

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

Sunday, December 21, 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

Office: 949-599-4760

Website: www.saintpaulsirvine.com

Email: office@saintpaulsirvine.com

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
- **Christmas Eve Service-** Wednesday, Dec 24th at 7:00 pm
- **Christmas Day Divine Service-** Thursday, Dec 25th at 9:30 am

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 +

Prelude

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came – Kevin Sadowski

Greeting

P Lift up your heads, O gates!

C **And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

- Psalm 24:7

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn: 340 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
(all stanzas)

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 24; antiphon: v. 7



P Lift up your heads, O gates!

And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

The earth is the LORD’s and the full- | ness thereof,*
the world and those who | dwell therein,

C **for he has founded it up- | on the seas*
and established it upon the | rivers.**

P Who shall ascend the hill | of the LORD?*

And who shall stand in his | holy place?

C **He who has clean hands and a | pure heart,*
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear de- | ceitfully.**

P He will receive blessing | from the LORD*
and righteousness from the God of his sal- | vation.

C **Such is the generation of those who | seek him,*
who seek the face of the God of | Jacob.**

P Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

G **Who is this King of | glory?***

**The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in | battle!**

P Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

G **Who is this King of | glory?***

**The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of | glory!**

**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.**

P Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190




Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

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



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day:

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(all stanzas)

Sermon

"The Christ Mass: Call for Reverence"

(Romans 1:1-7)

Pastor Espinosa

Introduction: Losing Reverence

1. Children: Mark 9:37
2. Elderly: Leviticus 19:32
3. People with Special Needs
4. The Poor
5. Parents
6. All People
7. Most of all: Jesus

Part 1: How St. Paul viewed himself in relation to Christ: "servant" (Ro 1:1)

Part 2: Behold the God-Man (Ro 1:2-4)

Part 3: Practical Impact (Ro 1:5-6)

- a. "obedience of faith" (v 5)
- b. "belong" (v 6)

Conclusion: Grace and Peace (v 7)

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

G Amen.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

G Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

Gariel's Message – Paul Manz

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all pastors, that they may faithfully preach and teach the Gospel; for the hearts of young men to be opened to hear and heed the Lord's call to His ministry; and for all church workers in their various vocations, that they may serve us well in God's name, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For faith and humility to receive the virgin-born Son of God in the signs where He is promised to be found: His Holy Word and Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For fathers, that like Joseph, they may be honorable and just men; that God would give them wisdom, patience, pride of duty and, above all, faith and loyalty to His Word; and that, knowing the heavenly Father's true Guardianship, they may head their households with godly forbearance, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our nation and its rulers, that the Lord would bear patiently with this land despite its tiresome flattery and unbelief; that God would clear away all empty shows of piety; and that He would renew genuine faith in the Virgin's Son, that His return may not be a sign against us, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**

P For healing for the sick, relief to the suffering, peace to the dying and comfort to those who mourn, [*especially _____ and those we name in our hearts,*] that they would be sustained in all adversity and given patience and courage as they await the unfolding of the Lord's healing grace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who eat today this feast of joy, that in the Savior's body and blood we may be granted a blessed foretaste of the feast to come for the strengthening of our faith and the growth of our love, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is the Dayspring from on high and the splendor of light everlasting. By His coming in the flesh and by His blessed Word, enlighten our hearts with the Gospel, enlighten the hearts of those who sit in the darkness of unbelief with the light of saving faith, and enlighten those who dwell in the shadow of death with the certain hope of the resurrection through Him. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; 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.

+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 194



P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

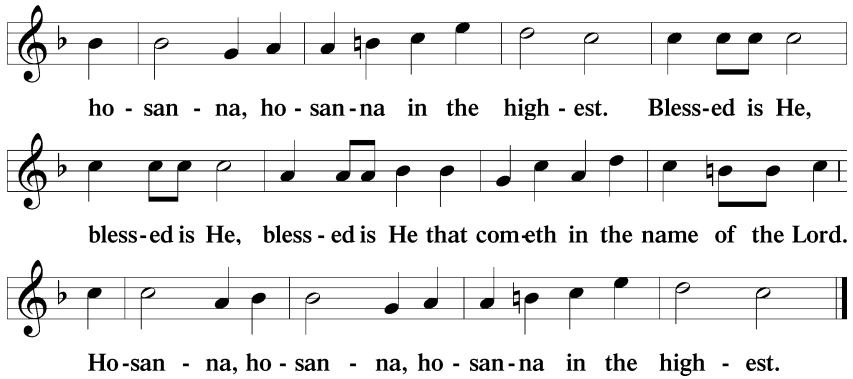
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin 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 195

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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

LSB 197

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 197



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymns:

343 Prepare the Royal Highway

(all stanzas)

354 Arise, O Christian People

(all stanzas)

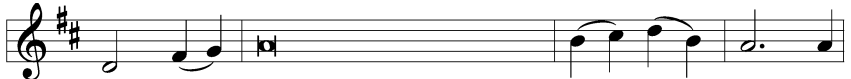
332 Savior of the Nations, Come

(all stanzas)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



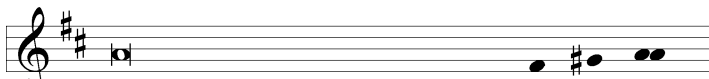
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



C A - men.



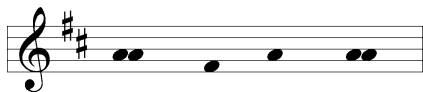
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



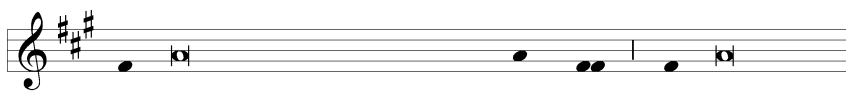
A Bless we the Lord.



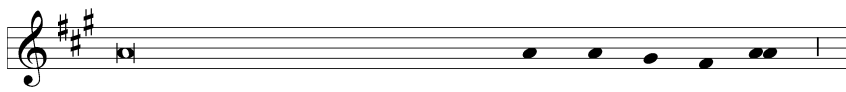
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

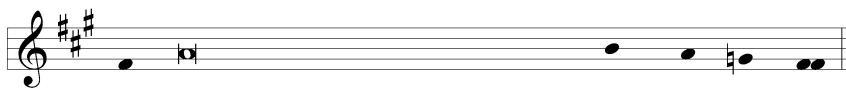
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



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

Postlude

From Heaven Above – Johann Pachelbel

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Today:

Fellowship Christmas Brunch

Join us **today after the service** for our annual Fellowship Christmas Brunch! Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to share—we're so grateful for your generosity.

This beloved potluck brunch is a highlight of the season, filled with delicious food and the warm, festive atmosphere created by Renee Mott and the Fellowship Team. Enjoy a joyful spread, a cozy ambiance, Christmas carols, and be sure to **join in the fun at the Nativity-themed photo booth and dramatic play area**—costumes included! Whether you brought something or not, **all are welcome** to jump in and enjoy the festivities.

Come celebrate the season with food, fellowship, and joy! 🎄

Coming Up:

Special Congregational Meeting Notice- January 11th

LCMS Presidential Election – Voting Representatives

In accordance with Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod procedures, each congregation is entitled to **two votes** in the upcoming **LCMS Election**:

- One pastoral representative
- One lay representative

A **brief Special Congregational Meeting (~5 minutes)** will be held immediately following worship on January 11th to approve the voting representatives for our congregation.

At this meeting:

- Any voting member of the congregation may nominate a qualified individual to serve as a representative.

- The current congregation president may be nominated by the congregation but may not nominate herself.
- The following nominations have been submitted by Pastor Espinosa for congregational approval:
 - **Pastoral Representative:** Rev. Dr. Mueller
 - **Lay Representative:** Debbie Dannemeyer

These nominations require **congregational approval** to be valid. Thank you for your attention in this matter!

Christmas Eve at St. Paul's



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

Service Dates to Know

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

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



CHOC Christmas Give Back

Thank you to everyone who has already participated in supporting children at CHOC Orange and CHOC Mission Viejo! While the **in-person toy drop-off window has now passed**, you can **continue giving online through Christmas**. Donations can still be made easily through **CHOC's Amazon wish lists**, allowing you to give directly to children's personalized wish lists. This virtual option

is flexible, meaningful, and requires **no church drop-off**.

📱 Scan the QR code to give online and help spread Christmas joy! We are grateful for your generosity and for sharing the spirit of Christ's love this season. 🎄

General Announcements

Midweek Education Initiative — Bible Study Returns

As part of our ongoing effort to strengthen midweek education for both men and women, Bible Study will resume the week of **January 7**. We currently are seeking congregational input before finalizing the schedule.

Proposed Options:

Thursday Morning

- 7:00–7:30 a.m. — Fellowship
- 7:30 a.m. — 30-minute Divine Service
- 8:00–9:00 a.m. — Bible Study

Wednesday Morning

- 10:00 a.m. — Bible Study

Tuesday Evening

- 6:00 p.m. — Bible Study

*Pastor Espinosa will teach the Bible Study on **Galatians**. **Livestream access will be available for all Bible Study options**. If the Thursday morning Divine Service is offered, the sermon will be an excerpt from the **Confessions, Luther, or Walther**.*

Please complete the survey by December 29 to help us determine which option will best serve our congregation:

👉 **Survey:** <https://forms.gle/YnWffWmea1CxTer68>

Thank you for your participation as we grow together in God's Word.

Abbreviated Divine Service

Starting Sunday, **January 4 at 2:00 p.m.**, we will also be offering a weekly **abbreviated Divine Service**.

This new service will be led by **Pastor Espinosa**. We will use the morning bulletin in acappella singing only the sermon hymn. This 2 pm option is for anyone missing 9:30 am or for friends in the community that can't make our 9:30 am service. See you there!

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote: December 21 "As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, let us pray for all mothers who find themselves pregnant and afraid. Abortion is never the answer. We pray daily that the Lord will strengthen all expectant mothers who find themselves alone and seemingly without hope and that He will help them choose life. Every human being's life is a precious and beautiful miracle." *Judie Brown, American Life League – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message: December 21 – Advent 4 - Matthew 1:21 – "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." What our good works could never do, Jesus has done: He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God's Law could not do — truly motivate us to truly good works — Jesus' love has done!



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.

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**

Want to Give Online?



We've made it fast and easy to support the ministry at Saint Paul's through our new online giving system with Amplify. This secure platform allows you to set up one-time or recurring donations, all from your phone or computer.

You can even choose to give directly to causes close to your heart—like our *Saint Paul's Classical Academy Project* or our *Mercy Team Ministries*.

Give today by scanning the QR code or visiting:

<https://giving.myamplify.io/app/giving/sain9267562>

Thank you for your continued generosity!

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

| Date | Altar Team | Ushers/ Greeter | Elders on Duty | Welcome Table | Livestream |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <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> |
| 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 & Samuel Hines | John Church | Anne Wright | Jon Steele |
| 1st Sunday 1/4/2026 | Nina Mueller | Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim | Bruce Dannemeyer | Kiu Geisler | Jim J. |
| 2nd Sunday 1/11/2026 | Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz | Don & Elizabeth Brothwell | Mike Padilla | Kiu Geisler | Jim J. |

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 3 rd - 12/21/2025 | <i>Christmas Potluck Brunch- bring a dish!</i> |
| 4 th - 12/28/2025 | Daisy Minter, Anne Marie Hines |
| 1 st - 1/4/2026 | Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard |
| 2 nd - 1/11/2026 | Renee Mott, Ann Ashmon |