

ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE



NOVEMBER 30, 2025

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord, as we begin the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the Prophet Isaiah says,

C “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.”

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P The Lord be with you.

C and also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light who comes into the world to enlighten all people, bless us as we light the candles of this Advent wreath in preparation for Your coming, and enkindle in our hearts the fire of Your love that we may receive You with joy and gladness and evermore remain steadfast in the faith; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Almighty Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this wreath for use in His Church throughout the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN "HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING" 345

VERSICLES

P. 219

PSALMODY

P. 220-221

✠ READINGS ✠

OLD TESTAMENT

EZEKIEL 3:16-21

¹⁶At the end of seven days, the word of the Lord came to me: ¹⁷"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ¹⁸If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ¹⁹But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die for his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. ²⁰Again, if a righteous person turns from his righteousness and commits injustice, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die. Because you have not warned him, he shall die for his sin, and his righteous deeds that he has done shall not be remembered, but his blood I will require at your hand. ²¹But if you warn the righteous person not to sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live, because he took warning, and you will have delivered your soul."

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 10:8B-18

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on

the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. ¹⁸But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for “Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.”

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 1:35-42A

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

P. 221

HYMN OF THE DAY “BY ALL YOUR SAINTS IN WARFARE” vs. 1,5,3 517

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In Our Prayers:

+ Maya Radtke	+ Dan Gueningsman
+ Jeremy Radtke	+ Chad Feltmann
+ Darian Litzau	+ Angela Litzau
+ Karen Strei	+ Tracy Albers
+ Les Parpart	+ Call Process for Associate Pastor
+ Evelyn Dial	

CANTICLE HYMN	“SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME”	332
KYRIE		P. 227
LORD’S PRAYER		P. 227
COLLECTS		P. 227-228
BENEDICAMUS/BENEDICTION		P. 228
CLOSING HYMN	“CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT”	351 (T: 805)
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS		

Attendance Last Week

Sunday: 183
Sun School/Youth: N/A
Bible Study: 19

Scripture Reader:

Pastor Barlau

Organist:

Lynn Mueller

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. CHRISTMAS DINNER- You are invited to attend the Church Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm. If you plan to attend, Please RSVP by Tues., Dec 2 on the church website, signing up on the desk in the narthex, or by calling the church office.

2. ADVENT- Join us for our advent services on Wednesdays December 3, 10 and 17th. Service times will be 5:30 and 7:00 PM. A meal will be served from 6:15-6:45 PM. The meal for December 3rd will be a Baked Potato Meal, hosted by ACT to raise funds for their trip to Camp Lutherhaven in Indiana. **(Please note that the December 17th Services and meal will be held at St. Peter Lutheran Church.)**

3. FUNDRAISER-The ACT youth mission group will be selling 2026 calendars in November as a fundraiser for their 2026 mission trip. Watch for a table in the lobby!

4. THRIVENT-St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church continues to serve as a beacon of faith, community, and support. To maintain and expand our efforts, we rely on the generosity of our community members. One meaningful way you can contribute is by directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to our church. Please see Fred Holasek or Julie Dial if you have questions on where your contribution can be used.

5. GARLAND NEEDED! If you have some garland that you no longer use to decorate, the Sunday School needs it for our Christmas program! Please let Ellie or the church office know if you can help! Thank you!

6. DONATIONS REQUESTED- We will be collecting new or gently used toys and quilts for the Marie Sandvick center. Please donate to the box in the basement before our sandwich making event on Thursday, December 18th.

7. SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be on Sunday, December 14 during the 10:30 AM service.

8. ACT will be selling baked goods in the church lobby after the children's Christmas program on December 14!

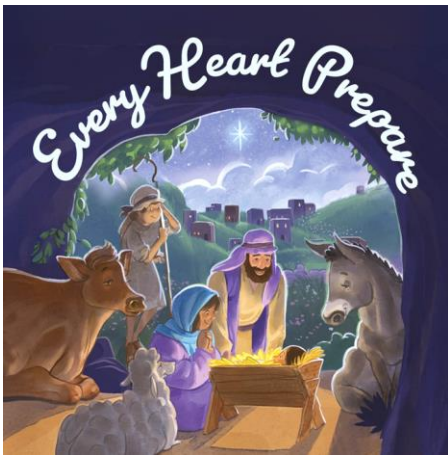
9. LIVING NATIVITY- Harvest Community Church (700 1st Ave N, Lester Prairie) is hosting a live nativity on Saturday, December 13th from 2 pm to 6 pm and Sunday, December 14th from 2 pm to 6 pm. We are offering drive through and walk through experiences, caroling, family photos, and refreshments. Harvest is hosting and many of our volunteers are from the community and we would like to extend an invitation to your congregation to participate in character acting for our live nativity as well. If anybody has interest in acting in the Live Nativity, they may contact Karissa Godel at 320 282 0807 or email dovegardenscsa@gmail.com.

10. SCHEDULE- *December 7:* Ushers: 1st Service- Kent Landin, Steven Dietel, Larry Roth; 2nd Service: Gregg Machemehl, Chris Schultz, Neil Hecksel, Nick Rasset; Acolytes: 1st Service- A. Lind, B. Peterson; 2nd Service: A. Dawson, I. Foust; Greeters- 1st Service: Jason & Mandy Lyons; 2nd Service: Barb Parpart; Scripture Reader: Larry Hoof; Flowers: Jane Holasek/Shirley Minnick; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. Nov 30	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP Sun. School/Adult Bible Study/ACT WORSHIP
Mon. Dec. 1		Release Time Classes
Tues. Dec 2	7:30 PM	Dartball Away vs. Young America
Wed. Dec 3	Noon 5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Deadline for Bulletin Release Time/Confirmation Classes ADVENT SERVICE Advent Meal ADVENT SERVICE
Thurs. Dec 4		Release Time Classes
Fri. Dec 5		Deadline to sign-up for Christmas Dinner
Sun. Dec 7	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	WORSHIP W/ CONT. LINE COMM. Sun. School/Adult Bible Study/ACT WORSHIP W/ CONT. LINE COMM. Congregational Christmas Dinner

Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule



12/3 5:30 and 7:00 PM Worship
Services—"Evergreens"

6:15-6:45 PM Advent Meal

12/7 5:00 PM Congregational
Christmas Dinner

12/10 5:30 and 7:00 PM Worship
Services—"Lights"

6:15-6:45 PM Advent Meal

12/14 10:30 AM Sunday School
Christmas Program

12/17 At *St. Peter Lutheran Church*

5:30 and 7:00 PM Worship
Services—"Candy Canes"

6:15-6:45 PM Advent Meal

12/24 3:00 & 7:00 PM Christmas
Eve Worship—"Creche"

12/25 9:00 AM Christmas Day
Worship—"Wrapped Presents"

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent. Some Advent wreaths hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary while others are placed on a floor stand. Either way, the Advent wreath is one of the many beautiful things you'll see around the church during Advent.



How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



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