

Happening this week:

Sunday, Jan 4	8:00 am KWBE Broadcast of previous week 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, Jan 6	6:30 pm Board & Committee meetings
Wednesday, Jan 7	6:30 pm Confirmation Class
Sunday, Jan 11	8:00 am KWBE Broadcast of previous week 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

Installation of new Church Board and Committee members will be January 25. Please plan to attend worship that day if you are newly elected.

Confirmation Class Pictures wanted! We are looking for group pictures of the confirmation classes of 2010, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2022, 2023, and 2024 for the display in the basement. If you have any of these, please contact the church office so we can make a 5 x7 copy of the picture and return yours to you. Please name those in the picture. Thank you!

Please save **Russ's Register Receipts** (through March), **Our Family and Best Choice UPC** codes. They can be put in the box in the narthex.

School's Ongoing Scrip Card Fundraiser: Order pre-paid shopping cards through St. Paul's Lutheran School "Script Card" Program and our school automatically gets money in return at no extra cost to you! Please contact the school office to order for your own use or for gifts.

Youth Group (Middle and High School age) meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at school, 5-7 pm, for a meal, Bible Study, and some fun activities! Questions? Contact leaders Joanna Gellerman-Long (425-591-5318) or Jessica Leseberg (402-230-0988).

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

Address: 321 N 10th St, Beatrice, NE 68310 **Office:** 402-228-1540
Website: www.stpaulbeatrice.org **Email:** stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Karl Hollibaugh; 225-361-5121;
revdochollibaugh@gmail.com

St. Paul's Lutheran School, Pre-School & Childcare

Address: 930 Prairie Lane, Beatrice, NE 68310;
Phone: 402-223-3414 **Website:** stpaulbeatrice.org
Email: stpaulschoolbeatrice@gmail.com
Lead Teacher: Jonetta Hagemeier
Childcare Director: Sheridan Martinez

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
(LCMS)
321 N 10th, Beatrice, NE 68310
Sunday, January 4
Second Sunday after Christmas

Hymns and order of worship are in the Lutheran Service Book in the pews. We're using Divine Service, Setting 1, page 151 in the front section of the hymnal. (♪ denotes responses that are to be sung.)



CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Opening Hymn 725: *Children of the Heav'ly Father*

Invocation page 151

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

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.

Introit: (*Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14*)

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

P: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

Welcome! We're glad you're here and hope to see you again soon! Please sign the guest book at the entrance of the church. If you do not have a church home, are interested in the teachings of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, or interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's, please speak to the Pastor, Elder, Usher, or the church office.

Communion Guidance: Visitors wanting to commune should speak to the pastor or an elder prior to the service. Our summary of faith is available on our webpage and in print in the pews to help you determine if you share in our confession of faith. LCMS members and those from congregations in fellowship with LCMS are always welcome to participate in communion.

Pastor Karl Hollibaugh, our Interim Pastor, is at church Wednesday afternoons to commune shut-ins and evenings for confirmation class. If you'd like to see him please call him to schedule an appointment: 225-361-5121.

Please remember with prayers, cards, texts, or calls, our sisters- and brothers-in-Christ who are hospitalized or ill at home: Mary Scheve, Angie Fossler, Mike Holthus, Cheri McConnell, Cindy Weise (all with cancer); Pat Nave; Merle Kuhlman, Michelle Baker (surgery); and Olivia Hatzenbuehler and William Kelley (military). **Please contact the church by Thursday morning with additions or corrections to this prayer list.

Radio broadcast sponsorships are now \$125, as of January 1, 2026 (this includes bulletin sponsorship). Call the church office to schedule. Children's bulletin sponsorships are no longer available. If you have already sponsored a date in 2026 **and paid** for that date, you will not be charged the extra \$25.

Available Sundays in 2026 are Feb 1, 22; April 19, 26; May 17, 24, 31; June 28; July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9, 23, 30; Sept 20; October 4, 11, 25, Nov 29, and Dec 13, 27.

***Birthdays this week:* (*if yours is missing, let us know!*)**

1: Dawson Eckhoff, Evelyn Wortman

2: Shelby Garton, James Hill, Jeremy Johnsen, Sheila Meyer, Nancy Sedlacek

4: Alexander Aldag, Alex Eckhoff, Elaine Roberts, Kylie Schreibels, Sam Thompson

5: Aaron Busboom

6: Bruce Fossler, Travis Lang, Sean Wright

8: Carolyn Bartels, Grant Elstun

9: Ron Naaf

10: Chandler Sandman, Greyson Thomas

***Anniversaries this week:* (*if yours is missing, let us know!*)**

Jan 1: Randy & Shelly Fugett, Joshua & Erica Boerger

♪ Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Departing Hymn 523: O Word of God Incarnate

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book; unless otherwise indicated, scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved; created by Lutheran Service Builder ©2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Serving Today:

Elder: Chuck Baker

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Luke Schnake

Organist: Vivian Zimmerman

Reader: Shari Pack

Today's radio broadcast and bulletin are sponsored in memory of Bob Genrich's birthday, which would have been Jan. 8, by Family & Friends.

Sponsorships of radio broadcasts are now \$125, beginning January 1, 2026 (this includes bulletin sponsorship). Call the church office to schedule. We will still have children's bulletins but no longer accept sponsorships for those. If you have already sponsored a date in 2026 and paid for that date, you will not be charged the extra \$25.

Available Sundays in 2026 are Feb 1, 22; April 26; May 17, 24, 31; June 28; July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9, 23, 30; Sept 20; October 4, 11, 25, Nov 29, and Dec 13, 27.

Thank you to Pastor Schnake for being here with us this morning! He is from Christ Lutheran Church in Lincoln.

***Church office hours** vary. Please leave a message at 402-228-1540 or email stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com.

***For immediate assistance**, contact Church Chair Rod Aden: 402- 239-5305 or Head Elder Chuck Baker: 714-232-2784.

***To reserve school gym or church**, call Wayne Oestreich (402-440-5054).

***Large print hymnals** are in the back pew and near the elevator.

***Busy Bags** for kids are in the narthex under the bulletin board.

his understanding is beyond measure.

**C: But the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

P: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

**C: 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.**

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

♪ Kyrie page 152-153

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

♪ Salutation and Collect pg 156

JP: The Lord be with you.

JC: And also with you.

P: Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

JC: Amen.

Be seated

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:4–15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.”⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day.”⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in.⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude.⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.¹¹ And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days.¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

♪ **Pax Domini** page 163

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

C: Amen.

♪ **Agnus Dei**

C: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

Be seated

Distribution

Hymn 401: From God the Father, Virgin-Born

Hymn 850: God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymn 632: O Jesus Blessed Lord, to Thee

Please stand

♪ **Thank the Lord** pg 164

C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell ev'ry one what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

P: Let us pray....

C: Amen.

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth....

C: Amen.

The Words of Our Lord pg 162

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion. Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**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**

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

♪ Alleluia and Verse

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:40-52

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter:

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended,

as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it,⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances,⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day 410: Within the Father's House

**Sermon Text: Luke 2: "Responding to Jesus:
Astonished. Confused. Stunned. Pondering."**

Please stand

Prayer of the Church

Congregation responds "hear our prayer" after each petition.
"Amen" after final petition.

Be seated

Offering

Please stand

♪ Offertory

C: What shall I render to the Lord
for all his benefits to me.
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation
and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now
in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT page 160

♪ 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 unto the Lord, our God.

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

Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary..... praising You and saying:

♪ Sanctus

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.