

CHRISTMAS DAY ~ DECEMBER 25, 2024



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Christmas Proclamation

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother — now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

please stand in body or spirit

Opening Hymn

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

#275

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle

Glory to God in the highest!

And hope to every discouraged heart.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to every conflicted soul.

Glory to God in the highest!

And joy to every downcast spirit.

Glory to God in the highest!

And love to everyone.

Let us sing praises to our God.

Let us offer this light against the darkness. Alleluia! Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“On Christmas Night”

#274

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 62:6 - 12

⁶Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, ⁷and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. ⁸The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; ⁹but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. ¹⁰Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. ¹¹The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, “See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.” ¹²They shall be called, “The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD”; and you shall be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 97

¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**

³Fire goes before the LORD, burning up enemies on every side.

⁴**Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

⁵The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD, and all the peoples see your glory.**

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

⁸**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.**

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰**You who love the LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

¹¹Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart.

¹²**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.**

Second Reading

Titus 3:4 - 7

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

"Love Has Come"

#292 vs. 1

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

#270

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering

please stand in body or spirit

Offertory

“Love Has Come”

#292 vs. 2 & 3

(Offering is donated to Central States Synod - ELCA)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

at the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do
not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

Communion Hymns

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

#279

“It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”

#282

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of
grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as
messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you
peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and the Holy
Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

#288

Dismissal

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God’s people on earth!

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior!

Thanks be to God!

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Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers.....The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister..... Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist..... Lois Viebrock
Pianist.....Jeannette VonHolten
AV Technicians..... Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar GuildKathy Oelrichs & Sharel Wienberg
Ushers..... Justin Tinney, Head Usher
.....Victoria Fox, John Oelrichs, Braden Poe & Ryan Schlesselman



Christmas Day ~ December 25, 2024

Assisting MinisterJanice Gerken
Communion Assistant.....At the Altar
Reader Glenalee Dillon
Altar FlowersAdvent Wreath



First Sunday of Christmas ~ December 29, 2024

Worship Leader..... Darin Oelrichs
Communion AssistantsNo Communion
Readers.....Melisa Balke, Paul Fuelling,
..... Rhonda Schlesselman & Sandy Schlesselman
Acolytes..... Grady Elliott & Tristan Fox
Flowers..... Mary Haluptzok