



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 30, 2025 – The First Sunday in Advent



Imminent Arrival of the King

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word, and through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

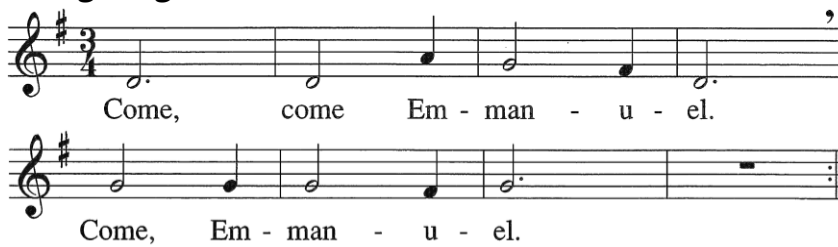
Restrooms and a drinking fountain are located on the right in the hallway outside the sanctuary. We have **personal hearing devices**. If you need one, please let an usher know before the service. If you are a parent with young children, we want you to know that we love having children worship with us since worship includes them, too. At the same time, we know that children sometimes like to make their presence known in spite of the best efforts to keep them quiet. For your convenience and in consideration of those seated near you, we have a **Family Room** located through the door in the back of the Fellowship Hall. The facility includes a TV, a window, and speakers so that you can still follow along with the worship service. **Busy bags** are also available near the central sanctuary doors.

Prayer before worship: Lord Jesus, the time is near to commemorate your birth as our Savior. Though our hearts are stained with sin, help us receive you rightly. Heal us and root out all our unrighteousness with distractions, keep us looking forward to your coming, not only as the baby in Bethlehem, but as the King of kings returning in the skies! Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Service of the Word

Advent Gathering Song

James J. Chepponis



Verses chanted by the pastor:

To the house of the Lord—we... [refrain]

Let us climb—God's mountain and... [refrain]

Let us walk in the light—and... [refrain]

Let us wake from our sleep—and... [refrain]

For the day—draws near,—so... [refrain]

Be prepared for the day God will... [refrain]

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Confession

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Absolution

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

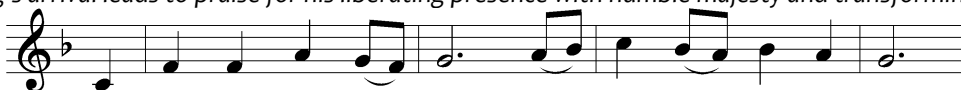
Prayer and Praise

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

The Advent of Our King

CW 309

Our King's arrival leads to praise for his liberating presence with humble majesty and transforming grace.



- 1 The ad - vent of our King our prayers must now em - ploy,
- 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son, in flesh con - tent to be,
- 3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly King,
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come a - gain



and we must hymns of wel-come sing in strains of ho - ly joy.
him - self a ser-vant's form puts on to set his ser-vants free.
nor let a faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.
and his true mem-bers all u - nite with him in heav'n to reign.

- 5 Before the dawning day
let sin's dark deeds be gone,
the old self all be put away,
the new self now put on.

- 6 All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
through all eternity.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

In the future, when our King arrives again, he will transform this world.

¹This is the message that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

The Glory of the Mountain of the LORD

²This will take place in the latter days:

The mountain of the LORD's house will be established
as the chief of the mountains.

It will be raised above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it like a river.

³Many peoples will come and say,

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob.

Then he will instruct us about his ways,
and we will walk in his paths.”

For from Zion the law will go out,
and the LORD's word will go out from Jerusalem.

⁴He will judge between the nations,
and he will mediate for many peoples.

Then they will beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into blades for trimming vines.

Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
nor will they learn war anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob, come,
and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

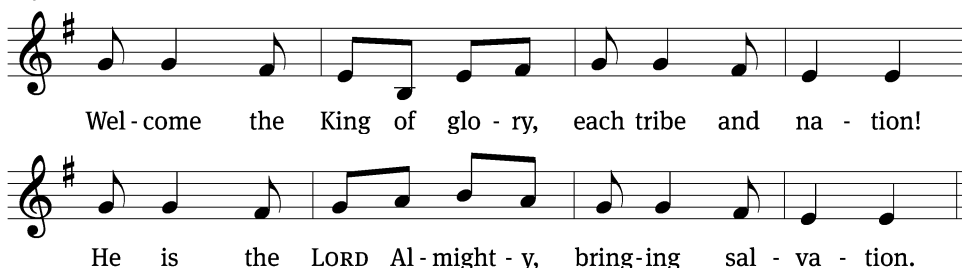
P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

24B Welcome the King

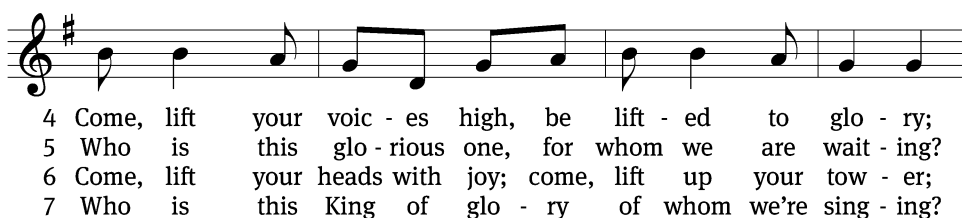
Psalm 24B sts. Ref, 4-7

Refrain



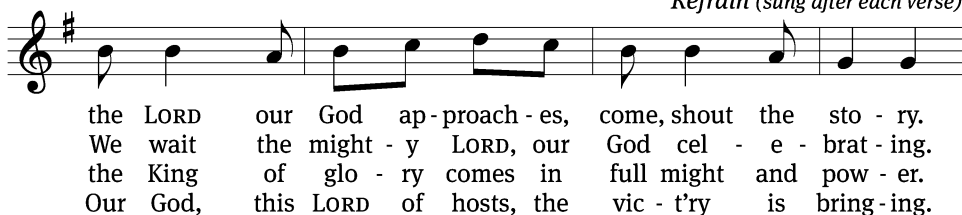
Wel - come the King of glo - ry, each tribe and na - tion!
He is the LORD Al - might - y, bring - ing sal - va - tion.

Verses



4 Come, lift your voic - es high, be lift - ed to glo - ry;
5 Who is this glo - rious one, for whom we are wait - ing?
6 Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tow - er;
7 Who is this King of glo - ry of whom we're sing - ing?

Refrain (sung after each verse)



the LORD our God ap - proach - es, come, shout the sto - ry.
We wait the might - y LORD, our God cel - e - brat - ing.
the King of glo - ry comes in full might and pow - er.
Our God, this LORD of hosts, the vic - t'ry is bring - ing.

Text (sts. 4-7): Arlo D. Duba; (Ref): Northwestern Publishing House
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Tune: Israeli
Tune: Public domain

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Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Our present life is transformed from nervousness to excitement and joy at the arrival of our King.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:10

P: Alleluia! At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

The King of all creation arrives in humility, willing to do everything to rescue us from our sins.

Jesus' Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²telling them, “Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:
⁵Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

⁶The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. ⁸A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. ⁹The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting,

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds were saying, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301

Our Savior came miraculously—true God and true man, born of a virgin—to bring a miraculous victory!



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, by the
3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the
4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came and as -
5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
Spir - it of our God was the Word of
vir - gin un - de - filed, though by all the
cend - ed to the same, cap - tive lead - ing
God the Son, our King, praise to God the



heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
God made flesh, wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
world dis - owned, yet to be in heav'n en - throned!
death and hell. High the song of tri - umph swell!
Spir - it be ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 340–397, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–1876, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Isaiah 2:1-5

A Different Kind of King

Questions to consider during the sermon:

- 1) What makes climbing this mountain especially difficult?
- 2) How does the “prophetic perspective” help us understand Isaiah better?
- 3) Did the people only climb the mountain of the LORD just to leave it again?
- 4) What happens to the weapons of war?
- 5) Who is part of the **House of Jacob**?
- 6) How do we respond to the LORD’s light?

Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated 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.**

Offering

***To our guests:** Our offering is not a debt we owe God but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation but love for God. Please do not feel obligated to contribute. We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you.*

NOTE: At this time we are not passing the offering plates. You can place your offering in the plate in the Gathering Area as you leave today.

Prayer of the Church

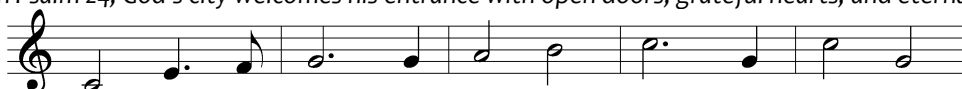
Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

CW 306

Based on Psalm 24, God's city welcomes his entrance with open doors, grateful hearts, and eternal praise!



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the gates; pre - pare your heart to be a
4 Re - deem - er, come! We o - pen wide our hearts to
5 E - ter - nal praise, un - end - ing fame we of - fer



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
you; here, Lord, a - bide. O en - ter with your
to your sav - ing name. Your Ho - ly Spir - it



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
grace di - vine and cause your face on us to shine.
guide us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Tune: Psalmodia Evangelica, London, 1789, ed. Thomas Williams Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer

P: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Blessing

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

C: Amen.



Rejoice, the Lord Is King

CW 524

We rejoice in the reign of the Lord, a kingdom built to destroy death, and give a glorious, heavenly home.



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
2 The Lord, our Sav - ior, reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come



Re - joice, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joice!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joice!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joice!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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+ Ministry Notes +

Our good day in God's house continues after worship, too.

Our after-worship adult Bible Class time is a great time for good Christian encouragement as we grow in the Word together and take time to pray for one another. Today we will have a one-agenda-item voters' meeting. Sunday School for the children is at the same time. After the voters' meeting and Sunday School, everyone is invited to help decorate the building to prepare for Christmas. All are welcome to attend and assist! Many hands make light work, so if you are able, please plan to stick around to help out.

Who feels like singing?!

For those who are able to join us, on **Wednesday, December 3 at 6 PM** we will be using several songs recorded in Luke's Gospel to help us prepare for our Christmas celebrations. All are welcome to join for this service of readings, songs, and prayers.

Additionally, anyone who would like to sing some Christmas carols can join us **Sunday, December 14th at 3:15 PM**. We will carpool to several facilities around the area and then return to church for some food and fellowship time. Members of all ages are welcome to attend this as well.

All aboard this train

St. Paul's family member Justin Shue has gone on deployment. To support Justin and Emily and family, there is a "meal train" set up here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/rolzil> If you need technical help (or if you just don't want to use a computer or smartphone), see tech support (aka Pastor James) to get signed up. Thanks!

Helping others worship well

Welcoming to our worship space, letting people know what's coming in worship, and leaving our worship space in tip-top shape—this is how our ushers help us worship well. Current ushers, there is a signup for a blessedly busy December in our fellowship area. If you have not served in this incredibly helpful and also quite fun way but you'd like to, please talk with Pastor James.

Can you fix it?

We are looking for a maintenance supervisor for our campus. If the Lord has blessed you with the skill and time, please consider this wonderful (and paid) position, and speak with Rob Banker if interested or have questions.

Make a friend this month

Each month the congregations in our North Florida Lutheran Women's Mission Society circuit take turns befriending a world and a home missionary, and November is our month!

Please shower our missionaries and their families with cards, letters and emails of thanks and encouragement for the important work they do. Anything you can think of to refresh their spirits and gladden their hearts--children's artwork, gift cards, etc.! And remember them in your prayers - throughout the month of November and beyond!

WORLD MISSIONARY

East Fork Lutheran School

Sarah Juergens (teacher)

740 Mountain View Drive

Lakeside, AZ 85929-6463

sarahjuergens@rocketmail.com

HOME MISSIONARY

Faith Lutheran Church, Flint, Texas

Joseph Koelpin (pastor)

432 County Road 3523

Bullard, TX 75757-7715

Children's Christmas Services

We invite you to join us as the students of St. Paul's and Precious Lambs Preschool share the joy of the season through songs and Scripture, celebrating the birth of Christ. We welcome your family to attend the following service dates:

Preschool and Kindergarten Christmas Service – Tuesday, December 16th at 6:00 PM

1st-8th Grade Christmas Service – Thursday, December 18th at 6:00 PM



Our Christian Stewardship of God's Gifts

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. – 1 Cor. 4:2

PREACHER: Tim Rosenow

PRESIDING MINISTER: James Saatkamp

ACCOMPANIST: Justin Siegler

USHERS: Gary Warren and Bruce Salzmann

STREAMING: Bill Hartman

FLOWERS: Eric Brito's birthday

Let's pray this week!

birthdays | **Kristl LaFlamme** (11-30); **Eric Brito** (12-2); **Vivian Gennett** (12-4); **Lucy Siegler** (12-4); **Jay Gayo** (12-5); **Caroline Clower** (12-6); **Karen Schuelke** (12-6)

anniversaries | **Dave Tryba & Ziggy Beutel-Tryba** (12-3 – 31 years!)

homebound members | **Dave Brandt, Bee Grunig, John Hambel, Leona Harms, Leon and Barbara Johnson, Susan Rammel, Kathy Saracione, Josephine Throo, and Paula Vitolo**

health | **Linda Bond** (recovering from surgery); **Tom Colwell** (ongoing pain and cancer treatment); **Madison Duncan** (Becky Ramsey's daughter, ongoing autoimmune issues); **Tom Hutchison** (recovery from his medical procedure); **Rick Robinson** (recovering from a fall); **Barbara Sadler, Kathy Babcock** (Barbara's daughter), and **Kathy's daughters** (genetic health issues); **Nancy Scruton** (recovering from her medical procedure); **Jim Teller** (ongoing heart issues)

Serving in worship next week

Ushers: 12/3 Bruce Salzmann and Bill Hoeltke; 12/7 Rob & Sandy Banker

Streaming: 12/3 Tony Moore; 12/7 Tony Moore

This Week | November 30th – December 6th

TODAY – Christmas decorating (after brief Bible Study)

WED – Isaiah Bible Study 10 AM; Midweek Advent Service 6 PM

FRI – Morning Chapel 8:30 AM; PM VPK chapel 12:30 PM

Upcoming Events

December 8 – Kingsway Birthday Celebration 1 PM

December 12 – Piano Recital 6:30 PM

December 13 – Advent by Candlelight

December 14 – Christmas Caroling (meet at 3:15 PM)

December 16 – PreK-Kindergarten Christmas Service 6 PM

December 18 – 1st-8th Grade Christmas Service 6 PM

December 22 – January 2 – NO SCHOOL Christmas Break

Who We Are

(Our Mission)

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family. Like any family, we have our strengths and we have our weaknesses. We experience successes and we experience struggles. These are the things which unite us. For we know that we aren't perfect, but our Heavenly Father is; and he has loved us with a perfect love, sending his Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and to give us eternal life in heaven. With that same love, he comes to us through his Word, the Bible, to equip us and encourage us as we live in a world which can leave us feeling discouraged and hopeless at times. So, as a family, we **gather** together around God's Word in church and in Bible classes. We have a school where children can **grow** in their relationship with our Heavenly Father and where we can **go** to share the love of Jesus with them. We want as many people as possible to know the joy and hope which we have as members of God's family.*

If you would like to learn more about our church family or the ministries we offer through our church, school, and preschool, please speak with our pastor, principal, preschool director, faculty, or one of our members.

Thank you for being a part of our church family today!



St. Paul's Lutheran
Church and School
Precious Lambs Preschool

6150 N Lecanto Hwy
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
352.489.3027
www.stpauls.edu
office@stpauls.edu

Sunday worship: 9:30 AM
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10 minutes
after



OUR STAFF

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Timothy Rosenow *Pastor*

pastor.rosenow@stpaulsk8school.org 920.860.2216

Dave Goddard *Principal*

Principal@stpaulsk8school.org 813.702.5853

Sharon Welfel *Preschool director*

Sharon.Welfel@stpaulsk8school.org 352.462.1814

Becky Ramsey *Preschool teacher*

Lucy Siegler *Kindergarten teacher*

Hannah Foley *1st grade teacher*

Cindy Lendt *2nd grade teacher*

Lindsey Klingenschmitt *3rd and 4th grade teacher*

Noah Uhlenbrauck *5th and 6th grade teacher*

Justin Siegler *7th and 8th grade teacher*

Dorothy Draeger *Administrative assistant*