

St. Paul's Lutheran Family, ELCA

PO Box 20876

Carson City, NV 89721

775 882-3020

www.stpaulsluthfamily.com

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

**“SERVICE OF THE WORD”
ONLINE WORSHIP VIA YOUTUBE**



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 2020

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit,
whose forgiveness is sure
and whose steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.

Together let us honestly and humbly confess
that we have not lived as God desires.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God,
we confess that we are held captive by sin.
**In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not
welcomed the stranger;
we have not loved our neighbor;
we have not been Christ to one another.**
Restore us, O God.
Wake us up and turn us from our sin.
Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

People of God, hear this glad news:
by God's endless grace
your sins are forgiven, and you are free—
free from all that holds you back
and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.
May you be strengthened in God's love,
✙ comforted by Christ's peace,
and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH / LIGHTING OF THE 2nd CANDLE



GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.
By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

“Here is your God!”

¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(A time of silence follows the reading.)

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

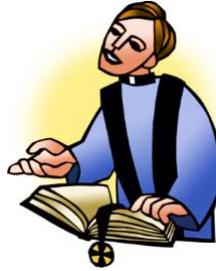
³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’ ”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – *Rev. Chad Adamik*
(A time of silence follows the Sermon.)



We respond to the hearing of God’s Word with the Creed below.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions.

Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. We pray especially for . . . (*current local, national, or international issues of peace or justice may be named*). Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany

disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work (*especially Nicholas of Myra*). Make their generous lives an example for all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.



OFFERING & TITHES ARE BROUGHT FORWARD

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,
you have created all that is,
and you provide for us in every season.
Bless all that we offer,
that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing.
In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
✚ now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S VITAL STATS



ATTENDANCE

11/07/2020 & 11/08/2020: 34

11/14/2020 & 11/15/2020: 35

11/21/2020 & 11/22/2020: 35

11/28/2020 & 11/29/2020: 32

OFFERINGS

11/07/2020 & 11/08/2020 - \$2,900.00

11/14/2020 & 11/15/2020 - \$1,990.00

11/21/2020 & 11/22/2020 - \$2,960.00

11/28/2020 & 11/29/2020 - \$1,665.00

Our offerings are often falling short of our weekly goals.

Offering amounts include budgetary receipts.

CONTRIBUTIONS

To meet our **2019-2020 budget**, we need average unrestricted donations of **\$4,719 per week**.

The Simply Giving Program is promoted by
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
and administered by Vanco Payment Solutions.

If you are interested in using this service, or have any questions, please call Holly McPhail at 775 443-6639. You may also pick-up Thrivent forms at the church office.

**Thank you for your continuing support of our ministry at
St. Paul's Lutheran Family!**

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Raelynn Norman (niece of Judy McPhail),
Matthew Russell (nephew of Judy McPhail),
Brandon Luterick, Heather Joyner (Johnson),
Peter Elverum, Sarah McGee, Olivia Lesperance,
John Duffy (nephew of Sharon and Tom Gesick),
and Justin Snowden.



FIREFIGHTERS/PEACE OFFICERS

Andy Steyn, Brian Hillenbrand, Tina Sherman, Mark
Dickens, John Gould, Michael Gould, and Jason Wildblood.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING Edward Yoho, recovering from surgery; Betty Clamp, Ray Dalke, kidney and heart failure (nephew of Gayle Kennett); Doug Thunder, knee replacement surgery; Bill Sandell, hospitalized for surgery; Wayne Opperman, recovery from hip replacement surgery; James Wilson, Hannelore Hanke, Frank Bartlett, Renee Woslum, Glenn Laursen, Edward Yoho, Madelene Yoho, Fern Yoho, Maxine McGregor (Madelene's sister), DeWayne Evans, Lynn Gross, Evelyn Luterick, Sarah Jevne, Peggy Truttman, Norman Brewer (Mary DeFelice's brother), Katherine, cancer (Susie Anderson's sister); Holly and Trevis (Requested by Deon Ferguson, a friend of St. Paul's); Ryan Lynch, diagnosed with lymphoma (Godson of Peg and John

Bradtke); Richard Bradshaw, cancer (Ruth Fitzgerald's cousin); and a special prayer for all the victims of COVID-19. ***Please pray this pandemic will end soon!***

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR Frank and Shirley Bartlett, Bev Gutzman, and Sandy Danforth, Carol Kalleres, continued health issues; Bev Steinert, ongoing vision issues; James Wilson, continued health issues; Mary Ann Adamik, healing; Ellen Harrell, medical issues; Betty Razor, healing; Debbie Revelle, healing from severe heart and lung disease; Maxine Bowton, Harold Nolte, Karen (Hone) Nolte, and Diana Johns.



Sunday, December 6th is the feast day of Nicholas, Bishop of Myra who died around 342.

Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

Christmas Cards

Do you need any Christmas cards?
Then contact Joan and Jere Schultz.

A friend of theirs has given them dozens of cards, and they would love to share them with you.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



The December council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 8th at 6:00 PM via Zoom.

Among the items on this month's agenda will be to place a "pause" on in-person worship and other in-person activities at the church for the next few weeks. Please contact council members or Pastor Chad to share your perspectives, as they will help us in our decision-making.

Current council members are:

*Pastor Chad Adamik

Carol Arneson

*David Harrell (Vice president)

Nakita Jones

Kim Neiman

*Jay Olshen (President)

*Jere Schultz (Secretary)

*Doug Thunder (Treasurer)

Rene Woslum

(* -- indicates Executive Committee member)



Zoom info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82162734083?pwd=UERYTmIYOWxEVIISSkZNMzMvKzBaUT09>

Meeting ID: 821 6273 4083

Passcode: 534165



Advent Prayer Services and A Time of Gathering will be held on Zoom every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM during Advent.

Night off the Streets (N.O.T.S.) Warming Shelter will reopen this Saturday, December 5th at First Presbyterian Church on Division St. in Carson City. There is a huge need for volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering for the NOTS Warming Shelter, contact volunteer coordinator Molly McGregor at (775) 350-9511. Thank you!

The Stitcher's meeting for Tuesday, December 8th will be postponed until January.



The Youth Group is meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, December 9th at 6:00 PM. Contact Traci Angel at (775) 721-5495 for Zoom meeting information.

The virtual Angel Tree will be updated via email as angels and gifts are selected.

We still have plenty of angels needing gifts with the deadline only **a week** away (December 13th). Please don't hesitate. Help make a needy family's Christmas one to remember. Thank you!



COVID-19 affects everyone. We all need to do our part to keep ourselves and community safe.

