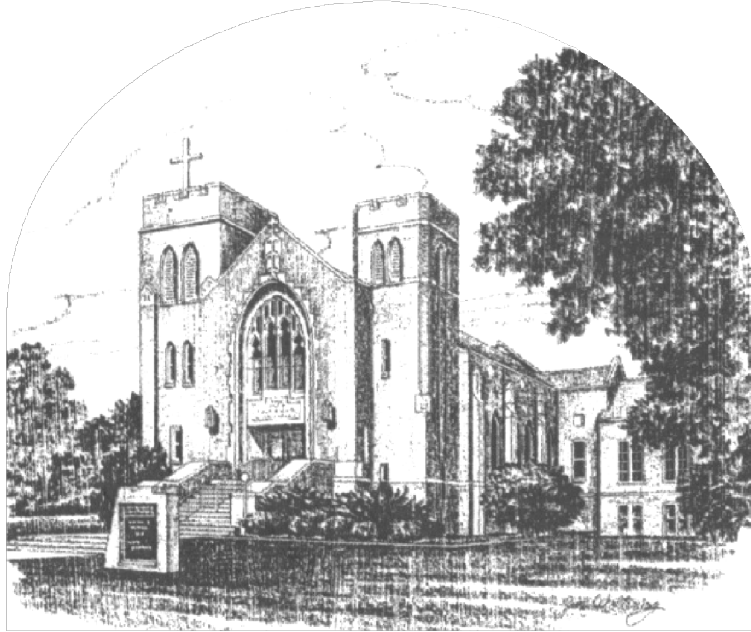


St. Paul Lutheran Church Yorktown, Texas



Saturday and Sunday Holy Communion Services 4th Sunday in Advent December 22, 2024

Silent Prayer

O God, who gave manna in the wilderness long ago, who still provides for those who hunger and thirst today, we have come to worship you. May the things we sing and say, as well as the things we think and feel, be acceptable (pleasing even) to you. Forgive us when what we say is not what we think, when our actions do not live up to our words of faith - forgive and live in us that we might become a people of integrity. Shower this hour with your blessings, that we might leave this place to share your good news with others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Please take a moment to fill out an Attendance Card. You may leave them in the pew by the center aisle or drop them in the basket at the church entrance.

***OPENING HYMN**


“Go Tell It on the Mountain” **LBW #70**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

***INVOCATION**

L: In the Name of the Father, and the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***GREETING and DIALOG**

L: Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

L: I will hear what the Lord God has to say--

C: a voice that speaks for peace.

L: Peace for all people and for his friends

C: And those who turn to him in their hearts.

L: His help is near for those who fear him,

C: And his glory will live in our land.

L: Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord

C: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring 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 to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Almighty God, merciful Father:

C: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. 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.

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN (vs. 1-4)

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. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”

Choir

FIRST LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a

Lector: A reading from _____.

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,

from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 10:5-10

Lector: A reading from _____.

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’

(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]**

P: The Holy Gospel according to _____, the _____ chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
 and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
 in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
 C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Away in a Manger” **LBW #67**

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked
 Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay; the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.
 Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection + of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***THE 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—our selves, 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.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

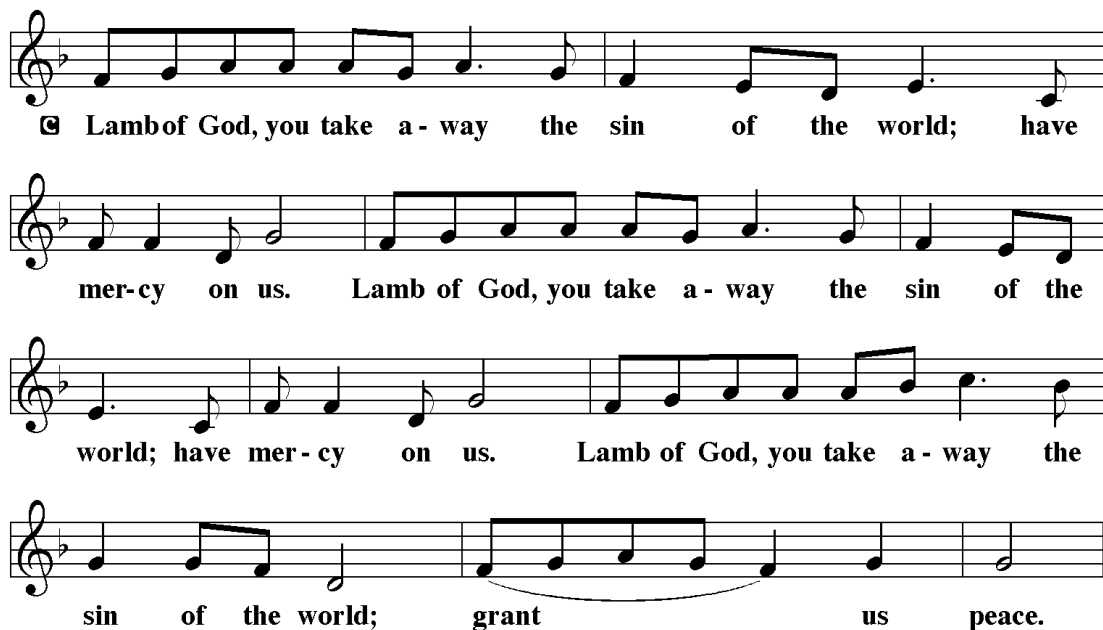
***LORD'S PRAYER**

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 are unable to receive communion, for any reason, 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 HYMN: "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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

***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. **Amen.**

***BLESSING: Benediction (tune: Edelweiss)**

By Jean Spencer

May the Lord, mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace, Courage in every endeavor.
Lift your eyes, and see His face And His grace forever.
May the Lord, mighty Lord Bless and keep you forever.

What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

***DISMISSAL**

P: As you go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENT BULLETIN

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 22, 2024

HELPING with WORSHIP SERVICES:

DECEMBER 22, 2024 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

4th Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tim W Muehlbrad

Reader: Madison Allman

Acolytes: Kylie Diehl & Shelby Arguellez

Children's Sermon: Terry Carmichael

Musician: Saturday – PT & Friends

Sunday – PT & Friends/Luellen

Saturday Altar Guild: Laura Kaiser

DECEMBER 29, 2024 – 9:00 AM SERVICE

1st Sunday of Christmas

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tim W Muehlbrad

Reader: Larry Gohmert

Acolytes: Kollin & Korbin Kerlick

Children's Sermon: Karen Dueser

Musician: Saturday – Beverly Bruns

Sunday – Beverly Bruns

Saturday Altar Guild: Patsy Ibrom/Laura Kaiser

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

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service: Patsy Ibrom & Laura Kaiser

8:00 pm Christmas Eve Service: Laurey & Aydn Garcia

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	Joanna Ivy	Michael & Dorothy Sinast
Donna Baxter	Shirley Jendrzey	Joan Smith
Caroline Blain	Alberto Jimenez, Jr.	Kennedy Smith
Beverly Boles	Bonnie Kaiser	Wayne Sparck
Warner Borth	Mary Kanuch	Lori Nelson Stenger
Katherine Brown	Joyce Lamprecht	Mike & Deborah Stern
David Brucker	Ray Lange	Alma Suggs
Virginia Buesing	Lin Migura	Judy Taylor
Teresa Evans	Lanie Milliff	Chandler Vaclavik
Kathryn Gloor	Larry & Carole Mueller	Neil Vernon
Tiffany Godby	Mark Niemeier	Baby Mae Weischwill
Daniel Goehring	David Norrell	Mark Weischwill
Joan Gohmert	Jeannine Robinson	Levi Wilhelmsen
Rosa Horton	Bennett Rohan	Ron & Marjorie Wilhelmsen
Keith Ibrom	Pam Roth	

ST. PAUL OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK:

Sunday (22nd) 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
No Children's Sunday School
10:15 am Adult Sunday School

Monday (23rd) **Church Office Closed**

Tuesday (24th) **CHRISTMAS EVE**
Church Office Closed
4:00 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
8:00 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Wednesday (25th) **CHRISTMAS DAY**
Church Office Closed

Saturday (28th) 5:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday (29th) 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
No Children's Sunday School
10:15 am Adult Sunday School

SYMPATHY - We keep in our prayers the family and friends of Verda Mae Foerster. May the power of the resurrection give assurance to her family and friends as Verda Mae joins the Church Triumphant.

RADIO BROADCAST - in Memory of Verda Mae Foerster, given to the Glory of God by Dr. John & Kathy Frels.

PARENT MEETING: There will be a parent meeting for all Sunday School students, elementary through high school, on Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 11:30 am, immediately following Sunday School.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2025 - immediately following the Worship Service. There will be no Sunday school. Christian Life is hosting a Chili Dinner meal following the Congregational meeting in the fellowship hall.

NOTICE TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Friday, January 3, 2025 for publication in the Annual Report of St. Paul.

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 **Educational Building**. 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.

Upcoming Christian Life Events:

January 26, 2025 – Chili Dinner after the Congregational Meeting. Please feel free to bring a dessert.

Upcoming Youth Events

January 26, 2025 – Bunco

February 16, 2025 – Spaghetti Fundraiser

Two Advent Calendar Opportunities for Advent 2024

Sunday School students will receive “Gift for the Christ Child” Advent calendars. This calendar is a way for the students and others to give a special gift to YAM and to start out with a Happy New Year in 2025!

If you would like to participate in this gift giving, please collect the items listed on this Advent calendar. Baskets will be located in the Educational Building, basement, Narthex, and near the Annex elevator. Please drop off items by Sunday, January 5th, 2025! They will be taken to YAM on January 8th.

YAM CANNOT ACCEPT GLASS FOOD CONTAINERS.

Each day add an item to a box. After Christmas, bring the box to Church to be donated to YAM. **December 22** – Can mixed vegetables; **December 23** – Can carrots; **December 24** – Can green beans

As an added bonus for your family, beginning Dec. 1st, read one chapter of the Book of Luke each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus' life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!

Also, in addition to the “Gift for the Christ Child” calendar each student will receive their own DAILY Advent Calendar in Sunday School to share with the family! Each day we hope the family will find a moment to look at the daily numbered slot to see what message it has for us as we prepare for Christ’s birth. Perhaps it can be even part of your daily reading of Luke each evening!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

234 N Gohmert St., Suite A

Yorktown, Texas 78164

www.stpauelykt.org e-mail: stpauelykt@sbcglobal.net

361-564-2135

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

Pastor – Tim W Muehlbrad

Director of Christian Education – Terry Carmichael