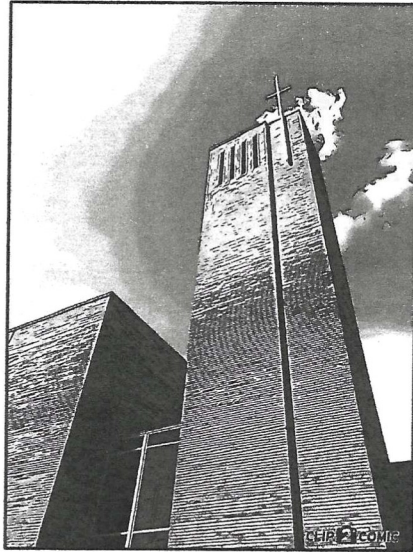


St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School
The Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod
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Martin Luther High School
martinlutherhs.com

December 15, 2024

+Order of Service+
December 15, 2024
3rd Sunday in Advent
Divine Service Setting Three
LSB 184
+++

Opening Hymn: **Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness** LSB 849

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

Introit and Kyrie LSB 186-189

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during the Season of Advent

Collect of the Day LSB 189

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Epistle Philippians 4:4-7

Holy Gospel Luke 7:18-28

Creed

Hymn of the Day: **Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding** LSB 345

Sermon

Offertory

Prayers of the Church

Communion Liturgy LSB 194

Distribution Hymns

Hark the Glad Sound LSB 349

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence LSB 621

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table LSB 618

Nunc Dimittis and Concluding Liturgy LSB 199

Closing Hymn: **Come Thou Long Expected Jesus** LSB 338

SERVING US TODAY IN GOD'S HOUSE

Musicians: Juleen Breitbarth **Advent Service:** Juleen Breitbarth

Ushers: Lonnie Smith, Elliot Belgard, Randy Miller, Glenn Kuby

Advent: Kerry Krenz, Sawyer Krenz, Cade Ekstrom, Alex Weihe, Cade Hotzler

Elder of the Month: Scott Halverson



Introit *Ps. 146:5–8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4*

P: Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

C: again I will say, | Rejoice.

P: Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,*

C: whose hope is in the | LORD his God,

P: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is | in them,*

C: who keeps faith for- | ever;

P: who executes justice for | the oppressed,

C: who gives food to the | hungry.*

P: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.

C: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the | righteous.

P: Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

C: again I will say, | Rejoice.

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! (15) The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. (16) On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. (17) The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. (18) I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. (19) Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. (20) At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

Epistle


Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. (5) Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; (6) do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (7) And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 7:18-28

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, (19) calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" (20) And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" (21) In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. (22) And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. (23) And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." (24) When John's messengers had gone, 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? (25) What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. (26) What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. (27) This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" (28) I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

L **O** **R** **D**, **S**

S **U** **P** **P** **E** **R**

Scripture declares that in the Sacrament of the Altar each communicant receives the body and blood of Christ to eat and to drink with the mouth of their bodies. Communicants who believe this receive forgiveness of sins, those who don't eat and drink judgement unto themselves. Communion also is a confession of oneness of the Faith we are baptized into, is preached in our pulpit, and summarized in the Small Catechism. Sadly, since these clear doctrines of The Holy Bible are not accepted by all Christian denominations, we continue the historic Christian practice of Closed Communion. We request that anyone who is not a communicant member of the LC-MS please speak with our Pastor or an elder before the service and join our congregation in singing hymns during the distribution. Membership classes are offered.

Online giving is an easy and reliable method to contribute to St. Paul's Lutheran. You can make a one-time donation or schedule recurring contributions. This option is available through the church's website; spltruman.com or by simply scanning the following QR code.





ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

December 15, 2024

Worship: Sundays @ 9am - Chapel: Wednesdays @ 10am

Midweek Services during Advent & Lent: Wednesdays @ 10am & 6pm

BIBLE CLASSES

Sunday Morning Bible Class & Sunday School:

10:15-11:15 a.m.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study: 10-11 a.m.

Wednesday After-School Confirmation: 4:30-5:30 p.m.

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Attendance Last Sunday: 98

Communion: 74

Offerings Given Last Sunday: \$ 3,969.00

School Roof Fund: \$ 13,840.04 (Total cost: \$95,000.00)

IN OUR PRAYERS

† Erika Lotheringen, Hannes Slabbert's sister, Alice Raddatz, John Matasovsky, Tom Koeritz, Marsha Miller, Marilyn Vogt, Ronald Schultz, Candace Doerfler, Mike Barfknecht, Cliff & Charlotte Dobie, Audrey Becker, Dick Eckmann, Pastor Fretham, Terry Bentele, Brandi Stohs, and Larye Anderson

† Our Shut-Ins: RoseMary Kasten, Carol Ritz, and June Mausling

† Our Servicemen: Mike Hintz, Lance Halverson, Josh Rusert, Duane Cox, Andrew Reed, and Cade Hotzler

CHURCH NEWS

Attention Voters! There will be a special meeting after the service on Sunday, December 22nd, to approve staff salary increases for the coming year. This was tabled at the October meeting but needs to be finalized before January 1st.

Christmas Open House: The Chase family would like to invite the congregation to our home on Sunday, December 22 from 2-4 pm. Enjoy a time of Christian fellowship and, of course, Christmas cookies! Come and go as you please.

2025 envelopes boxes are on the table in the narthex. If you did not get a box, please let an Elder know. I can make one for you.

Advent Supper will be on Wednesday, December 18, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The menu for this week is: Chili, Ham and Potato soup, soft pretzels, salad, and desserts.

*Christmas Ever offering will be going to Martin Luther Student Aid, unless specified otherwise.

*New Year's Eve will be going to the Seminary fund, unless specified otherwise

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY

Worship with Holy Communion.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study.....10:15 a.m.

Jennie Williamson Concert.....4:00 p.m.

MONDAY (Pastor's Day Off)

Jennie Williamson School Concert.....10:00 a.m.

A Basketball at Lakefield.....6 & 7 p.m.

B BB Practice at St. Paul's

TUESDAY

Women's Bible Study.....10:00 a.m.

Sing at Heartland Senior Living.....1:30 p.m.

B BB games at Lakefield.....4:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Chapel.....10:00 a.m.

Bulletin Announcements Due.....3:00 p.m.

Advent Supper.....5:00 p.m.

Advent Service.....6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Christmas Caroling around town

Classroom Christmas Parties

FRIDAY

School lets out at.....11:55 a.m.

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

Worship with Holy Communion.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study.....10:15 a.m.

LUTHERAN HOUR

December 22 - (Luke 2:10-11)

"Does It Matter If Jesus Is God?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again.

MLHS NEWS

All families are invited to a Family Winter Carnival sponsored by the Student Council and National Honor Society students of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop on Sunday, January 26th from 1-3 p.m. in the gym. There will be a bouncy house, lots of inside games, prizes, snacks and a parents' lounge. Cost is \$5/child or \$15/family (parents are free).

The Parent/Teacher League of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School, Northrop is sponsoring a history presentation entitled "The Great Northfield Bank Raid--Minnesotans Foil the James/Younger Gang" by historian Arn Kind on Tuesday, January 28. Presentations are grades 5-8 at 9:00-11:15 a.m. and grades 9-12 at noon-1:15 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School PTL is hosting an information seminar "Gen Z Mental Health Strategies for Parents, Adults and the Gen Z'er" lead by Kathleen von Kampen, MA, LMFT, LMHP, DCE Gracepoint Ministries Therapist & Professor of Psychology at Concordia University NE on Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Babysitting will be provided with prior reservation by calling 507-436-5249 by January 10th.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Check the bulletin board for more information about these events.

Faith, Hope, Love

And now abide Faith, Hope, and Love,
these three; but the greatest of these is Love.

SPL School's Mission Statement

To work together with families and area congregations
to provide a quality education in a Christian
environment, leading students to lives of service.

Our Goals: Nurture faith, Celebrate learning,
Pursue excellence.

IMPORTANT SPL DATES

December:

- 13 – Christmas Program Service-6:30 p.m.
- 15 – Jennie Williamson Christmas Concert-4:00 p.m.
- 16 – Jennie Williamson School Concert-10 a.m.
- 19 – Christmas Caroling in town
- 20 – Christmas Chapel-10 a.m.
School dismissed after lunch 11:55 a.m.

THIS WEEK'S LUNCH MENU

December 16-20

Monday: Cream chicken, Mashed potatoes, Peas, Warm apple slices, Biscuit

Tuesday: Hamburger/bun, Cheese slice, French fries, Baked beans, Fruit cocktail

Wednesday: Corn dog (stick), Corn chips, Cream corn, Rosy applesauce

Thursday: Meatloaf, Tater tots, Green beans, Peaches

Friday: Pizza, Tri taters, Carrots, Strawberries

School Reminders:

Christmas Service Notes: Our school Christmas Service will be on Friday, December 13th at 6:30pm. 7th & 8th grade handbell choir should be in the balcony ready to start practicing at 6:00 pm sharp. Students from the choir in grades 1-6 should meet in the Fireside Room at 6:15pm. **We ARE NOT wearing our black choir shirts.** Everyone is asked to wear nice Christmas "dressy" clothes for the service. There will be treats in the church basement following the service. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Geistfeld.

Cookies!: St. Paul's Lutheran School Christmas Service - Friday, December 13th: Each school family is asked to bring 2 dozen cookies for after the service. Please have them in the church basement by 3:00 p.m. Thank You!

Heggies Pizza Fundraiser: Pizzas will be delivered on Monday, December 16th. Pizzas should be ready to be picked up by 3:00pm that day. Please plan to pick your pizza orders up ASAP as there is no freezer room available to store pizzas. If you have any questions please contact Corey Wiederhoeft or Mrs. Geistfeld. Thank you for the incredible job selling!!

Christmas Service is Friday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. Plan now to attend this wonderful event and bring friends and neighbors.

There are two events to enjoy Jenny Williamson. Sunday at 4 p.m. is our Jenny Williamson Christmas Concert. It will be a beautiful late afternoon of Christmas singing. The school children have been asked to make stars and be a part of the Christmas concert. Please consider attending and being a part of this great tradition.

Monday at 10 a.m. is the Jenny Williamson School Concert. Please join us and Lakefield, Courtland,

Northrop, and Vianney in praising God and celebrating Christmas together.

PLEASE REMEMBER: NOON DISMISSAL ON FRIDAY THE 20TH. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED.

Please do not get caught up in all of the hustle of Christmas. Worship with your family over the holiday season.

FROM THE CLASSROOM

Preschool: This week we learned about leopard seals. We also worked on the letter L and the number 11. We also continue to work on cutting, tracing, and gluing. Kid quote of the week "you can chase me I'm a villain".

Kindergarten: In Jesus Time we had a review of all the Bible stories we have learned. All of our pictures came down off the wall & we have started the New Testament with the birth of Jesus & all the events leading up to it. We are learning to count by 5's which we are working with money & telling time. Everyone has their yellow scoop, woot, woot! Oh, soo much to do such little time! :)

1st & 2nd: What a fantastic class! Memory and Spelling: Check your child's Homework Folder for the lists. Spelling: Gr. 2: honest, wrong, knot, gnat, comb, knee, lamb, listen, knife, knock, calm, island, echo, often. Gr. 1: bugs, cats, pigs, sits, runs, gets, twins, chips. Christmas Service: Tonight: Check elsewhere in this Saintinel for details about the time and location to meet etc. Our classroom will be in costume: angels, shepherds etc. for the entire service. Christmas Caroling (a.m.) and our classroom Christmas party (p.m.) will be Thursday, December 19. Happy Birthday Scarlett! (December 17)

3rd & 4th: This quarter has flown by. This next week we will be finishing up "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." AR points are due on Wednesday, December 18th. Students will need a total of 20 points to come to the party and 22 to bring a drink of their choice, parents approved of course. Please look to other sections for other activities for the week and the week we get back to school. I pray that you all have a wonderful Christmas and that we all get to celebrate the birth of our King!

5th & 6th: We had a fabulous time at Heartland on Tuesday. We made Christmas jigsaw puzzles for our residents and then helped them put them together, we played a Christmas word scramble game and Christmas bingo with them. Friday is our Christmas service at 6:30. Next week we sing at Heartland on Tuesday and go caroling around town on Thursday. Thursday afternoon is our classroom Christmas party. Don't forget to bring your treat to share and a present. The note with details of the day was given to parents at conferences. Thank you to Laurie Sherman for teaching for me last Friday. Have a Merry Christmas!!!

7th & 8th: Have an awesome Christmas and a Blessed New Year! You all are five days away from being at the half-way point of school. Next week we will be enjoying Christmas movies, writing Christmas pieces, enjoying the Christmas story, and overall working our tails off to end the quarter. In their Sandals was turned in today. Math Test will be turned in next week. Rhetoric assignments will be happening next week. An English Test should cover our week. Worship with your family over the holidays, PLEASE! Enjoy Jenny Williamson on Sunday and Monday. I will be enjoying Christmas with my wife in Colorado with my family. Will be a wonderful time. Again, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Years.