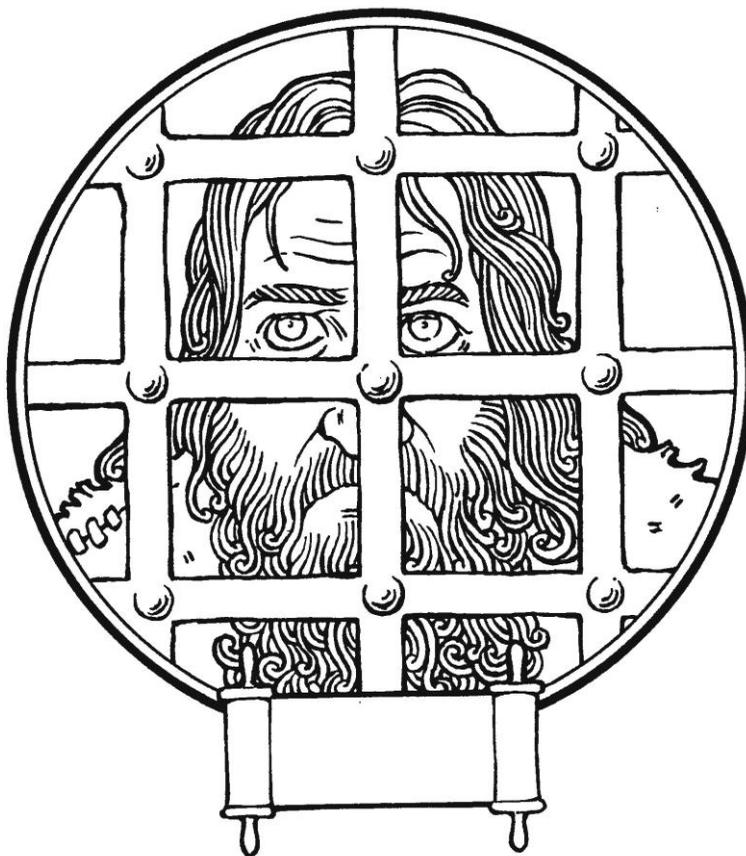


Gaudete



*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.*

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

9:30 a.m.

This Morning's Hymns

354 345 346 347 338 537 849

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

Stand

Hymn

Arise, O Christian People

354

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

C **who made Heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O Most Merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His Name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5



*Rejoice in the Lord | always;**
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, You were favorable | to Your land;*

You restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of Your | people;*

You covered | all their sin.

Will You not revive | us again,*

that Your people may re- | joice in You?

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*

for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;

but let them not turn back to | folly.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 40:1–11

In those days the prophet Isaiah said: ¹Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. ¹¹He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Gradual

Psalms 80:1–2



You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*

Stir up Your might and come to | save us!

Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*

You who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Brethren: ¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia & Verse

Psalm 80:2b



C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Stir up, | Your might
and come to | save us.



C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

P The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to Him, "Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did

you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,
who will prepare Your way before You.”

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is *worshiped and glorified*, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

345

Sermon

Offering/LWML Mites

Stand

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

P Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we laud and magnify Your Glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The 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 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.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

Agnus Dei



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Our Lord Jesus Christ declares that the bread and wine in the Holy Communion are His body and blood, and are given to the faithful to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation (Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 22:14-20). St. Paul writes to the church at Corinth: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." The Holy Communion is received worthily by those who are baptized in the Name of the Triune God, repent of all sin, are instructed in the Christian faith, trust our Lord's words "given and shed for you for the forgiveness

of sins,” and set aside any and all refusal to love and forgive others as God has loved and forgiven them. In so doing, they proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes again.

Because Holy Scripture warns against eating and drinking the body and blood of Christ in an unworthy manner, and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed at this altar, first-time visitors, those who are not baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, those who are in doubt or hold a confession different from that of St. Paul Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are kindly asked to speak with the pastor before communing. If you are not communing at the Lord’s Table today, but would still like to receive a blessing from the pastor, please cross your arms against your chest in the form of an “X” upon kneeling at the communion rail.

Sit

Distribution Hymns

When All the World Was Cursed	346
Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	347
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	338
Beautiful Savior	537

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



Thanksgiving

- L** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.
- C** and His mercy endureth forever.

- L** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



- C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

849

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6301 W. Indian School Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85033 | 623.846.2228

Email: info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com Website: www.stpaul Lutheran-az.com

Pastor Jeff Proctor, Cell Phone: (260) 494-7622 Email: pastorproctor@hotmail.com

"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 12

		<u>Location</u>
9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
11:30am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
	Sunday School	Mueller Hall

Wednesday, December 15

7:00pm	Confirmation Class	Library
--------	--------------------	---------

Thursday, December 16

6:00pm	Bible Study	Library
7:30pm	Advent Vespers	Sanctuary

Saturday, December 18

10:30am	Matins	Sanctuary
---------	--------	-----------

BIRTHDAYS

12/05 – Joey Lopez 12/15 – Jonathan Brant

12/17 – Dennis Stonecypher

CANCELLED – TODAY'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

CANCELLED – FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK, December 26, 2021 – January 2, 2022

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

St. Paul Lutheran Church wants to recognize baptismal birthdays in the Sunday bulletins. Please provide the church office with the date of baptism of each family member. You can leave a written note in the secretary's box (#199) or send the information via email: info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE

In preparation for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the adult choir will be practicing every Sunday morning at 8:45am in Irmer Hall, and every Thursday evening after Vespers. In addition, practices will be held on Saturdays, December 4, 11, and 18, immediately after Matins at 11:00am. All are welcome to join in singing praise to our Newborn King. Please call Debbie Dyjak at 520-221-0470 with any questions.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

The deadline for poinsettia orders is Sunday, December 19, 2021. The plants will be placed in the chancel and sanctuary area around the altar on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. The cost is \$10.00 per plant. Please place payment in the white pew envelope and indicate if the plants are “in honor” or “in memory” of a loved one.

MORE TOPICS, MORE GUESTS, MORE JESUS

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s topics include: The Advent Hymn “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” Encouragement for Christians in World of Darkness, A Lutheran View of Transgenderism, The Socialist Attack on the Family, Jesus’ Transfiguration and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Friday, December 24 @ 7:30 pm



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Saturday, December 25 @ 9:30 am

with Holy Communion

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. or email at info@stpaulslutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

IMMEDIATE CONCERNS:

Gary Armstrong recovering from surgery

RECOVERING FROM COVID:

Rev. Proctor & Joan	Michael Moreno (<i>complications</i>)	Marci Brekken & Fred Lingenfelder
Tillie Wartell (<i>hospitalized</i>)	Randy Parker	Dan & Charitie Noggle
Dorothy Paxton & family	Delores & Roger Townsend	Dan & Jody Meredith
Tom Caldwell (<i>hospitalized</i>)	Wayne Bartels	Suzi (Riley)& Edward Malsack

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Darrell Ahrens recovering surgery	Lindalee Martinez – experiencing health issues
Barbara Sand – recovering from a fall	Doc Dalbey – dealing with back pain
Vi Redner – recovering from a stroke	Marcia Brant – rehab due to blood clots in her leg

Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas, Jorge Jimenez, Judith Kuhajda

FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Meiah Berna, great granddaughter of Suzanne Berna, in coma and on ventilator, heart complications.
Amy Hargiss-Adams, niece of Jan Ballard, recently diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.	PSWD Missions
Rev. Steven Massey and son, Marco, serving in Guatemala.	
Rev. Stephen Oliver, wife Maggie and children, serving in Taiwan and the Asia Region.	

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Jeff Proctor, his wife, Joan, and children, Christian, Olivia, Nigel, Fiona & Siwan	LCMS officers, congregations & schools
Sunday School teachers & children	Lexington Life Academy families & staff
Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff	

OUR NATION: For the President of the United States, the Governor of Arizona, and their advisors; for all who make and administer the laws in our land; for police officers, firefighters, emergency workers, and all who seek to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (*members, friends, or relatives*): Joseph J. Yungkans, Juan Garcia, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Gilmore, Ethan Peterman, Mike Nguyen, Jacob Wilson, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Erich Dyjak

OUR SHUT-INS: Suzanne Berna, Anne Smith, Arbutus Wood

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting One and Three from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 permission.