

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



The Third Sunday In Advent

Sunday, December 15, 2024 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, December 15, 2024
The Second Sunday In Advent

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Jared Hall

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 as 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 minister 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.**

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Opening Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel #34

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes
on Sinai's height, in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free your own from
Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell your people save
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by
your advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

Oh, come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our
heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

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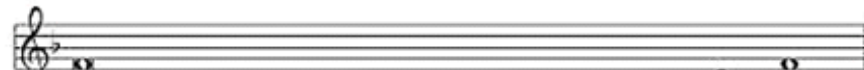
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C And also with you.

The Kyrie




Ⓐ 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.



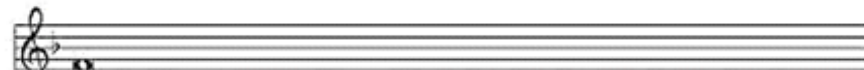
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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

Birthday Recognitions & The Children's Sermon

The First Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ 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
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ 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.

Chancel Choir Anthem

The Second Lesson

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry 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.

C 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.

C Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

⁷John 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? ⁸Bear 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. ⁹Even 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.” ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers 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.” ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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.” ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Peter J. Hartmann

The Sermon Hymn

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”

Sy Miller & Jill Jackson

Let there be Peace on Earth
And Let it begin with me.
Let there be Peace on Earth,
The Peace that was meant to be.
With God as Our Father,
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother,
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me.
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry breath I take,
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment and live each moment
In peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth
And let it begin with me!

The Apostles' Creed

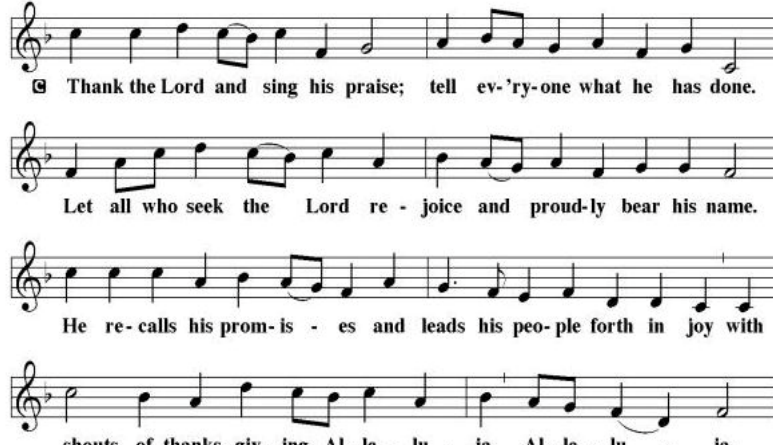
- + I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the 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.**

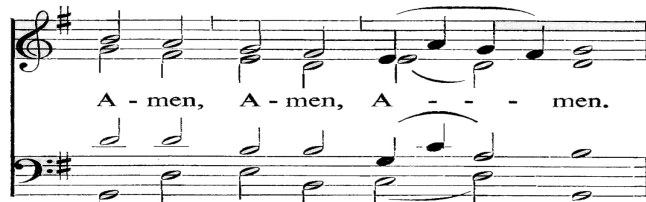
The Words of Institution & The Communion

- P** The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C  Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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 - men, A - men, A - - - men.

The Closing Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #54

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

- 3 And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!

- 4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

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P/C Go In Peace! Serve The Lord! / **Thanks Be To God!**

Organ Postlude

Jared Hall

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**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. 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.

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We Remember in Our Prayers...

Kevin Boatright, Ronnie & Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Florence Brown, Tom Brown, Jean Camp, Alice Ann Duggar, Miriam Fulton, Frances Graff, Gene Henry, Don Kennedy, Shirley Kennedy, Ann Lariscy, George Martin Sr., Joan Martin, Sydney Oetgen, Al Schunemann, Kay Sellman, Isabelle Sherouse, Charlie Smith, Barbara & Tim Tyson, Melissa Waller & Joe Whitaker.

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Current Budgetary Needs Each Sunday From 2024 Offerings

\$8,600.00

Received From Current Offerings Last Week

Offering \$ 4,398.00

St. Paul's Christmas Angels 2024

Last Week \$2,200.00 To Date Total \$ 3,200.00

Worship Statistics Last Week In Person & At Home

8:30 am - 29 11:00 am - 43 Tri-Church Festival - 146

Facebook 8:30 am - 80 4:00 pm - 108

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Our Worship Leaders & Staff...

Senior Pastor... The Rev. Peter J. Hartmann
Director of Music & CFO ... Donald R. Martin, Jr.
Senior Organist & Choir Accompanist ... Jared Hall
Organ Curator ... James Freeman - Callahan, Florida
Office Administrator ... Fran Snipes
“The Epistle” ... Betsy Martin
Facebook Live Broadcasting... Lisa B. Martin
Chancel Choir Soprano Section Leader ... Melissa Flummerfelt
Chancel Choir Bass Section Leader ... Anthony Broadnax
Pre-School Director ... Gina Johnson
Assistant Pre-School Director ... Cynthia Thomas
Parish Housekeeping ... April Reilly

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Our Lectors Today

8:30 Betsy Martin 11:00 Dave Fulton

December Altar Guild

8:30 Natasha Smith
11:00 Lisa Neville & Donna Wall

Liturgical Service Cantors

Melissa Flummerfelt, Emma Levy, Carol Stemsrud

Communion Assistants

8:30 David & Dianne Fennell
11:00 Kemberly & Alex Renelt

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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



2024-25 Seasonal Worship Offerings

Wednesday December 4th, 11th & 18th - Advent Services
11:00 am Advent Services in the Henry J. Black Chapel

Sunday December 15th - Advent 3
8:30 & 11:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
9:45 am Adult Sunday School
5:00 Annual Family Advent Night - Soup & Sandwich Dinner

Sunday December 22nd - Advent 4
10:00 am Sunday School Christmas Play

Tuesday December 24th - Christmas Eve Services
6:30 & 10:00 pm Candlelight Communion Services w Choirs & Brass

Sunday December 29th
10:00 am Lessons & Carols Service with the Choir

Sunday January 5th - 2025
9:00 am-10:00 am Fellowship Time
10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

Annual Fish Fry...
Coming in January...
Stay Tuned for More Details...





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 **\$15.00** 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 19th**

**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.



Advent Family Night

TONIGHT
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
In Hoffner Hall

**Bring a Soup
or a Plate of Sandwiches to Share
Salad, Rolls and Drinks
will be Provided**

Dinner & Fellowship Together

**An Advent Devotion from Pastor
&
The Famous
Gingerbread House Building Contest**