

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Yorktown, Texas



Saturday and Sunday Services

Holy Communion Services

1st Sunday in Advent

December 1, 2024

Silent Prayer

In "the name of Jesus" we pray, O Lord. Our own, individual names separate us from one another and, more importantly, from you. When we gather with your Holy Spirit as our guide, many prayers become one prayer. A jumble of many words becomes less a tower of Babel, and more a simple, united song of praise. Thank you for this oneness we have found in Jesus Christ, O God of every nation, Master of the universe. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please take a moment to fill out an Attendance Card and leave it in the pew by the center aisle.*

***BRIEF ORDER for CONFESSIO**

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: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Hark, the Glad Sound!" LBW #35

Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

*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. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

G 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.

G 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. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN

“Light One Candle” (vs. 1)

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day.

C: 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. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Lector: A reading from _____.

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

²**Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

³Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

⁴**Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

⁵Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁶**Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

⁷Gracious and upright is the LORD;
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

⁸**He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

⁹All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Lector: A reading from _____.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36**

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN of the DAY

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” LBW #25

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurentii, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

***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**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. O Mighty One,

C: you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you—ourselves, our time, and our possessions—that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.


***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.



☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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



☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

***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"

☐ 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:

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" **WOV #684**

“Great is Thy Faithfulness” **WOV #771**
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” **WOV #731**

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 CANTICAL**



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;



praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***BLESSING**

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.



A - men

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

LBW #39

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive its King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

***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.

* Indicates times in worship when you are invited to stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENT BULLETIN

**1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 1, 2024**

HELPING with WORSHIP SERVICES:

DECEMBER 1, 2024 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

1st Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tim W Muehlbrad **Reader:** Debbie Kneese
Acolytes: Ellie & Emma Bargmann **Children's Sermon:** Terry Carmichael
Musician: Saturday – Beverly Bruns Sunday – Beverly Bruns
Saturday Altar Guild: Patsy Ibrom

DECEMBER 8, 2024 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

Children's Christmas Program

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tim W Muehlbrad
Acolytes: Aadin & Landrey Koopmann **Children's Sermon:** Terry Carmichael
Musician: Saturday – Rebecca Innocenti Sunday – Rebecca Innocenti
Saturday Altar Guild: Barbara Cramer

Helping with Worship during the month of December:

Head Usher: Darren Siefert

Ushers: Kaiden Hilbrich, Ricky Hilbrich, Noah Innocenti, Danny Metting, & Mark Niemeier

Saturday Usher: Albert Metting

Altar Guild: Judy Hilbrich & Krista Kerlick

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	Daniel Goehring	Pam Roth
Donna Baxter	Rosa Horton	Michael & Dorothy Sinast
Caroline Blain	Keith Ibrom	Joan Smith
Caylen Boehm & Baby Kelsi	Joanna Ivy	Kennedy Smith
Warner Borth	Shirley Jendrzey	Wayne Sparck
Katherine Brown	Bonnie Kaiser	Lori Nelson Stenger
David Brucker	Mary Kanuch	Mike & Deborah Stern
Virginia Buesing	Joyce Lamprecht	Alma Suggs
Carl Clyne	Ray Lange	Judy Taylor
Teresa Evans	Lin Migura	Chandler Vaclavik
Verda Mae Foerster	Lanie Milliff	Mark Weischwill
Amber Gloor	Mark Niemeier	Levi Wilhelmsen
Kathryn Gloor	David Norrell	Ron & Marjorie Wilhelmsen
Tiffany Godby	Bennett Rohan	

ST. PAUL OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK:

Sunday (1st)	Deadline for Cowboy Claus & Poinsettias
	9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
	10:15 am Sunday School
	11:30 am Confirmation Class
	2 – 4 pm Christmas Program Practice
Monday (2nd)	6:00 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved – TLG
Tuesday (3rd)	9:30 am Women’s Bible Study & Christmas Luncheon
Wednesday (4th)	9:15 am The Learning Garden Chapel
	6:00 pm FFF
Thursday (5th)	6-8:00 pm Christmas in the Park
Saturday (7th)	Fellowship Hall Reserved – Christian Life
	9-11:00 am Christmas Program Practice
	3-5:00 pm FFF decorating doors at Yorktown Manor
	5:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (8th)	Children’s Christmas Program
	9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
	10:15 am Sunday School
	11:30 am Christmas Feast – Don’t Forget to Sign Up!

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY & CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: The Women’s Bible Study Groups will meet on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 9:30 am for Bible Study Session 4 on the book of James followed by lunch. All Women of the Congregation are welcome to join in this activity. We enjoy a lot of fellowship through service.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Come join the youth and sing Christmas carols along with the Yorktown 4-H on Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 4pm. We will be meeting in our church parking lot. Soup and hot cocoa will be provided in the fellowship hall afterwards. Sign-up sheets will be available in the basement or call the church office. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

AS WE CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON and the gift of the Christ child as our Lord and Savior, and as we prepare with gifts for our family and friends, may we honor the work that our staff has done for us this year. The congregation is invited to make gifts to the staff. (Staff includes: Office staff, custodian, nursery attendant, and musicians.) Checks should be made payable to St. Paul Lutheran. Please write “Staff Gift” on your envelope and/or check.

Please make your gifts by Wednesday, December 18th.

EDUCATIONAL BUILDING WINDOWS: Council has approved a bid of \$57,185.00 to replace all of the outside windows in the Educational Building & Fellowship Hall. If you would like to make a donation to this project, please label your offering “WINDOWS”. Any help is greatly appreciated!

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the Sanctuary. You can also call the office (564-2135) and make arrangements to receive them.

THE FLOWER CHART for 2025 has been posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Make sure you get your name beside the date you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary. * **Remember:** Don’t forget to contact a flower shop to make arrangements for the flowers, and please pick them up after Sunday service.

THANKOFFERING: The Women of the Church celebrated their annual Thankoffering Service on Sunday, November 10, 2024. Michael Dittrich, a member of the NALC Disaster Response, was our guest speaker. This year, 75% of our Thankoffering will go to Disaster Response and 25% to YAM. Please prayerfully give what you can to support these two ministries. We will accept your offering until December 6, 2024. You may use a pew envelope or designate your check with Thankoffering. Please give generously.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2024 NEWS! This year the Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024. Please help your children memorize their lines and help them keep up with their copy of their lines to use during the first practice. Practice days are Sunday, December 1st, from 2-4 p.m. and Saturday, December 7th, from 9-11 a.m. Thank you, Zoe Innocenti

Upcoming Christian Life Events:

December 8, 2024 – A catered Christmas Feast will be held after the Sunday School Christmas program. Sign Up sheets will be in the Narthex, Annex, and by the Church office. You can also call the office to sign up. Deadline to sign up is Monday, December 2, 2024. The Congregation is asked to bring desserts.

Upcoming Youth Events

December 15, 2024 – Christmas Caroling w/4H

