

As We Gather: Joy Sunday

The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning “Rejoice!” For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to “rejoice in the Lord always,” knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. Jesus tells John’s disciples that there is evidence that the Messiah is truly here, *the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them*. Today we will meditate on the “proof” that Jesus gives that he is the Messiah who was foretold and that the Kingdom is near and the Gospel is being preached. The Gospel goes out even now in word and sacrament. Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and rejoicing (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

(Announcements and Ringing of the Bell)

Senior Choir *Is Your Heart Prepared for a King* Robert Lau

Gaudete (Rejoice)

Introit

Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

I will hope con- | tinually*
and will praise you yet | more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of
salvation | all the day,*
for their number is past my | knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God | I will come;*

I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.
O God, from my youth you have | taught me,*
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.
So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- |
sake me,*
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your
power to all | those to come.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Bell Choir

*On Jordan's Bank
the Baptist's Cry*

Lauran Delancy

The Gospel

Reading

Matthew 11:2–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses.

⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de-liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev-er, Now Thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

“the blind receive their sight”

Versicles

Isaiah 42:16

And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

Reading

Mark 10:46–52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. And as [Jesus] was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart. Get up; he is calling you.” ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” And the blind man said to him, “Rabbi, let me recover my sight.” ⁵²And Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer

P O God, You sent Your Son to be the true Light of the world. Grant that we who live in a world of darkened vision and limited sight may know the light of Your presence. Enable us to see you and trust in your word. Grant steadfast faith and strengthen us in Your service that in the life to come we may see You in the fullness of Your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

sts. 1–4



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the

near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89
 Text and tune: Public domain

“the lame walk”

Versicles

Isaiah 35:3-4, 6

Strengthen the weak hands,
 and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!”
 Behold, your God
 will come with vengeance,
 with the recompense of God.
 He will come and save you.”
then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

Reading

Matthew 9:1–8

¹Getting into a boat [Jesus] crossed over and came to his own city.
²And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed.
 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart,
 my son; your sins are forgiven.” ³And behold, some of the scribes

said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? ⁶But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” ⁷And he rose and went home. ⁸When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

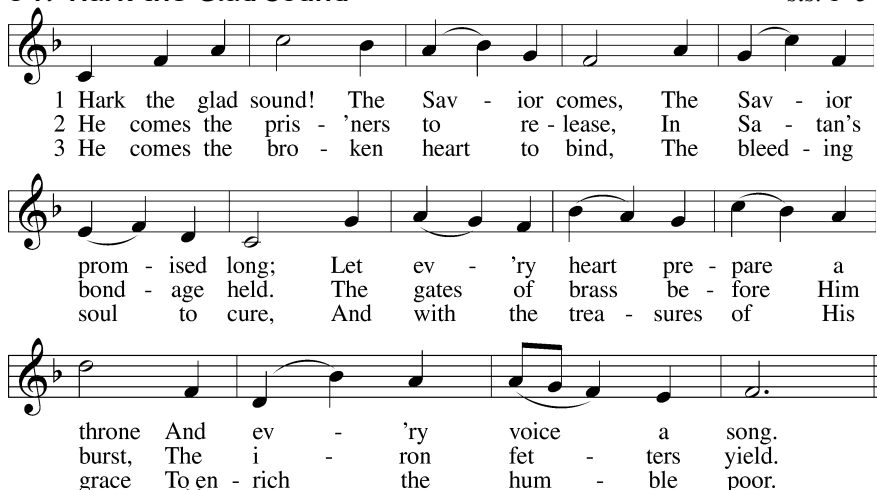
Prayer

P Lord Jesus, prepare us to receive Your very body and blood by giving us repentance to weep over our sins and then rejoice that in You the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have Good News preached to them; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

349 Hark the Glad Sound

sts. 1–3



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

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.

“lepers are cleansed”

Versicles

Isaiah 35:3-4, Luke 5:12-13.

Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

“Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.”

Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him,
saying, **“I will; be clean.”**

And immediately the leprosy left him.

Reading

Luke 5:12–14

¹²While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.” ¹³And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I will; be clean.” And immediately the leprosy left him. ¹⁴And he charged him to tell no one, but “go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer

P O God, the giver of life, health, safety, and strength: we bless You for having granted to this servant recovery from leprosy. We ask that you would graciously heal and kindly care for our bodies and give us healing. Fill our hearts with daily remembrance of Your great goodness, and grant that we might serve You with a holy and obedient life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn

sts. 1-3



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

"the deaf hear"

Versicles

Isaiah 29:18; 35:5

In that day the deaf shall hear
 the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

Reading

Mark 7:31–37

³¹[Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer

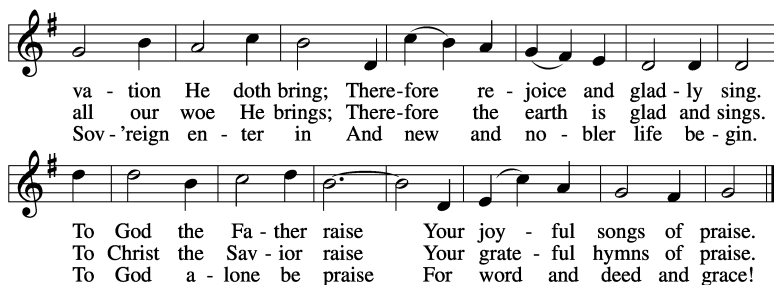
P O Lord Jesus Christ, in Your earthly ministry You once opened the ears of one who was deaf. Open out ears and our hearts to hear your good word of promise and love. Strengthen our tongues and help us also to speak a good word of forgiveness and blessing to the world. May our voices ever be filled with Your praise; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

sts. 1–2, 4

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Be - hold, the
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your



Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913

Text and tune: Public domain

“the dead raised”

Versicles

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

Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.

You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!

For your dew is a dew of light,

and the earth will give birth to the dead.

Reading

Luke 8:40–55

⁴⁰Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. ⁴¹And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus’ feet, he implored him to come to his house, ⁴²for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. ⁴³And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. ⁴⁴She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. ⁴⁵And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!” ⁴⁶But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me.” ⁴⁷And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

⁴⁹While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler’s house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.” ⁵⁰But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only

believe, and she will be well.” ⁵¹ And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. ⁵² And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, “Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping.” ⁵³ And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ But taking her by the hand he called, saying, “Child, arise.” ⁵⁵ And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer

P O Lord, the refuge of every generation, we fade like withered grass as You sweep us away in the sleep of death. Make us glad for as many days as You have afflicted us, be gracious to us for Jesus’ sake, and awaken us in the joy of the resurrection to eternal life with Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (Choir Sings Vs 3)



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,

Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;

Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

Swell the tri - umph of His train:
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers,
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Tune: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99
Text and tune: Public domain

“Good news is preached to the poor”

Versicles

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

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Reading

Luke 4:16–22

¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Senior Choir

When Emmanuel Has Come

Don Besig

Prayer

P Almighty God, Your Son came once in time to be the "good news" in thought word and deed. Speak your good news amongst us. Stir up your works of old. Help us to know Jesus and all his promises and send your Spirit to help us proclaim the good news of Your salvation so that all who hear it may receive that gift of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

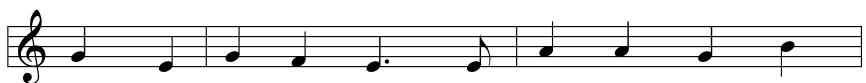
C Amen.

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 1-3, 8, 13



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
 13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, Pre - pare a



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
 bed, soft, un - de - filed, A qui - et cham - ber



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
 set a - part For You to dwell with - in my heart.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

“Why Do We Have Joy?”

Rev. Jacob Smith

Offertory

Bell Choir

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Michael R. Keller

Offering

Apostles’ Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life Teverlasting. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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.

Introit

Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

I will hope con- | tinually*
and will praise you yet | more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of
salvation | all the day,*

for their number is past my | knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God | I will come;*

I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have | taught me,*

and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.

**So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- |
sake me,***

until I proclaim your might to another generation, your
power to all | those to come.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

Blessing

P The grace of our Lord TJesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **Amen.**

Senior Choir

On A Starlit Night

Jill Gallina

Acknowledgments

Brief Service of the Word from Lutheran Service Book
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Third Sunday in Advent December 14, 2025

PRAYER LIST: Please pray for Roger Blum, Andrew Ruenzel, Dawn Dohn, Dora Lane, Barb Wacholz, Kathy Licht, Shane Sass, Cheryl Zinter, Baelyn Schwab, Lou Thomas, Connie Dewan, David Gulland, Cindy & Tom Pichotta, Dan Swisher, and Mary Casanova.

Please inform the Pastor or the church office when you or a loved one is hospitalized. If you would like to add your name or remove a name to the above prayer list, please contact the church office.

Music Sunday – Dec. 14th –Bible Study/Sunday School will be from 9:00am – 9:45am. There will be a Joint Worship Service today at 10:00am with a potluck to follow.

Poinsettia Plants – Plants may be purchased for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Please bring or have them delivered to church the week of December 21st.

There will be meals served for **Advent Services** at 12:15pm (after the service) and 6:15pm (before the service). On December 17th, the noon meal will be homemade tomato soup by Marje Janke and grilled cheese sandwiches. The evening meal will be pizza.

The **Children's Christmas Program** is scheduled for Sunday, December 21st at 10:45am.

There will be **Christmas Caroling** (instead of Gathering God's Flock) on Sunday, December 21st starting at 1:00 until 3:00.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services – Dec. 24th at 3:00pm & 5:00pm and Dec. 25th at 9:00am.

New membership classes will be taking place on Sunday mornings at 9:30am from January 11th through February 15th.

Preschool Christmas Program - We would like to invite you all to attend the preschool Christmas program on Monday, December 15th, at 6:15. The students have been working hard on their songs and are excited to share the news of Jesus' birth with everyone! Merry Christmas!

Offering envelopes for 2026 are on the table in the south narthex.

The congregation needs **volunteers** to help with powerpoint and/or recording Sunday Services. If you are able to help, please contact Nate Collins.

Lighthouse Preschool/Jr. Kindergarten -Registration for our full-day Jr. Kindergarten program for the 2026-27 school year is now open for the members of St. Paul's! **Our program is limited to 12 students, ages 4-5.** Registration opens to the public on January 1st, so turning in your application and deposit in a timely manner is essential to guarantee your child a spot! Applications and information can be picked up in the narthex.

The next meeting of St Paul's / Our Savior's **Men's Club** will meet at St. Paul's **Tuesday, January 13th at 6pm.** Tell a friend and remember All manly men of all ages are encouraged to attend. Please message Shane Jung to be added to the email list at 1-605-216-3784.

Women's Wednesday Bible Study: Every Wednesday evening at 5:15pm. The group is studying the book, God's Assurance for Times of Change by Christopher Kennedy. The book is available through CPH or Amazon. A Zoom option is available for those who would like to participate remotely. Please contact Cheryl Wold for more information. Thanks!

Women's Thursday Bible Study: Every Thursday from 7-8pm in St. Paul's Fellowship Hall. Book: Ladylike: Living Biblically by Rebekah Curtis and Rose Adle (purchase on Amazon or CPH) Contact Information: Melinda Johnson (605-949-2483) or Emily Anderson (605-999-7709). Didn't read the chapter? No problem! We'd love to have you join us!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – December 21, 2025 *“Everybody is Somebody”* Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. 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.

MAIN STREET LIVING – December 21, 2025 KDLT (NBC) & KEVN (FOX) Channels 5.1 / 46.1 – 10:00 AM – “Christmas on Main Street” 10:30 AM – Worship – Rev. Matthew Harrison presents a Christmas message. For more information, go to the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

Sunday Attendance: December 7, 2025

8:00am – 104

10:45am – 68

Wed 12:15 - 45

Wed 6:15 - 62

Bible Study: Sun – 56 Wed 11:00 – 8 Wed 5:15 - 6

Organist – Sunday/Wednesday: Cyrece Kono/Cindy Jung

Offering: December 7, 2025 - \$12,434.30 Coffee - \$99.25

Amount to meet budget: \$12,824.00 per week

WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S: (December 14th – December 21st)

Sun 9:00am Donuts and Coffee/Sunday School
10:00am **Worship (Joint Service) with Potluck**

Mon 6:15pm Preschool Program

Wed 11:00am Bible Study
12:15pm **Advent Service**
5:15pm Women's Bible Study
6:15pm **Advent Service**
7:00pm Confirmation

Thurs 6:30pm Choir
7:00pm Women's Bible Study
7:00pm RGI Meeting
7:30pm Bell Choir

Fri 11:15am Preschool Party
5:30pm Youth for Christ

Sun 8:00am **Worship**
9:00am Donuts and Coffee
10:45am **Children's Christmas Program**
1:00pm Caroling