St. Paul Lutheran Church

Yorktown, Texas



Saturday and Sunday Services
Holy Communion Services

2nd Sunday in Advent
December 7, 2025

Silent Prayer

Holy God, make your presence known to us today. We come to you with our vision so often clouded by our sin. Clear away the mist, through Jesus, that we can catch a glimpse, now, of your presence here. Help us to behold you as you are, not as we would like you to be. In Him, through whom we become holy, on the wings of the Spirit, we pray to you, our Father. 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 or drop them in the basket at the church entrance.

*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.

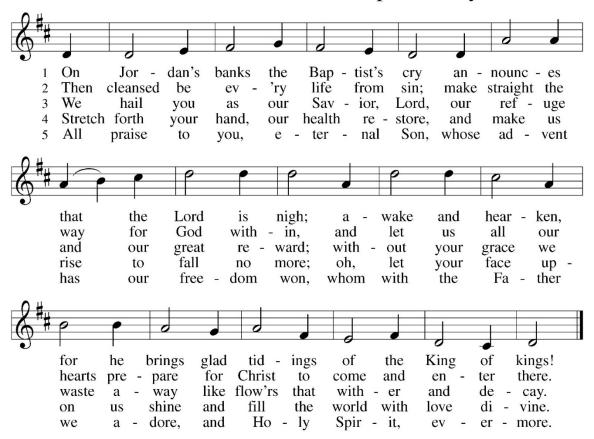
- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God,
- C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned 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: 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

"On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" LBW #36

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

HOLY BAPTISM (Sunday only)

LBW Page 121

*GREETING (Saturday only)

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

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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 mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHILDREN'S SERMON (Both Services)

HYMN

"Light One Candle" WOV #630 (vs. 1-2)

shin - ing!

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

He

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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 our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that by his coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector: The First Lesson is from the _____ chapter of _____.

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. 9They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

⁷In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, 'til the moon be no more!

²May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,

⁵May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13

The Second Lesson is from the chapter of

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

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



¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." 4Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN of the DAY

"Prepare the Royal Highway" LBW #26

Prepare the Royal Highway



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

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

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*APOSTLES' CREED (Saturday only)

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.

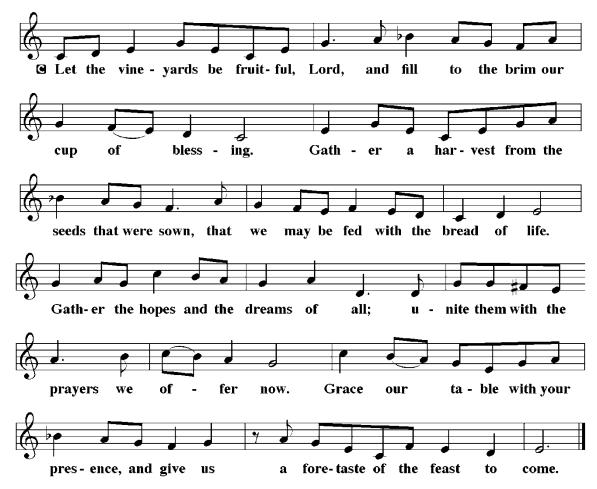
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

*PRAYERS (Both Services)

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

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

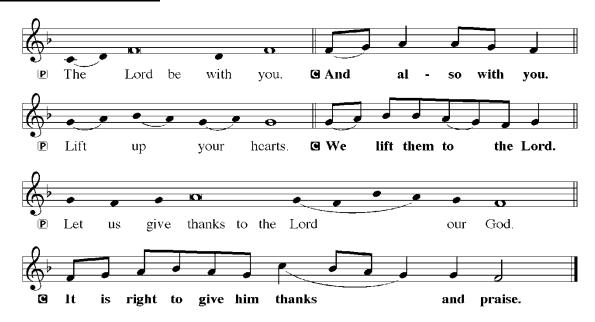


*OFFERING PRAYER

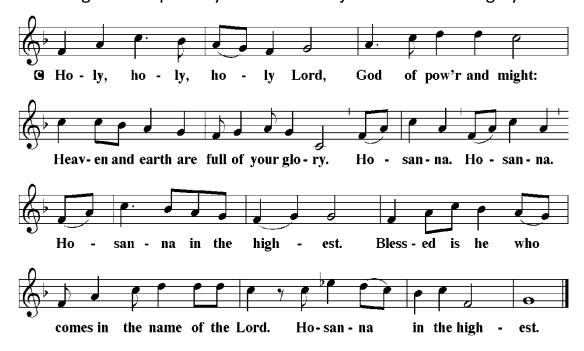
P: Let us pray. O Mighty One,

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



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



*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"



ADDITIONAL COMMUNION HYMNS:

"One Bread, One Body" WOV #710

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" WOV #771

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Gates" WOV #631

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.



*CLOSING HYMN

"Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel" LBW #34

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

*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.

Reprinted from Lutheran Book of Worship, copyright 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #11879-S Advent 2025 - setting1 LBWFullCom

ANNOUNCEMENT BULLETIN 2nd Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 7, 2025

HELPING with WORSHIP SERVICES:

DECEMBER 7, 2025 – 9:00 AM SERVICE 2nd Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Tim W. Muehlbrad **Reader:** Karen Dueser

Acolytes: Landrey Koopmann & Maesen Foerster Children's Sermon: Terry Carmichael

Musicians: Saturday: Beverly Bruns Sunday: Beverly Bruns

Saturday Altar Guild: Patsy Ibrom

DECEMBER 14, 2025 – 9:00 AM SERVICE 3rd Sunday of Advent – Children's Christmas Program

Presiding Minister: Tim W. Muehlbrad

Acolytes: Kollin Kerlick & Korbin Kerlick Children's Sermon: Terry Carmichael

Musicians: Saturday: Rebecca Innocenti Sunday: Rebecca Innocenti

Saturday Altar Guild: Barbara Cramer

Helping with Worship during the month of December:

Head Usher: Allen Leist

Ushers: Kaiden Hilbrich, Haydn Innocenti, Noah Innocenti, Danny Metting

Saturday Usher: Albert Metting

Altar Guild: Karen Dueser & 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.

<u>PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE</u> 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.*

FROM JESSE HURTA:

What a loving Lord Jesus we have! I came through brain surgery okay. I am so grateful for my caring family and friends for your thoughts, concerns and prayers during my time of need. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Jesse Hurta

Joe Barnes	Vivian Innocenti	David Norrell
Caroline Blain	Joanna Ivy	Bobby Pauliska
Carlton Bolting	Kate Janis	Nick Picard and family
Wade Bolting	Alberto Jimenez, Jr.	Jeannine Robinson
Warner Borth	Clinton Kaiser	Pam Roth
David Brucker	Mary Kanuch	Joan Smith
Virginia Buesing	James Knippa	Lori Nelson Stenger
Julie Dupree	Ray Lange	Alma Suggs
Kathryn Gloor	Elaine Malina	Judy Taylor
Tiffany Godby	Lin Migura	Chandler Vaclavik
Daniel Goehring	Lanie Milliff	Baby Mae Weischwill
Rosa Horton	Steven & Olivia Morris	Mark Weischwill
Jesse Hurta	Gary Moses	Levi Wilhelmsen
Keith Ibrom	Larry & Carole Mueller	Ron & Marjorie Wilhelmsen
Bridget Innocenti	Brenda Natho	

ST. PAUL OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK:

Sunday (7th) 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

Baptism of Audie Collins Mattox 10:15 am Sunday School

Christmas Program Practice during Sunday School

11:30 am Confirmation Class

Deadline for Cowboy Claus & Christmas Feast Sign-up

Tuesday (9th) 1:30 pm Cradle Workshop

5:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

6:00 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday (10th) 9:15 am TLG Chapel

No FFF or Guitar Lessons due to Band Concert

Saturday (13th) 2:30 pm Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program in Sanctuary

5:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion Fellowship Hall Reserved – Christian Life

Sunday (14th) 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

Children's Christmas Program
10:15 am Sunday School
11:30 am Christmas Feast

GOD'S BLESSINGS ON AUDIE COLLINS MATTOX as the Holy Spirit was poured into his life at his baptism today. Audie is the son of Seth and Tamara Mattox. Audie's sponsors are Chris Mann, Lesley Mann, Spenser McAda and Susan McAda. May God continue to bless him throughout his life as he is nurtured in the faith by his parents, sponsors, and the church.

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

<u>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</u>: 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.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM NEWS!

Erin Koopmann has graciously agreed to lead this year's Christmas Program to be held during the worship service on Dec. 14th. She wanted to get these dates out to you so you can get them on your calendar now. Practices will be held during the Sunday School hour on November 30th and December 7th, with a Dress Rehearsal on Sat. Dec. 13th at 2:30-4:00 p.m. We hope all the children and youth will participate in this year's Christmas program "Letters to Baby Jesus". There will be two signup sheets, one for speaking parts and one for just being characters in the play in the Basement, Church Narthex (front entry), the Annex and by the Church Office. Please sign up soon.

<u>COWBOY CLAUS</u>: We will be collecting monetary gifts for the "Cowboy Claus" program, supported by the Western Days Committee this year. Make checks payable to St. Paul with a notation for "Cowboy Claus." Place cash gifts in an envelope labeled "Cowboy Claus." Let's help a child have a Merry Christmas! Deadline is Sunday, December 7, 2025.

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, maintenance, 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 17th.

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 \$88,699. 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).

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 Youth and Family Events:

(Sign up sheets are in the basement)

December 21, 2025 – 4pm Caroling

Upcoming FFF Events:

December 17, 2025 – Silly Sock Christmas Party (6-8:30pm)

Upcoming Christian Life Events:

Christmas Feast:

December 14, 2025, we will have a catered meal of roast beef & gravy, cheese potatoes, green beans and a salad. The congregation is asked to bring a dessert to share. The meal will be served at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up sheets will be in the Church and Fellowship Hall.



Upcoming Area Events:

You are invited to: Open House and Tea at Yorktown Historical Museum December 14th 2-4pm

Gabriel Project of the Crossroads

The Gabriel Project offers immediate and practical help to women faced with a crisis pregnancy by providing emotional support, spiritual guidance, parenting education, and mother/baby items.

Interested in learning more about our mission and how we serve women throughout the Crossroads? We would love to have you join us at our next DeWitt County meeting on Monday, December 8th at 5:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Cuero (Fellowship Hall). If you have any questions, please contact:

Brenda Cheesman 361-676-7738 or Lori Kneese 361-550-6105

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

234 N Gohmert St., Suite A Yorktown, Texas 78164

www.stpaulykt.org e-mail: stpaulykt@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