



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
625 W. Gibson Road, Woodland, CA 95695
Office Phone (530)662-1935
Rev. David Hardin, Pastor

November 26, 2023
Last Sunday of the Church Year

***"PROCLAIM CHRIST, MAKE DISCIPLES,
SERVE THE LORD"***

OFFICE E-MAIL: office@stpaulswoodland.org
WEB SITE: www.stpaulswoodland.org

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP November 26, 2023

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN #657 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION page 151

Stand

PSALM Psalm 95:1-7a

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Pastor: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

People: **In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: **Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

Pastor: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

Kneel

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION page 151

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

**People: 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

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: 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.**

Pastor: The Absolution

Stand

HYMN OF PRAISE #752 "Be Still, My Soul"

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. 20

“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, 22 I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken. (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. 28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all. (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick

and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ 41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44 Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ 45 Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ

Sit

HYMN #741 “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense” v 1-8

CHILDREN’S TALK

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SERMON

THE APOSTLES’ CREED Page 159

Sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #845

“Where Charity and Love Prevail” v 1-6

Stand

PRAYERS

Pastor: Lord in your Mercy

People: Hear our Prayer

LORD’S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

#733 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” v 1-6

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Mon. - 9:30 a.m. "The Word Ahead"
Wed. - 9:15 a.m. Preschool Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Class
- 6:30 p.m. Elder's Meeting
Thurs. - 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
Sat. - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Church Workday
Next Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP We are pleased to have you with us and pray that God will bless our worship together. Members greet everyone you do not know. Newcomers, please sign a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.

PRAYER REQUESTS Please write down your request on a prayer request card and place in the offering plate in the back or hand to an usher.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday School has begun for ages 3 to 5th grade on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Children will start Sunday service with the adults and then be excused for Sunday school after the Children's Talk.

WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS! We are looking to train Sunday School teachers who are able to teach once a month or every other month for 30 minutes during the worship service. We will provide training and curriculum. Only qualification is you must be a confirmed Lutheran. Talk to Jill Hardin if you are interested.

VOTERS' MEETING We will be having a voters' meeting Sunday, December 10th directly after the service.

MADRIGAL SINGERS AND COOKIE FEAST SIGNUP

On Wednesday December 6th at 7:00 pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church is hosting a Christmas Carol Concert by the Davis High School Madrigal Singers. This has been a free community wide event since 1972. The performance will be followed by refreshments afterwards. We are requesting everyone's help with cookie supplies. Also volunteers for setup, usher, and cleanup would be helpful as well. We usually have 100-200 people. There is a signup sheet at the back of church. CONTACT JOY VAN CAMP at (530) 406-0611

POINSETTIA DONATIONS to decorate our church this Christmas season we are accepting donations of \$10.00 per poinsettia. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is in the back of church. All donations will be collected by Leah Young, or can be dropped off at the church office. If you would like, your poinsettia may be taken home after the Christmas service.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING Come help us decorate our tree here at St. Paul's and join in on the festivities! Tree decorating will be on Saturday December 9th at 2 p.m.

COLLECTING SHOEBOXES Lay Ministry is collecting shoeboxes and bags filled with toiletries, new clothing, socks, blankets, jackets, etc. for Mercy Holistic Ministry to distribute to the homeless community. Items can be placed in the back pews on the left-hand side of the sanctuary. Thank you for your help.

ADVENT SERVICES Come join us for Advent Cocoa and Cookies at 6:30 p.m. on December 13th and 20th! There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church if interested in bringing cookies.

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

One-time and recurring donations from your credit card or bank account may now be made through our website! Just go to www.stpaulswoodland.org and click on MAKE A DONATION

NEXT WEEKS TEXTS – Sunday December 3, 2023

Psalm 80:1-7

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel Lesson: Mark 11:1-10

ATTENDANCE

Last Sunday: 54

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Elder of the Month: Kay Lipelt

Lay Reader: Manny Souza

Altar Guild: Rosemary Bledsoe

Pianist: Lori Carter

Officiant: David Hardin



Important Dates to Remember

Note the following in your calendars:

Sat. Dec 2 9a.m.-1 p.m. Church Workday

Wed. Dec 6 7 p.m. Madrigals Concert and Cookie Feast

Sat. Dec 9 2 p.m. Christmas Tree Decorating

Sun. Dec 10 Voters' Meeting after Sunday Service

Wed. Dec 13 6:30 p.m. Advent Cocoa & Cookies

Fri. Dec 15 6:30 p.m. Preschool Christmas Program

Wed. Dec 20 6:30 p.m. Advent Cocoa & Cookies

Sun. Dec 24 10:30 a.m. Regular Scheduled Sunday Service

Sun. Dec 24 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Mon. Dec 25 1 p.m. Christmas Day Service

ADVENT WREATH

The Advent Wreath has been part of the Christmas tradition since the 15th century. It has its origin in Germany. Its circle represents the eternal unchanging nature of God's love. The candles, each lit in succession to anticipate the coming of Jesus the Christ Child, the promised savior of the world.

On the first Sunday in Advent (the word advent is a Latin word meaning coming), the first purple candle is lit. Purple is a royal color, as well the color of humility and reflection, for Advent is a quiet time of waiting.

The meaning of the candles is as follows:

First Sunday - Prophecy Candle. There were many statements made in the Old Testament about the coming of Jesus prior to His birth. [Check out Isaiah 7:14 and 9:6-7, as well as Micah 5:2.]

Second Sunday - Second Coming Candle. Just as there were prophecies made that indicated the first coming of Jesus born as a baby in Bethlehem would take place, so there are those prophecies that indicate that the now ascended Jesus will come again. His second coming will bring the world, as we know it, to an end, hence the warnings that appear in the Bible to always be prepared for it by believing and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. [Check out 2 Peter 3:10-14 and Mark 13:33-37.]

Third Sunday - Joy Candle. The third Sunday in Advent is the pink candle symbolizing joy and happiness while we wait in joyful expectation. [Check out Philipians 4:4.]

Fourth Sunday - Fulfillment or Faith Candle. What God says WILL happen, DOES happen. [Check out Romans 5:1-11.]

Christmas! - The white Christ candle is lit on Christmas. The center white candle symbolizes the perfect sacrifice, and God's promise to wash away all sins by the sending of the Savior Jesus. [Check out 2 Corinthians 5:21.]