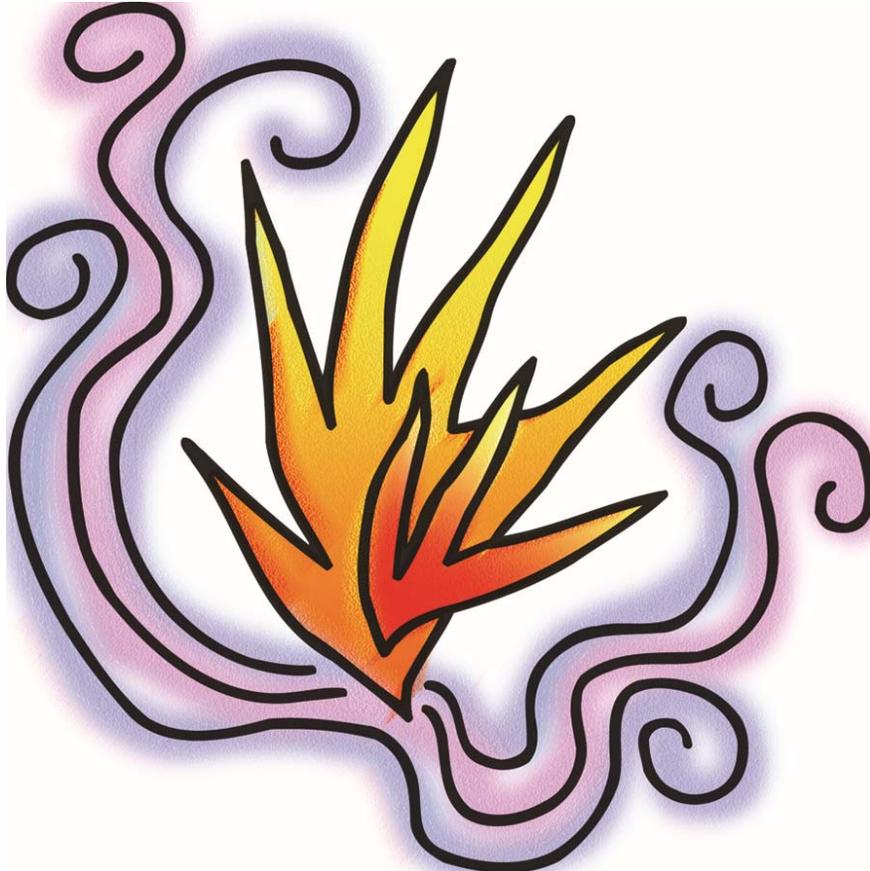


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## *The Third Sunday In Advent*

Sunday, December 12, 2021 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

10 West 31st Street Savannah, Georgia 31401 (912) 233-8895

Rev. Peter J. Hartmann, Pastor

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**  
**The Third Sunday in Advent**

+ *Please Stand*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Piano Prelude**

“While By My Sheep”

Arr. Mark Hayes

**Brief Order for Confession & 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.

**P** 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 and 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 member 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

### Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Prepare the royal highway;  
the King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of glory,  
foretold in sacred story:

#### *Refrain*

Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's word!

2 God's people, see him coming:  
your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

3 Then fling the gates wide open  
to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Reprinted with permission - CCLI# 2257020 One License - #A-735401

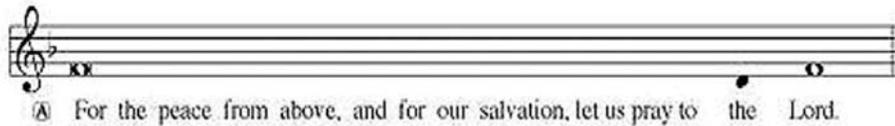
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## The Hymn of Praise



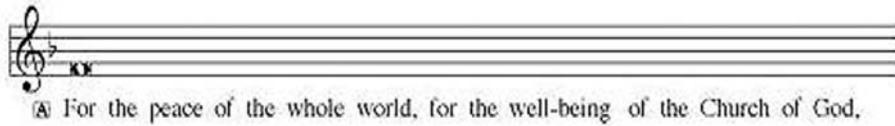
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.



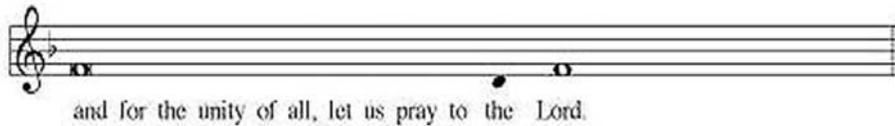
Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.



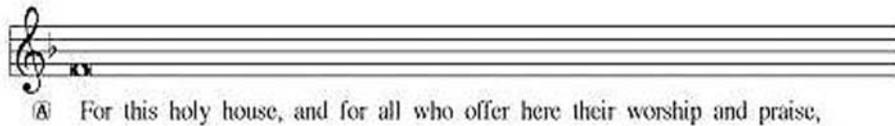
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.    ⓐ A - men

## The Prayer of The Day

### The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

**The First Lesson****Zephaniah 3:14-20**

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup>I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; 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.

**Choir Anthem****The Chancel Choir****The Second Lesson****Philippians 4:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

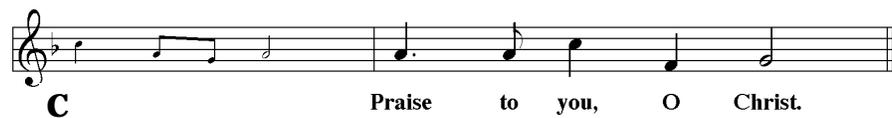
**P The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the third chapter.**



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” <sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” <sup>13</sup>He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” <sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” <sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**P The Gospel of the Lord.**



Praise to you, O Christ.

**The Sermon**

**Rev. Peter J. Hartman**

**The Sermon Hymn**

**Away In A Manger**

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

## The Apostles' Creed

- + 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**

## The Prayers of The Church

### The 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, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Benediction

- P** The Lord Bless You & 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.

**C**

A musical score for the Benediction 'Amen'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

+

## **The Closing Hymn**

### **The First Noel**

1 The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

#### ***Refrain***

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. ***Refrain***

3 And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. ***Refrain***

4 This star drew near to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay. ***Refrain***

5 Then entered in those wise men three,  
full rev'rently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. ***Refrain***

Text: English traditional

Reprinted with permission - CCLI# 2257020 One License - #A-735401

## **The Communion**

### **Piano Postlude**

“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”

Arr. Mark Hayes

+++++

**We Welcome You to  
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church...**

Whether you are a long time member, friend at St. Paul's, or here for the first time, we are glad you are with us in worship today! If you are in need of pastoral care, please give us a call.

If you will be entering the hospital or preparing for any surgical procedures, please let the Pastor know so he can plan to visit and have prayer with you during this time.

All are welcome to partake in The Communion at the end of the service. After The Consecration, as you leave, receive the Blessing and The Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ and then proceed to the Narthex to exit.

Thank you for checking the "prayer list" posted in the bulletin today and for helping us to keep this list current by notifying the office with any updates.

+++++

**We Remember in Our Prayers...**

Betty Bacon, Kevin Boatright, Ronnie & Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Jean Camp, Chuck Campbell, April Cory, Virginia Huber, Denny Jacobi, Clarke Jones, Don Kennedy, Shirley Kennedy, John I. Lanier, Ann Lariscy, George Martin Sr., Joan Martin, Jane McClain, Nancy Merk, Rita Monson, Page Kleinsteuber Park, Jodi Ragno, Leonora Reid, Frankie Rivenbark, Kay Robb, Kay Sellman, Bonnie Sessums, Barbara Tyson, Bart Waller, Melissa Waller, Simone Wiggins and Stan Woo.

+++++

**Current Budgetary Needs Each Sunday From 2021 Offerings**  
\$8,000.00

**Received From Current Offerings Last Sunday**  
\$8,358.00

**Received From St. Paul's Angels Last Sunday / Total Received**  
\$ 4,000.00 / \$ 13,900.00

**Worship Statistics Last Week In Person & At Home**  
8:30 - 56 11:00 - 48 Facebook - 62

+++++

**Our Worship Leaders & Staff...**

- Senior Pastor...** The Rev. Peter J. Hartmann
- Director of Music & CFO ...** Donald R. Martin, Jr.
- Senior Organist ...** Rebecca T. McClain
- Office Administrator ...** Fran Snipes
- Facilities Coordinators ...**  
Rebecca T. McClain & Richard Wolf
- Chancel Choir Soprano Section Leaders ...**  
Melissa Flummerfelt & Sarah P. Taito
- Chancel Choir Tenor Section Leader ...** Carl Lettow
- Chancel Choir Bass Section Leader ...** Anthony Broadnax
- Pre-School Director ...** Gina Johnson
- Assistant Pre-School Director ...** Cynthia Thomas
- Parish Housekeeping ...** April Reilly

+++++

**Our Lectors Today**

8:30 Dianne Fennell 11:00 Marlis Froistad

**December Altar Guild**

8:30 Natasha Smith & Kristin Chmela

11:00 Lisa & Ben Neville and Donna Wall

**Liturgical Service Cantors**

8:30 Emma Martin 11:00 Scott Leary

+++++

**St. Paul's Christmas Angels**

*As we approach the End of the Year, I once again am looking for "Angels" to offer an extra \$1,000 Gift above their regular levels of giving to help me close the year in the "positive." However, any gift is accepted and no one will ever know the amount of your additional sacrifice. Thanking you for another Great Year of Blessings! Donald*





### ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA ....

We would like to give all members an opportunity to place a Poinsettia in the church this Christmas in honor and/or in memory of loved ones.

The plants will be ordered through the church at a cost of **\$13.00** each. This price includes tax and delivery.

If you would like to place a Poinsettia, please complete the form below and return to the church office no later than **December 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**PLEASE ATTACH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:  
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

I wish to donate a Poinsettia which will adorn the Chancel for the services of Christmas, to the Glory of God and be:

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please list exactly as you would like it shown in the Bulletin and use the back for additional space.)**

\_\_\_ I will pick up my plant after the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Service or during the following week for my own enjoyment, or I'll take to a neighbor or a shut-in.