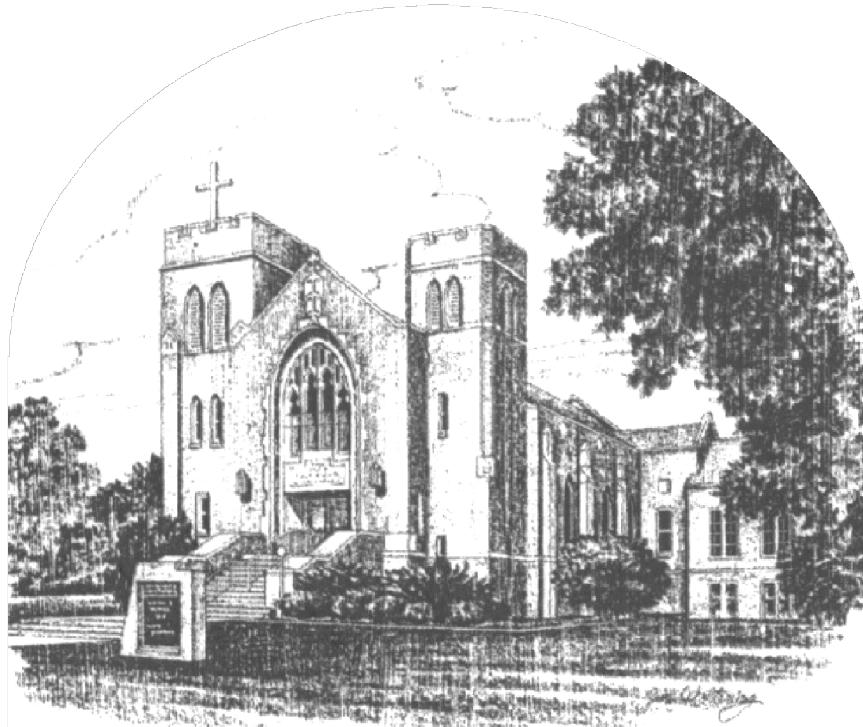


St. Paul Lutheran Church

Yorktown, Texas



*Saturday and Sunday
Holy Communion Services
2nd Sunday of Christmas
January 4, 2026*

Silent Prayer

O God, who gives to those who ask, provide for each of us in your way, a special gift to be used for your glory, and for the good of our neighbors. O God, who reveals to those who seek, show us this day what these gifts are, and how they may be used. O God, who opens to those who knock, help us to step forward, now, into your gracious presence, knowing that we are each and all blessed with something special to share. One more thing, Lord, stir us up, so that we don't become too self-satisfied, and forget to keep asking, and seeking, and knocking. We pray all this in the name of the One who asks for the voiceless, who seeks out the lost, who stands at the door and knocks. Come in, Lord Jesus. Amen.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please take a moment to fill out an Attendance Card. You may leave them in the pew by the center aisle. (*) Indicates times in worship when you are invited to stand as you are able. (+) Indicates when it may be appropriate to make the sign of the cross.*

***BRIEF ORDER for CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“When Christmas Morn is Dawning” **LBW #59**

When Christmas Morn Is Dawning



1 When Christ-mas morn is dawn - ing I wish that I could be
2 How kind of you, our Sav - ior, for us to come to earth.
3 We need you, O Lord Je - sus, to be our dear-est friend.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see,
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see.
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.

Text: Elisabeth Ehrenborg-Posse, Barnsånger, 19th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundein, 1918–1990
Music: WIR HATTEN GEBÄUET. German folk tune, 1823

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

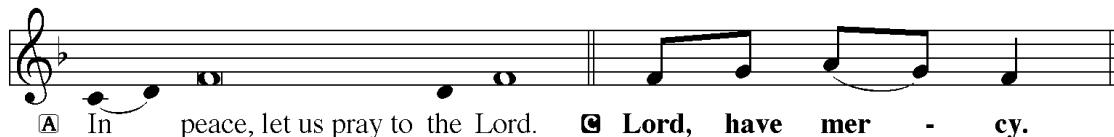
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***GREETING**

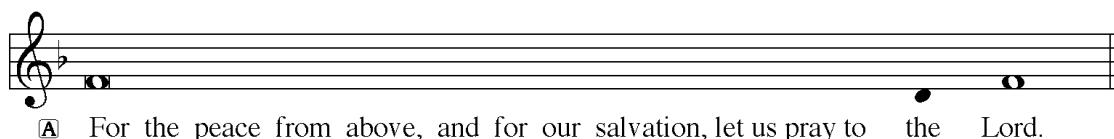
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***KYRIE**



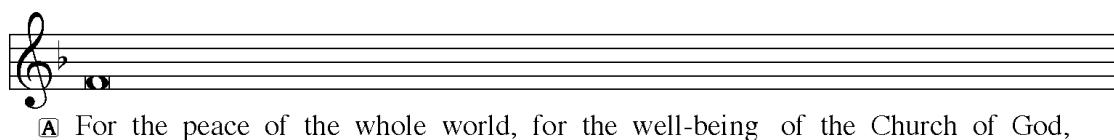
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



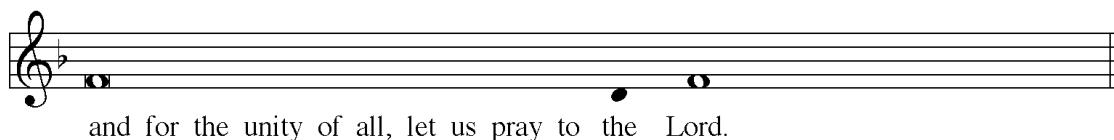
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



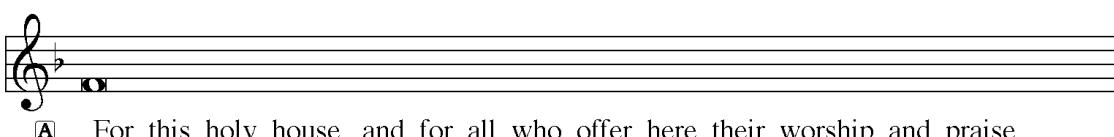
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



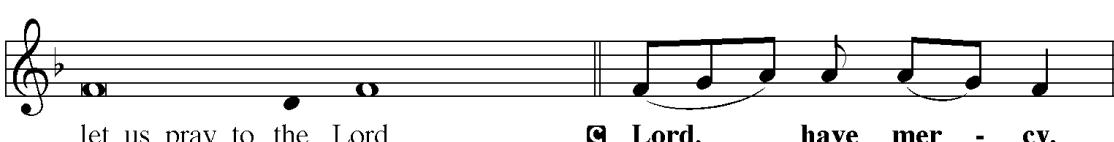
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C** Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE**



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer- cy on us.

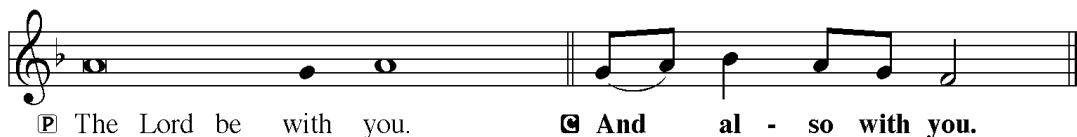
You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re- ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

***SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son, we might be made to abound in good works. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3:4-15

Lector: A reading from _____.

⁴And 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. ⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And 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. ⁷And 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹Give 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?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And 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, ¹²behold, 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. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:97-103

⁹⁷Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸**Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.**

⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers,

for your testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰**I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.**

¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

¹⁰²**I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me.**

¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴**Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.**

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14

Lector: A reading from _____.

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 to himself 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

***GOSPEL VERSE**

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have love; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.

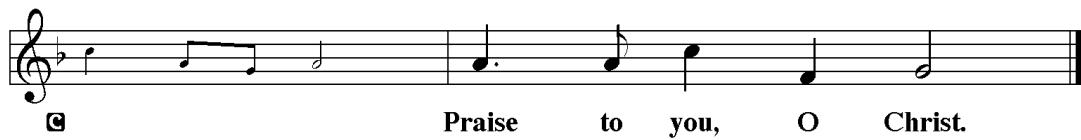
***GOSPEL: Luke 2:40-52**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the ___ chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

⁴⁰And the child 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: The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN of the DAY

"The First Noel" LBW #56

The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin-ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



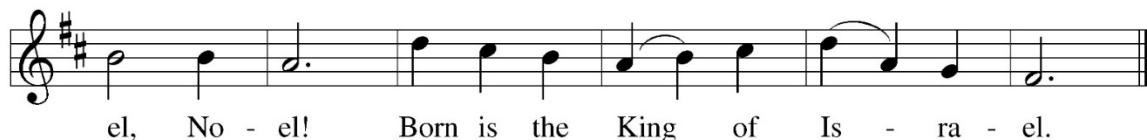
cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's -
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.
tin - ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



Text: English carol, c. 17th cent.
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English carol, c. 17th cent.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

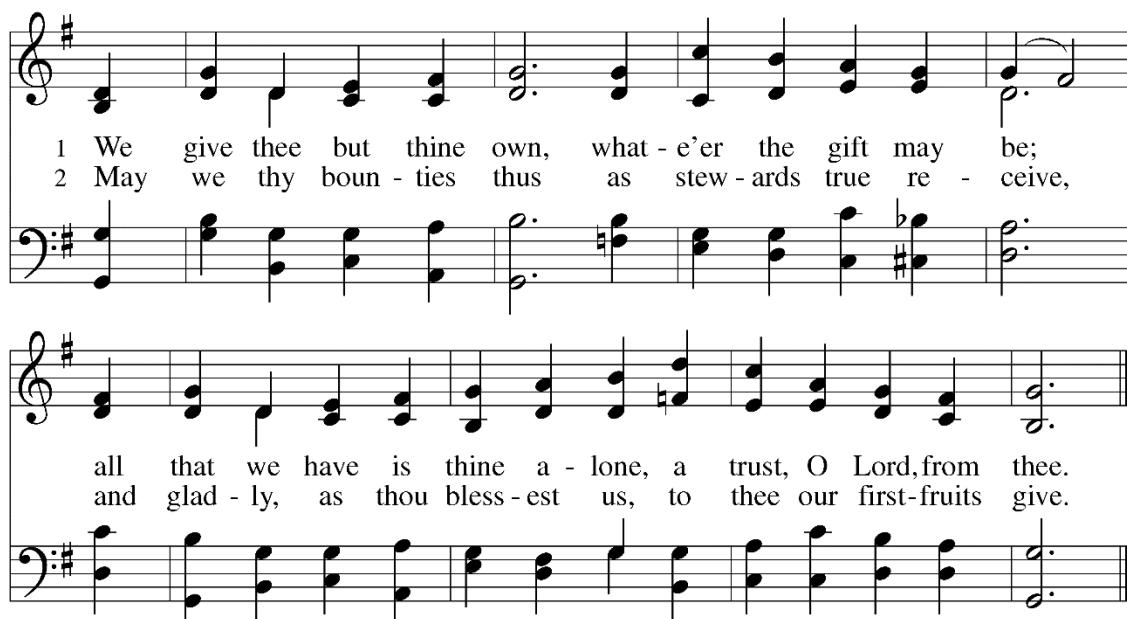
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of Heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection + of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS**

P: ... Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY**



The musical notation consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are as follows:

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,

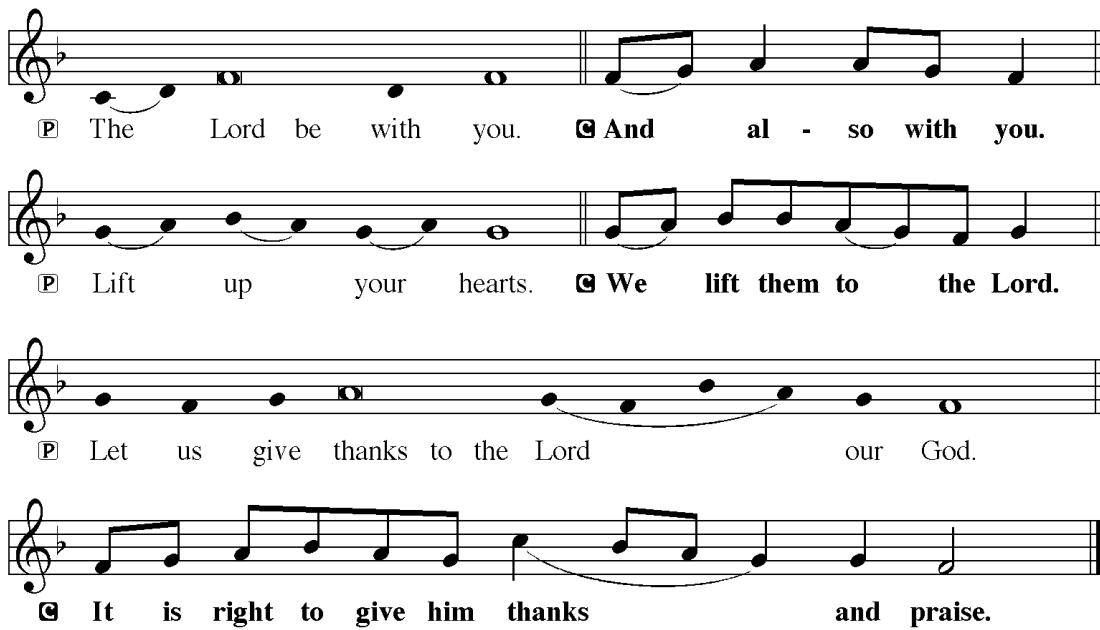
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first-fruits give.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Merciful God,

C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

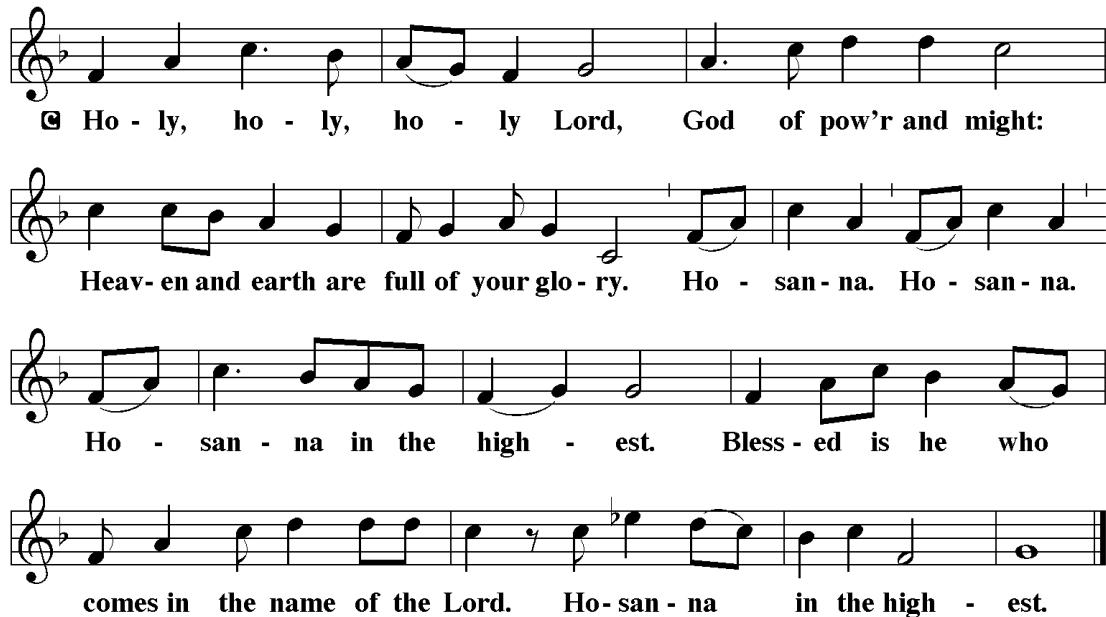


The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G clef. The first staff contains the text "P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you." The second staff contains "P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains "P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff contains "C It is right to give him thanks and praise."

***PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS**



The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G clef. The first staff contains "C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:". The second staff contains "Heav- en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na." The third staff contains "Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who". The fourth staff contains "comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est."

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

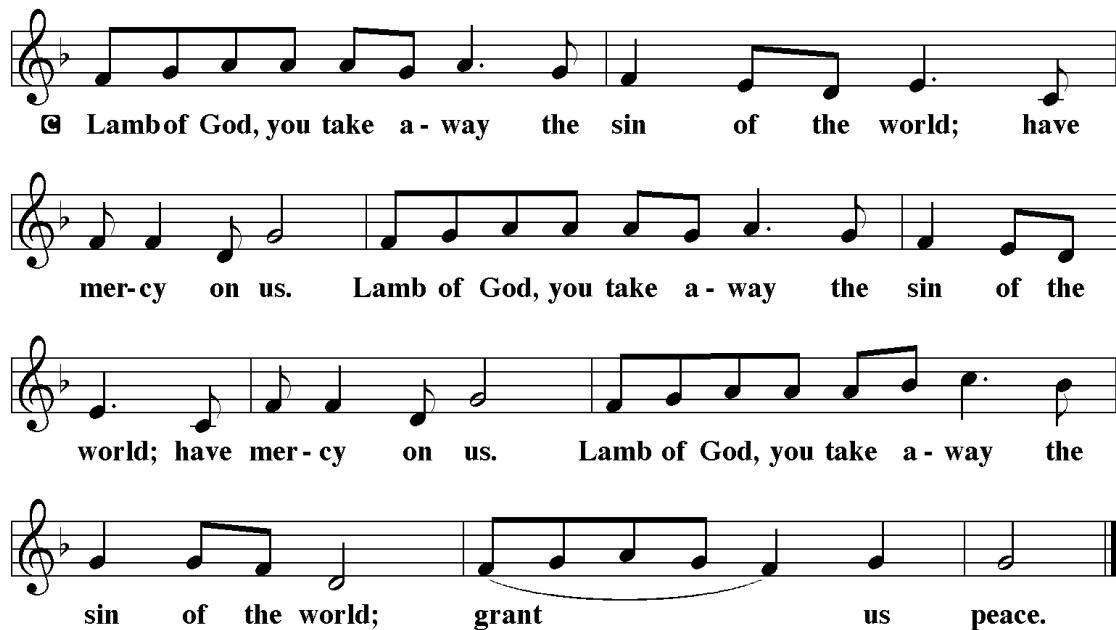
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

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.

DISTRIBUTION of the ELEMENTS

All those who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the sacrament are welcome at His table. Those who unable to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing, and may indicate this by crossing their arms over their chest. Parents, please indicate if children are to receive communion. If they are not yet receiving communion, children are encouraged to come to the table to receive a blessing. Available in the center of each tray is juice for those choosing not to drink wine. If you are unable to come to the altar and wish to receive communion, please inform the ushers so that the sacrament may be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMNS: “Lamb of God”



C Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

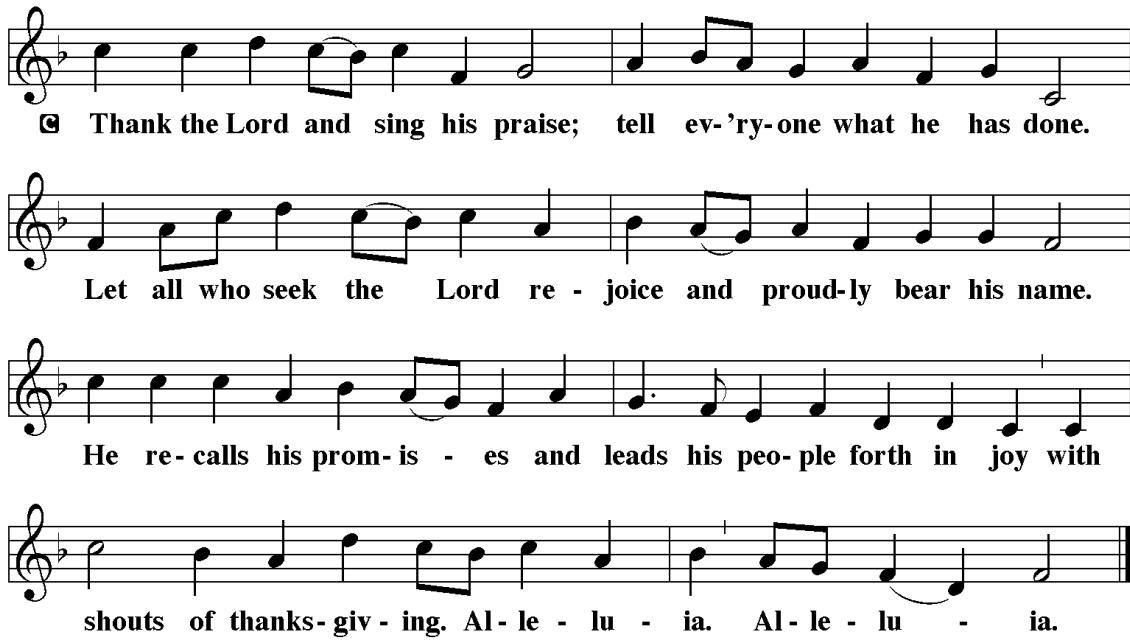
ADDITIONAL COMMUNION HYMNS:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LBW #41
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” LBW #55
“Let All Together Praise Our God” LBW #47

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proudly bear his name.

He re-calls his prom- is - es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks- giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O God, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

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 A - men

***CLOSING HYMN**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” **LBW #54**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be -neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has -tning on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ’ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still-ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt.
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

P: As we go in peace we share that peace with each other. The peace of the Lord
be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

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ANNOUNCEMENT BULLETIN

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, January 4, 2026

HELPING with WORSHIP SERVICES:

JANUARY 4, 2026 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Leading Worship: Bill Klaevemann, Terry Carmichael & Boyd Weise

Acolytes: Kellan & Annie Hahn

Musicians: Saturday: Beverly Bruns

Saturday Altar Guild: Patsy Ibrom

Reader: Larry Gohmert

Sunday: Beverly Bruns

JANUARY 11, 2026 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

Baptism of our Lord

Presiding Minister: Tim W. Muehlbrad

Reader: Kathie Fehner

Acolytes: Gwen & Hannah Kneese

Musicians: Rebecca Innocenti

Sunday: Beverly Bruns

Saturday Altar Guild: Barbara Cramer

Helping with Worship during the month of January:

Head Usher: Jay Heil

Ushers: John Frels, Braden Hahn, Chad Hahn, Scott Stevenson, Brandon Lemke

Saturday Usher: Albert Metting

Altar Guild: Laurie Stevenson & Sharon & Callen Matejek

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED DURING THE WEEK:

Thank you to all who have been helpful in keeping the Pastor informed of members who are hospitalized.

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE Below is a list of individuals Pastor has been asked to include in our prayers during worship. We list these people in our bulletin to encourage you, the members, to include them in your daily prayers. *Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless the request is renewed.*

Joe Barnes	Bridget Innocenti	Jordan Peterson
Caroline Blain	Joanna Ivy	Nick Picard and family
Carlton Bolting	Kate Janis	Jeannine Robinson
Wade Bolting	Family of Nelson Janssen	Pam Roth
Warner Borth	Alberto Jimenez, Jr.	Joan Smith
David Brucker	Clinton Kaiser	Lori Nelson Stenger
Virginia Buesing	Mary Kanuch	Alma Suggs
Alex Campbell	Joyce Lamprecht	Judy Taylor
Julie Dupree	Ray Lange	Chandler Vaclavik
Kathryn Gloor	Janet Lemke	Baby Mae Weischwill
Tiffany Godby	Elaine Malina	Mark Weischwill
Daniel Goehring	Lin Migura	Levi Wilhelmsen
Nancy Guidry	Lanie Milliff	Ron & Marjorie Wilhelmsen
Rosa Horton	Larry & Carole Mueller	
Keith Ibrom	David Norrell	

ST. PAUL OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK:

Sunday (4th)	9:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:15 am	Sunday School
Rally Day		
Monday (5th)	ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS DUE	
	Fellowship Hall Reserved – TLG	
Tuesday (6th)	9:00am	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday (7th)	9:15 am	TLG Chapel
	5:30 pm	Guitar Lessons
	6:00pm	FFF
Thursday (8th)	5:30 pm	CEM Meeting
Saturday (10th)	5:00 pm	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (11th)	9:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:15 am	Sunday School
	11:30 am	Confirmation Class
	2-4pm	Bunco
Fellowship Hall Reserved		

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the **Educational Building**. You can also call the office (361-564-2135) and make arrangements to receive them.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 25, 2026 - immediately following the Worship Service. There will be no Sunday school.

NOTICE TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Monday, January 5th for publication in the Annual Report of St. Paul.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION:

We reserved 17 spots at Camp Lone Star for the week of July 12th to 17th. We will soon begin filling out those spots with names of the campers and will need to do so by Sunday January 18th. The Alpha spots include the Confirmation program as it is a recommended part of that program and all 7-12 year olds. There are, also, 3 Omega spots for youth who are 13-18 years old. Those in the Alpha program who will be 13 years old by the Camp dates will have a special way to register from the 12 year olds. That information will be provided when you register. Watch for more information soon.

A FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026 for all 2nd graders and older who have not had a Communion Class before. The class will be 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the meeting room. Parents are welcome in the class if you choose to stay. The actual First Communion will be at our regular Sunday morning worship on February 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tim.

YOUTH SPORTS COURT:

At the Called Congregational meeting in July, the youth sports complex was approved. We have now collected 65% of the funds and can start on the complex, but we still need to collect the rest to pay for the whole project. The original bid was \$130,700 and we are currently at \$109,596.18. If you would like to donate to complete this project, please label your offering envelope “Youth Sports Court”.

CHURCH FACILITIES:

We have met our goal for the AC/Plumbing/Floor projects! The AC and plumbing have been completed, and the floor project in the Chapel will begin soon. Thank you so much to all who donated to these much-needed repairs!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

The nominating committee has begun meeting to search for members to fill positions for Church Council, Endowment Committee, and delegates to the annual convention. There are four council positions to be filled, one position for the Endowment Committee, and the three delegates. The four positions for council to be filled are President, Worship Committee chair, Parish Education chair, and Youth Representative (a new position approved by council). Some have expressed an interest in filling these positions, however if others are interested, please contact one of the committee members. (Bill Klaevemann, Travis Peyton, Kim Hahn, Anna Foerster, Tina Boehm, or Aaron Koopmann). **At this time we are still in need of a President!**

CHURCH COUNCIL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:

A Church Council Youth Representative is a young person who serves on the Church Council with voice and vote to provide a youth perspective in the decision-making process. Their role is to represent the interests of the youth, share ideas for programs, and ensure youth are actively involved in shaping ministry. The Youth Representative will work with Pastor, Youth Director, other youth leaders, and sponsors to foster effective communication and planning. Information sheets which include key responsibilities and requirements are available in the church office, the Narthex of the church, and in the basement. If you are interested, please contact one of the Nominating Committee Members.

Upcoming Christian Life Events:

January 25, 2026: After Congregational Meeting Lunch –
meat is provided, congregation is asked to bring a vegetable or dessert.

Upcoming Youth and Family Events:

January 11, 2026 – Bunco 2-4pm

February 4, 2026 – Father Daughter Dinner 6-8pm

March 1, 2026 – Crazy Crafts with Snacks 2-4pm

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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361-564-2135

9 a.m. Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast: 100.1 FM

Pastor – Tim W Muehlbrad

Director of Christian Education – Terry Carmichael