the blood of the Lamb;

Into Your presence You call us. You call us to come,
Into Your presence You draw us and now by your grace we come.

Now by your grace we come.

Now by your grace we come.

(Words & music by Gerrit Gustafson, 1990 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, used by permission
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The Word “He shall be their Peace” Micah 5:2-5a

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.

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 “Word Of God, Speak”

I'm finding myself at a loss for words,
And the funny thing is, it's okay.
The last thing I need is to be heard,
But to hear what You say. (chorus)

(chorus)

Word of God, speak
Would you pour down like rain,
Washing my eyes to see shout Your majesty,
To be still and know that You're in this place?
Please let me stay and rest in Your holiness?
Word of God, speak.

I'm finding myself in the midst of You,
Beyond the music, beyond the noise.
All that I need, is to be with You,
And in the quiet, I hear Your voice. (chorus)

(2002 Wordspring Music & Songs from the Indigo Room, Simpleville Music, INC. used by permission, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

The Prayer of the Church

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 not always been instruments of Your peace. Our homes have at times been places of strife and turmoil by our own fault. Even in the church sometimes we have chosen to fight rather than to make peace.

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.

INVITATIONAL SONG ("Praise Team):

**He said come to the table
Come join the sinners who have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior now
Sit down and be set free
Come to the table**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

READING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT CARD FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Praise Team will be served communion at this time.)

DISTRIBUTION "The Potter's Hand"

Beautiful Lord, wonderful savior, I know for sure, all of my days are held in Your hands
Crafted into Your perfect plan

You gently call me, into Your presence Guiding me by, Your Holy Spirit
Teach me dear Lord to live all of my life through Your eyes

I'm captured by, Your Holy calling
Set me apart I know You're drawing me to Yourself
Lead me Lord I pray

Take me, Mold me Use me, Fill me I give my life to the Potter's hands
Call me, Guide me Lead me, Walk beside me, I give my life to the Potter's hand

You gently call me, into Your presence Guiding me by, Your Holy Spirit
Teach me dear Lord to live all of my life through Your eyes

I'm captured by, Your Holy calling set me apart
I know You're drawing me to Yourself, Lead me Lord I pray

Take me, Mold me Use me, Fill me I give my life to the Potter's hands
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Take me, Mold me Use me, Fill me I give my life to the Potter's hands
Call me, Guide me Lead me, Walk beside me, I give my life to the Potter's hand
Words and Music by: DARLENE JOYCE ZSCHECH Hillsong Music 2002 CCLI 11440148
and 20162974

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high, Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. (refrain)

Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times gave holy law, In cloud and majesty and awe. (refrain)

Oh, come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust your mighty pow'r to save; Bring them in vict'ry through the grave.
(refrain)

Oh, come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. (refrain)

Oh, come, our Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight
(refrain)

Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Oh bid our sad divisions cease, And be yourself our King of Peace.
(Public domain) (Refrain)

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song "Be The Center "

Jesus, be the center. Be my source be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

Chorus: Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.
Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision. Be my path, be my guide, Jesus. (chorus)

Jesus, be the center. Be my source by my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus. (chorus)

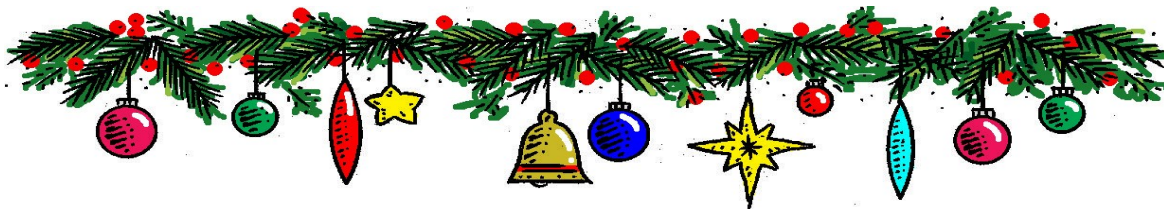
Jesus be the center , be my source, be my light, Jesus,

Be my source, be my light, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

(Words & music by Michael Frye, 1999 Vineyard Songs, used by permission, CCLI License 11440148 and 20162974)

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)



Worship Services: Traditional (6 p.m. Saturday & 8:15 a.m. Sunday)
Contemporary Service (10:45 a.m. Sunday)

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.com/stpaulslutheranchurchschool

Website: www.siouxcitystpauls.org