

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Aberdeen, SD 57401

605-225-1847

Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023



Rev. Jacob Smith, Assistant Pastor (586-556-6077)

pastorjacobs@stpaulsaberdeen.org

Rev. Ray Anderson – (605-380-3710)

Jenelle Siebert

Lighthouse Preschool Director **(725-1855)**

directorlhps@stpaulsaberdeen.org

Cindy Jung, Church Admin – cindyj@stpaulsaberdeen.org

Michael Leapley, DCE – michaell@stpaulsaberdeen.org

www.stpaulsaberdeen.org

Please pray for Roger Blum, Barbara Dahme, Gladys Felix, Harry and

Fern Preston, Sheyenne Seely, Andrew & Cindy Ruenzel, Courtney Frohling, Dawn Dohn, Lorelei Hartung, Baelyn Schwab, Pam Dutenhoffer, Clayton and Karen Johnson, Chet Lane, Dora Lane, Sally Kushman, Dan Lingor, Viril Layton, Martha Jerke, Geraldine McIntire Stuart Quam, Sandy Wolf, Barb Wacholz, Gloria Anderson, Joanne Boldt, Myron Voegele, and Lynn..

Please inform the Pastor or the church office when you or a loved one is hospitalized.

Welcome Pastor Alan Ludwig guest preacher today.

The Sunday School Christmas Program today at 9:30am.

The Installation of Rev. Ryan Drevlow, Senior Pastor will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 3:00 pm. Potluck to follow the installation. Invitation postcards are on the table in the South Narthex.

2024 offering envelopes are on a table in the South Narthex.

Lighthouse Preschool Christmas Program – Monday, Dec. 18th at 6:30 pm. All are invited to attend.

Lutheran Witness offering envelope – In the offering envelope boxes for 2024, there is an envelope for the subscription of the Lutheran Witness. The cost for the Lutheran Witness has gone up in price and if you would like to contribute to the subscription costs, please use that envelope. You may drop off at the office or put in the offering plate.

Ushers needed for 2024 – Please consider ushering in 2024. Contact Jerry Ochsner or the church office to sign up.

Little Ones' Book Club – Our youngest children (Baptism through age 3) have a Bible based book waiting for them in the South Narthex. Please take it home, read and enjoy! It's yours to keep!

Poinsettia Plants – You may bring plants to the church beginning December 18th. Please inform the office to be included in memory of loved ones.

Donations Wanted!

Caiden Siebert, son of Jenelle Siebert, will be building a music wall for the preschool as his final Eagle Scout project. He is looking for donations of any unwanted kitchen pots, pans, baking sheets, muffin tins, metal lids, utensils, etc. These items will be used to make musical instruments for the preschoolers to practice their creativity, work on their gross motor skills, and experiment with different sounds as part of their outdoor recess activities. Please have all donations brought to the preschool or left with Cindy by Sunday, December 17th. Thank you!

Organist: Sunday - Cyrece Kono **Wed. – Noon** - Cindy Jung **6:15 pm** – Cyrece Kono

MAIN STREET LIVING – Dec. 24, 2023 KDLT (NBC) This the Life – **10:00 AM** – “*Christmas On Main Street*” **10:30 AM – Worship** – Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of the Lutheran Church presents a message. For more information go to the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – Dec 24, 2023 “*Community and Conversation*” The Lutheran Hour can be heard on KAWZ 88.1 at 9:00 am or Bismarck radio station KFYZ at 7:30 am on Sundays.

Offering: December 10, 2023 - \$18,699.00
Soup & Sandwich - \$74.00

Amount to meet Budget: \$13,615.00 per week
Year-to-date: Expenses - \$553,837.00 Income - \$562,592.00

Sunday Attendance: December 10, 2023:
10:00 – 186 **Wed. – 12:15pm** – 33 **6:16pm** - 64

Bible Study: Wed: 10am - 9 7:00pm- 16

Please sign the fellowship booklet attendance.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S: (Dec. 17 – Dec. 24)

- Sun 8:00 am Worship Service**
9:30 am Children's Christmas Program
10:00 am Hot Chocolate and donuts
10:45 am Worship Service
- Mon 6:30 pm Lighthouse Preschool Christmas Program**
- Tue 6:45 pm Vocal Choir practice**
- Wed 11:00 am Bible study**
12:15 pm Advent Worship Service
12:45 pm Soup & Sandwich
5:15 pm Soup & Sandwich
6:15 pm Advent Worship Service
7:00 pm Confirmation
7:00 pm Christmas Bible Study
- Sun 9:30 pm Worship Service**
3:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
- Mon 9:30 am Christmas Day Service**

Love's Pure Light – Hope for God's Joy

Responsive Litany:

P: In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

C. Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

C. Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We strive to search for the good in neighbors near and far.

C. Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

C. Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Congregation Sings:

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and end this gloom of night. Bring hope to the world, bring peace to the earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

Closing Prayer:

P: Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us, and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you and to spread that joy to others. Amen.

Introit *Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7*

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

P: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

C: for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

P: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

C: that glory may dwell in our land.

P: Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

C: and our land will yield its increase.

P: Righteousness will go before him

C: and make his footsteps a way.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading *2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16*

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’” ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over

my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

P: Behold, your king is coming to you;

C: righteous and having salvation.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle *Romans 16:25–27*

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel *Luke 1:26–38*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name

was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Catechetical Review - The Introduction

C: Our Father who art in heaven.

P: What does this mean?

C: With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.