

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)
Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2025 – 9:30 am

Divine Service

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.

Vicar: Miles Johnson

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Mark Howard

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

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Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus

16355 Laguna Canyon Rd

Irvine, CA 92618

Mission: *To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.*

Vision: *To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.*

Service Offerings

- Sunday Divine Service at 9:30 am
 - Fellowship in Café 10:30 am
 - Adult Bible Study at 11:00 am
- **Midweek Services** – Wednesday's at 7:00 PM

Welcome to Saint Paul's

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at Saint Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

The Lord's Supper

The Holy Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors.**

Prayer Before Divine Service

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Greeting

- P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
- C** **whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

- Psalm 146:5

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

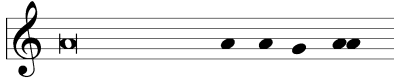
Entrance Hymn:

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

(all stanzas)

Kyrie

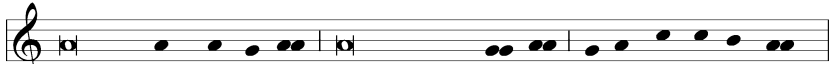
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

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

C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle

James 5:7–11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



C Glo - ry 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.

Sit

Sermon Hymn: **338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**
(all stanzas)

Blessing

(Children are invited to come forward and join in the blessing.)

P Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the Lord has blessed our congregation to be His instruments for His raising up and sending out church sons and daughters for full-time vocations in the church.

Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Luke 9:37-38)

Our history as a congregation here at Saint Paul's includes these sons and daughters. These were all members of our congregation who entered full-time church vocations (the last two are preparing for full-time service):

Rev. Dr. Steve Parks

Rev. Philip Miller (Shane Perry's Uncle)

Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson

Deaconess Mireya Johnson

Deaconess Linda Seward

Deaconess Patty Kristofic

Rev. Bror Erickson

Rev. Jeffrey Ware

Rev. Joshua DeYoung (also Shane Perry's Uncle)

Rev. Jacob Mueller

Rev. Ray Hulett

Rev. Philip Bartelt

Seminarian and Vicar Miles Johnson

And now **Seminarian Shane Perry**

In the case of our dear Shane Andrew Perry, we have served him, and he has blessed us even before he was confirmed as a very young person. Most recently, he has served in our music ministry, he has helped our children's ministries, he has been a leader of our young adult ministry, and he has been a great evangelist and facilitator for people coming to our church, he has helped us in our worship services, and he has been a great example of living as a young man in Christ.

We are proud of his heritage here. The processional crucifix behind the altar is a memorial to his grandfather, Bob DeYoung; our pulpit was built by his father, Brad Perry, who served as one of our elders and who helped launch our podcast Light of the World; his mother, Angela Perry,

served as the administrative assistant of our church; his grandmother, Ninette, is one of the founding members of our re-start from Laguna Beach, and his brother, Nathan, still attends our congregation while going to school at University of LaVerne where he is an outstanding baseball player and witness to Christ.



Above is a picture of early Shane on the day he was confirmed here. This picture was taken on April 1, 2015, over ten years ago.

Boys and girls, look at Shane in this picture. He used to be little like you!

And here he is in a more recent picture:



Look, boys and girls, what do you think? Is Shane bigger now?

And now guess what? Shane is going to pastor school to become a pastor like Pastor Mueller and me.

Shane wants to be a pastor and God is letting him go to pastor school! He is moving far away to a place called Fort Wayne, Indiana. It is 2,159 miles away! It is very cold.

Shane wants to be a pastor and we pray that in about four years from now, God will let him become a pastor!

Who knows? Some day maybe one or more of YOU will serve in the church full-time! Maybe one of our boys will become a pastor! Maybe one of our girls will become a deaconess! Maybe one of our boys or girls will become a teacher or a DCE or a missionary!

But for now, boys and girls would you help me give a special blessing to Shane? Please put your hand on Shane. We are going to give him a blessing.

Everyone in the congregation, please repeat after me:

Dear Shane, // we thank God for you! // You have been a blessing to us! // And we love you! // Go forth in the Name of the Father // and of the + Son // and of the Holy Spirit. // Amen!

Let us pray: Dear Heavenly Father, mightily bless Shane in his studies and formation at seminary. Guard and protect him. Surround him with good friends and classmates. May he excel in being equipped in our doctrine and practice. Grant our humble request to lead him to be called and ordained into the holy ministry, to serve one of our congregations as a pastor filled with your Spirit, devoted to your Word, and faithful in the administration of your Holy Sacraments. May he love his flock with the love of Jesus. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

Dear Shane, go forth in the Name of the Lord! We look forward to praying for you and supporting you as you go through seminary!

Sermon

Joyful & Patient Waiting for Christ
Pastor Mueller

Stand

Apostles' Creed

☐ 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 † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For joy in the Lord, that we may be sustained in the time of waiting for His will and purpose to unfold in these latter days; for patience under trials; and for hope that endures the changes and chances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all pastors and church workers, that the words they bear would prepare the way of Jesus' second advent and be received by all who hear them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the homes of our land, that God would grant safety and security to all families; and that the faith would be delivered from one generation to the next, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those entrusted with positions of leadership in government; for service men and women who defend us against the enemies of our

nation; and for those who enact and enforce laws that protect us, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and grieving, [*especially* _____] that as the day draws near when blind eyes see, deaf ears hear, lame legs leap and mute tongues sing for joy, God would grant them healing according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For hearts that trust in the Lord at all times; for courage to confront our doubts and fears with the Word of the Lord; and for strength to fulfill our vocations of worship, witness, prayer and works of mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For faith and joy to receive the Lord's Supper worthily this day, as Christ comes as a foretaste of the Lamb's marriage feast, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness -- Johann Brahms

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
 va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa-lem.

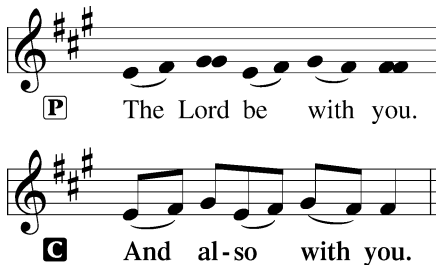
+Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs pastors since they are stewards of the mysteries (1st Corinthians 4:1) to serve only those who share in a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor would love to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



P The Lord be with you.
C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

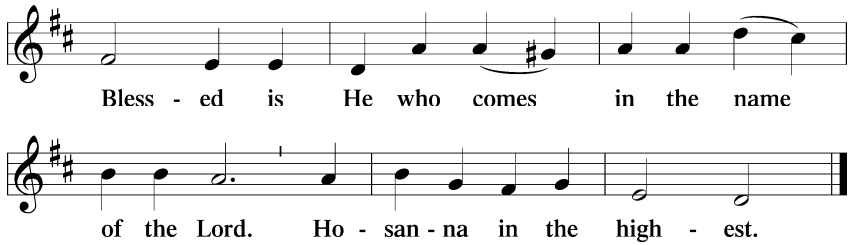
Sanctus

LSB 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of

pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.**

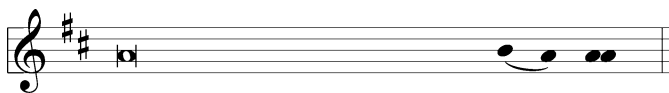
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 180



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

349 Hark the Glad Sound

(all stanzas)

355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

(all stanzas)

348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

(all stanzas)

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

(all stanzas)

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-ises and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Post-Communion Collect

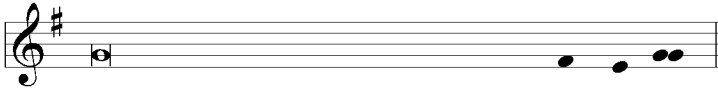
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

LSB 183



P The Lord bless you and 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.



Special Presentation

Postlude

From Thy Throne – Gluck

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book
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Today:

Congregational Meeting TODAY

The topics for this meeting are:

1. Nominations for Synodical President and Regional Vice President
2. Results of last August's worship survey
3. Amplify software update
4. Financial report

Thank you for your attention to church business and your commitment to engaging with the congregation. We look forward to seeing you!

Your Sister-in-Christ, serving Saint Paul's—Debbie Dannemeyer

Coming Up:

Save the Date: Fellowship Christmas Brunch – December 21st

Join us after the service on December 21 for our annual **Fellowship Christmas Brunch!** A sign-up sheet will be available following today's service.

This special **potluck brunch** is always a highlight of the season—not only because of the delicious dishes, but because of the warm, festive ambiance that **Renee Mott and the Fellowship Team** create. Expect a joyful spread, a cozy atmosphere, a **Nativity-themed photo booth with costumes**, and plenty of **Christmas carols** to sing together!

All are welcome to bring a hot or cold dish to share.

If you have any questions, feel free to talk to **Renee** or **Jackie**, or email the office at office@saintpaulsirvine.com. Come celebrate the season with food, fellowship, and joy! 🎄

Service Dates to Know

As we enter this joyful season of thanksgiving and anticipation, we invite you to join us for these special services as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ:

**December 17 @ 7 PM – Our Advent God:
Rejoicing** (Zephaniah 3:14–20)

☀️ **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00 PM**

🎄 **Christmas Day Festival Service
Thursday, December 25 at 9:30 AM**

CHOC Christmas Giving Opportunity

As shared in the email sent earlier this week, we invite you to join us in spreading Christmas joy by supporting children at **CHOC Orange** and **CHOC Mission Viejo**.

Donations can be made easily online through CHOC's Amazon wish lists—allowing you to give directly to children's personalized wish lists through Christmas. This virtual option is the most flexible and does not require toy drop-off at the church. **Scan the QR code for more details!**



For those who prefer **in-person donation**, CHOC will accept holiday toys during the following times:

• **December 15–18 (Monday–Thursday), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**

If you drop off in person, feel free to send a photo to **office@saintpaulsirvine.com** so we can share in the joy together. Thank you for helping spread the spirit of giving this Christmas season!

General Announcements

Bible Study Returns — Week of January 7

Bible Study will resume **the week of January 7**. While we previously offered a single online evening time, Pastor recognizes that one set time is not feasible for everyone. We are looking forward to expanding options and would like your input before finalizing the schedule.

Surveys will be sent out on Monday to gather your feedback on:

- Preferred meeting times
- In-person and/or online (Microsoft Teams) participation
- Bible study topics, including **Ecclesiastes, Ezekiel, or Galatians**

Please submit your survey responses by **December 29** so we can plan a schedule that best serves our congregation.

Thank you in advance for your participation. If you have any questions, please email **Jackie** at **office@saintpaulsirvine.com**.

New Sunday Service Time — *In Addition to the 9:30 a.m. Service* **Abbreviated Divine Service**

Starting Sunday, **January 4 at 2:00 p.m.**, we will also be offering a weekly **abbreviated Divine Service**. This short afternoon service is another wonderful opportunity to gather around God's Word and receive His gifts.

We're excited to share that the new weekly service time will begin after the start of the new year! This service is in addition to our 9:30 a.m. Divine Service, which will continue as usual.

This new service will be led by **Pastor Espinosa** and will have a simple, warm format. We'll sing one hymn acappella together, and Pastor will offer

communion. The service will last about **45 minutes** — a great option if you're looking for a quieter worship setting. All are warmly invited to join us.

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote: December 14 “And every life matters to God. It is impossible to live—even for a few moments on this earth—and not influence somebody in one way or another. We are all always influencing somebody—either for good or for bad. Life matters. Your life matters. Lives of kings and lives of shepherds all matter. We all matter and are important to God.” *Dennis D. Nelson, Lutheran CORE – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message: December 14 – Advent 3

Isaiah 35:4 – “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.’” The return of our Lord at the Last Day is a cause of joy and anticipation for us believers. We know our Lord and His love, and we look forward to His Second Advent. Indeed, how we live our lives here and now flows from our certain hope of resurrection and eternal life.



Worship Attendance for Members & Guests

Scan the QR code or use the iPads at the Welcome Table to sign in. Guests, please sign the guestbook at the entrance. Offerings: Collected during the worship service. All contributions are voluntary.

Requesting Announcements

To request an announcement for the congregation or community, submit your request via the QR code or this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hsgrm6zAup>. Choose where you want it published: bulletin, email, website, livestream, etc.



Christmas Eve at St. Paul's



A FESTIVAL OF NINE
Lessons & Carols

Wednesday, Dec. 24 – 7:00 pm

St. Paul's Choir, Directed by Mark Howard

Jerry Dahlin, Organ and Piano

Rachel Okonski, Flute

Special Musical Offerings:

An Advent Prelude for Flute and Organ

by Charles Callahan

Once in Royal David's City

Setting by Jeffrey Van

He Whom Shepherds Once Came Praising

Quem Pastores, arr. Carl Heine

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Huron Carol

Setting by Robert A. Benson, edited by Mark Howard

Peace Came to Earth

Tune: Paul Manz, Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda

Arr: Nancy Raabe

Interested in singing in the choir?

Contact Mark Howard 714.423.6460

markahoward@sbcglobal.net



Circle of Friends

The most effective way for a church to grow in the Kingdom of God is to be faithful in the Word and Sacrament of Christ and to truly love people. One way to do that is to allow us to pray for those you know who need Christ and/or a church



home. Please submit the names of family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and others to us through our ministry called Circle of Friends. Thank you!
 ~Pastor Espinosa.

For those we care about to come to saving faith and have a church home. Have a friend who needs prayer or would like a meeting with pastor? Use this QR code to let us know!

Opportunities to Volunteer & Serve

We’re always looking for ways to share our gifts and serve both our congregation and the wider community. Volunteering is a wonderful way to get involved—and for students, it can also be a great way to fulfill required service hours. If you are interested in volunteering with any of our current opportunities—or if you have new ideas for how we can serve together—please contact the church office at **office@saintpaulsirvine.com**.

Please Pray for our Missionaries, Council Members & Elders

Missionaries Supported by Saint Paul’s

(Financial gifts given annually to the national synod)

Missionary	Location
Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad <i>Please send mail through the LCMS directly.</i>	Dominican Republic
Erin Mackenzie Email: erin.mackenzie@lcms.org	Latin America & Caribbean
Britt Odemba Email: britt.odemba@lcms.org	Kenya
Rev. Dr. Tom Park Email: tom.park@lcms.org	Taiwan

Missionary Friends (Non-Financial Support)

Missionary	Role	Location
Tirzah Krey Email: tirzah.krey@lcms.org	Regional Human Care Coordinator	Latin America & Caribbean

If you are interested in mailing a letter or giving a donation directly to our missionaries, please send mail directly to the LCMS with the specific Missionaries name in the attention line:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

ATTN: (enter missionaries name here)

P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Local Evangelism Support: Rev. Mark Jasa

Saint Paul’s Parish Council Members

Debbie Dannemeyer – President ~ **Matt Bures** – Recording Secretary ~ **Ken Mott** – Treasurer

Laura Miller – Financial Secretary ~ **Jon Rutherford** – Trustee Director ~ **Ali Frank** – Stewardship Director
Mike Padilla – Presiding Elder ~ **Renee Mott** – Fellowship Director ~ **Bradley Hustad** – Evangelism Director
Jacob Thornblad – Education Director ~ *vacant* – Youth Director
Saint Paul’s Elders
Mike Padilla (Presiding Elder) ~ **Bruce Dannemeyer** ~ **Bryan Kilduff** ~ **John Church** ~ **Jon Steele** ~ **Karl Blanke** ~ **Mark Kuntz** ~ **Steve Fischer**
~ **Ricky Cuenca** ~ **Alex Padilla** ~ **Michael Lange**

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Team</u>	<u>Ushers/ Greeter</u>	<u>Elders on Duty</u>	<u>Welcome Table</u>	<u>Livestream</u>
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Shared Role</i>	<i>Mike Padilla</i>	<i>Mike Padilla</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
2 nd Sunday 12/14/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Lange	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
3 rd Sunday 12/21/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank, Ed Miller	Mark Kuntz	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele
4 th Sunday 12/28/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Anne Wright	Paul and Samuel Hines	John Church	Anne Wright	Jon Steele
1 st Sunday 1/4/2026	Nina Mueller	Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim	Alex Padilla	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

2 nd Sunday 12/14/2025	Renee Mott, Ann Ashmon
3 rd Sunday 12/21/2025	<i>Christmas Potluck Brunch- bring a dish!</i>
4 th Sunday 12/28/2025	Daisy Minter, Anne Marie Hines
1 st Sunday 1/4/2026	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard