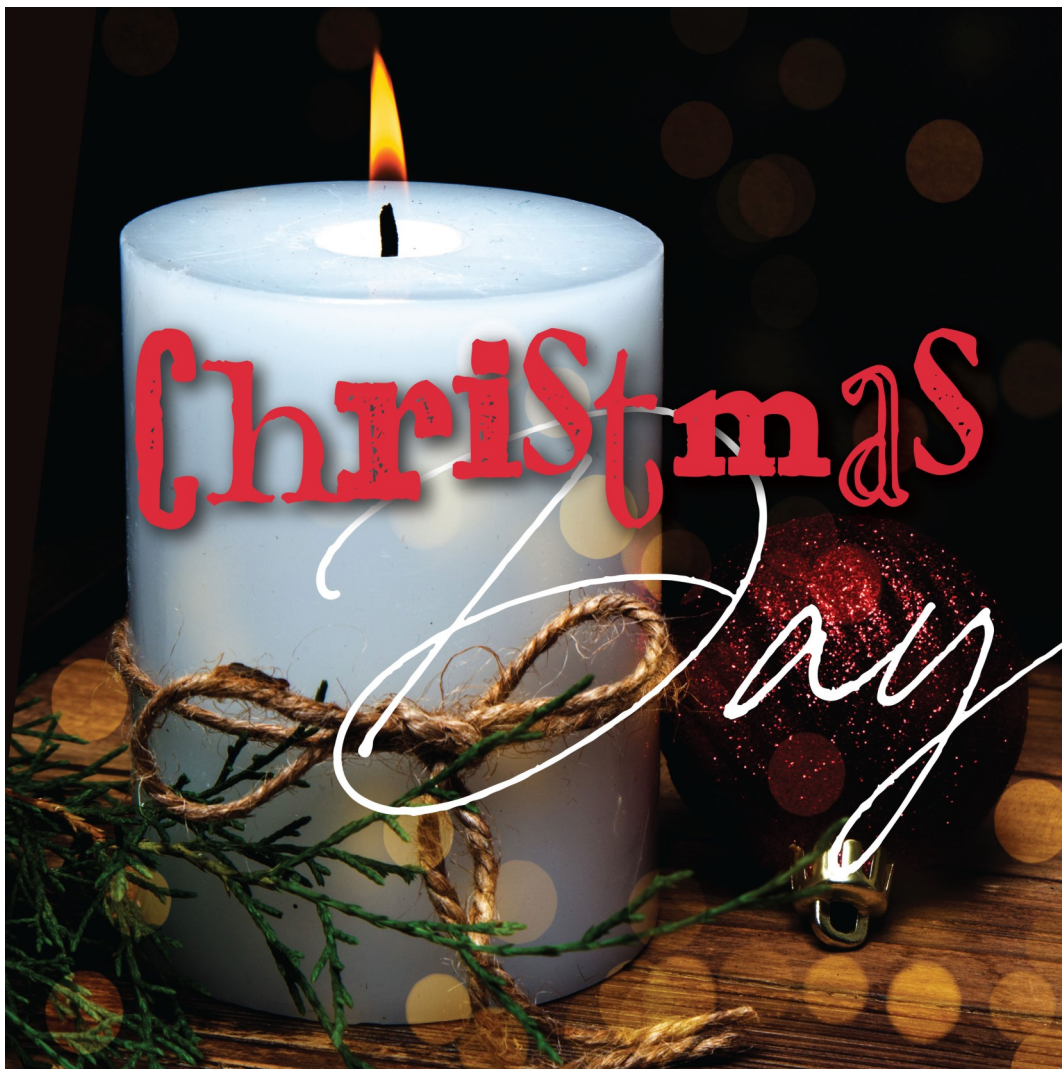


**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)



*9 a.m. Christmas Day Saturday, December 25, 2021*



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

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

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD—CHRISTMAS DAY

(9 a.m. Saturday, December 25, 2021)

**Servants of God's House**

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenny Hsu

**Organists:** Joyce Seymour

**Ushers:** Doug Lehr

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

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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** Fears abound this Christmas. It is true for us today as we consider the problems in our world and the difficulties and stresses that daily life brings our way. Fears were also present that first Christmas, when the shocked shepherds were visited by the heavenly host and the glory of the Lord shone around them. "Fear not!" the angels proclaimed. The shepherds did not need to be filled with fear at God's presence, for the purpose of the angels' visit was to announce to them the news that would change the world: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). God's Son has arrived in this world to make us the Father's own dear children. Let us rejoice this morning as we sing the praises of the babe of Bethlehem and gather to receive Him as He comes to us in His body and blood. Fears be gone, for on Christmas our gracious God has given birth to His perfect plan to cancel our sin and make us His own forever!

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of our sin that we may rejoice in the salvation You have delivered unto us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Worship Service** Page 184

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

#### **The Ringing of the Bells**

Hymn of Invocation

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

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

#### **The Wave of Fellowship**

LSB 379

The Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

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

**C: Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.; Luke 18:13*

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 this Christmas morning to hear God's Word and to marvel at the mystery of the Word becoming flesh, let us first consider our unworthiness before God and confess before Him and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition; only God's Son, Jesus Christ, has set us free from our fears and failures, our sin and death, and He enables us to live forever as God's children. Let us then take refuge in the infinite mercy of our God and, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, say: 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, born into this world on Christmas, to live, suffer, die, and rise again for you. For Jesus' sake, your heavenly Father forgives you all your sins. As your pastor, it is my privilege to announce this message of grace unto you and, as Christ has commanded, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

PSALM *Psalm 98; antiphon: v. 2*

P: The LORD has made known His salvation;

**C: He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**C: His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

P: The LORD has made known His salvation;

**C: He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**C: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

P: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**C: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

P: The LORD has made known His salvation;

**C: He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

**C: with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

P: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

**C: make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

P: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**C: the world and those who dwell in it!**

P: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD,  
for He comes to judge the earth.

**C: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

**The LORD has made known His salvation;**

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

#### The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh  
may set us free from our fears and from the bondage of our sin that we may  
rejoice in Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who  
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

#### The First Reading      Isaiah 62:10–12      (“Behold, your salvation comes.”)

<p><sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples. <sup>11</sup>Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion,</p>	<p>“Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.” <sup>12</sup>And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.</p>
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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.

*Isaiah 9:6, adapt.; Psalm 98:1a*

**C: Unto us a child is born! Unto us a son is given! And the government shall be  
upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Sing to the Lord a new  
song, for He has done marvelous things!**

The Epistle Lesson Titus 3:4–7 (“He saved us . . . according to His own mercy.”)

<p><sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy</p>	<p>Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.</p>
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L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia Luke 2:14

**C: Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased! Alleluia.**

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Luke 2:8-11 (The birth of Jesus is announced to the shepherds.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

<p><sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ</p>	<p>the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”</p>
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P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising” LSB 375 1,2,5,6

Sermon “For You Who Fear . . .” Luke 2:8–11

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

Proverbs 11:25—Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

Offertory Hymn

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

LSB 374

(stand as you are able)

The Prayer of the Church

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

Wonderful Counselor, You govern all things with wisdom, righteousness, and truth. Grant to Your creation the joy of Your presence, that we may see You at work in our midst. Guide the nations of the earth to Your Son, that all would know Your salvation. Wherever the good news of great joy is announced this day, grant that lives are changed forever by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

P: Mighty God, Your power knows no limits. You reign over all things and yet, in Christ, You stoop down to save us. Give to us, Your Church, the power to declare Your mighty deeds throughout the world. Inspire us to fulfill our earthly callings so that, through our lives of joyful service, all would know of Your grace and mercy. Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

P: Everlasting Father, You embrace us and make us Your children through faith in Your only-begotten Son. Bless all those who, in any form of sickness or infirmity, need Your tender care. Heal the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and grant Your saving power to all who rest in You. they rejoice in the message of Christ coming. Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

P: Prince of Peace, You give to us what the world can never give. Drive out all fears and doubts. Deliver us from all enemies, seen and unseen. Grant us solace in Him whose blood has set us free that we would be Your people forever. Open our ears to the message of the angels: “Fear not! For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!” Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We rejoice that You have come unto us to draw us unto You.**

P: Fearing, loving, and trusting in You above all things, we entrust all of these prayers to Your mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Him whose birth we celebrate this day: Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction *Isaiah 9:6, adapt.; Numbers 6:24–26*

P: Unto us

**C: a child is born!**

P: Unto us

**C: a son is given!**

P: And the government shall be upon His shoulder.

**C: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

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.**

The Closing Hymn      “Joy to the World”

LSB 387

Silent Prayer

Postlude

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## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)**

**New Year's Eve Worship** 6:00 p.m.

**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.

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