

THE GUIDE +++

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Advent

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| VACANCY PASTOR: | Joel Cluver | SECRETARY: | Sue Bowers |
| CHURCH OFFICE: | 644-2661 | GREETER: | |
| ALTAR FLOWERS: | Charlene Telgmann | READER: | |
| SUN SCHOOL SUPT: | Roger Kull | PRAYER CHAIN: | 821-3038 |
| PAUSE FOR PEACE: | 644-3124 | PASTOR CLUVER'S HOME: | 674-3405 |
| PASTOR CLUVER'S E-MAIL: | jacluver17@yahoo.com | | |
| PASTOR CLUVER'S CELL: | 416-5398 | ORGANIST: | Muriel Merriman |
| CHURCH ADDRESS: | 511 S Walnut St | EMAIL: | stpaulcms@consolidated.net |
| WEBSITE: | stpaul-strasburg.com | SECRETARY HRS: | M-W 4-7PM Th 12-4PM |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR: | Karen Rentfro | ACCOMPANIST: | Sheryl Vonderheide |

THIS WEEK WITH THE LORD

SUN. 8:30 AM Worship Service
9:30 AM Sunday School, Alpha, W.L.S., College Plus, H.S.
10:15 AM Worship Service

TUE. 9:30 AM Morning Bible Study

WED. 8:30 AM **Guide/Bulletin** deadline

THU. 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Service

FRI. 9:00 AM Christmas Day Service

SUN. 8:30 AM Worship Service
9:30 AM Sunday School, Alpha, W.L.S., College Plus, High School
10:15 AM Worship Service

**December 13 8:30: 80 10:15: 40 Total 120 - Year Ago: 115 Advent: 38
Sunday School:44**

Welcome How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.. *If you are a visitor, we invite you to worship with us again and to please sign our guestbook.*

Sympathy Carl Lading, 89, a lifelong member of our congregation, departed this life Sunday evening December 13. A graveside service was held this week in St. Paul's cemetery. We extend our Christian sympathies to Carl's wife Imogene and to his family members.

Seminary Students Please remember to support St. Paul's Adopted Seminary Students, Brian Homann and Mason Vieth this Christmas with your prayers, cards and notes of encouragement.

Election meeting results the newly elected church officers for 2021 are President: Gary Kull, Vice President: Gerry Schlechte, Secretary: Virginia Vogel, Sunday School Superintendent: Karen Kull, Head Usher: Dalton Storm, Elder: Heath McCormick, Trustee: Dylan Ohnesorge, Board of Education: Troy Uphoff and Stewardship: Kay Dust. We thank all those who volunteered to participate in the election; Marlene Wirth, Don Telgmann, Gary Wirth and Susan Hanfland. We also thank those who have served during past years; Travis Dollarhide, Roger Kull, Gary Wirth and Mike Pfeiffer. We extend special thanks to Travis Dollarhide who served as our Secretary since 2007!

2021 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup in the narthex. Since your offering box number will most likely change for 2021 please do not begin using them until January 2021 to ensure that your contribution is recorded correctly. If anyone would like to start using offering envelopes at any time during 2021 just contact the church office since extra unused boxes are available.

FOR THE LORD'S WORK

| CURRENT OFFERINGS | \$ TO MEET YEARLY BUDGET | \$ RECEIVED | \$ DIFFERENCE |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| December 6 | \$ 3,214.00 | \$4,129.00 | \$ 915.00 |
| year-to-date | \$ 150,878.00 | \$ 164,624.17 | \$13,837.17 |
| SYNOD OFFERINGS | | | |
| December 6 | \$ 423.00 | \$ 505.00 | \$ 82.00 |
| year-to-date | \$ 20,907.00 | \$18,382.00 | \$-2,525.00 |
| TRINITY GOAL-\$10,000 | | Total to Date | \$7,535.00 |
| Building \$750 Trinity \$470 Sem Students \$410 | | December 6 | \$6,264.00 |

12/22 9:30 AM Morning Bible Study
 12/24 6:30 PM Christmas Eve program
 12/25 9:00 AM Christmas Day service

Card Shower Brett Kull will be turning 60 on December 27. He is suffering from cancer and is in a wheelchair but is taking medicine to help manage the pain. His greatest wish is to come back to St. Paul's and see his church family but that won't happen for now due to COVID restrictions. Gloria and Dee Dee know Brett would enjoy receiving cards which they will read to him on his birthday. Cards can be sent to: Brett Kull, Bogard House, 1612 W S 3rd St, Shelbyville IL 62565.

New Address for Carolyn Stremming; Carriage Crossing Arcola, Carolyn Stremming, Room 206B, 909 Green Mill Rd, Arcola IL 61910

Christmas Eve Anyone wanting to participate in our Christmas Eve Pre-Service music, vocal or instrumental, contact Marlene Wirth by phone: 217-728-4373 or 217-259-8090.

Christmas Cantata The annual Christmas Cantata, presented by choir members from the area Lutheran Churches for the past 57 years, has been an important Advent tradition in preparing for Jesus' birth. While there will not be a live Cantata this year, you can watch and listen to last year's Cantata by going to the following website stpaul-strasburg.com and clicking on "2019 Christmas Cantata". We wish God's Blessings to all this Christmas and we hope to be singing the good news of Jesus' birth in person again next year! The video will be available until Jan. 6.

Advent Service the last Advent service will be held this Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 P.M.

LYF Christmas Cards are available to purchase in the Nursery/Choir room. Prices are as marked and money can be deposited to the church office. LYF appreciates your support!

Thank You A heartfelt thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, texts, food and words of encouragement since my recent diagnosis and surgery. A huge thank you to Pastor Cluver for his calls and prayers. Although my journey has just begun, my determination and God will see me through. Blessings, Sue Bowers

Thank You Thanks to all who remembered me with meals, prayers, cards and phone calls following surgery. I am so grateful for my family and my church family. Special thanks to Pastor Cluver for his inspirational phone calls. May God bless each of you!
 Shirley Stremming



ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 20 - Ellen McCoy
- 21 - Mark Kull, Christian Merriman,
Shelby Wirth, Cody Logue
- 22 - Jennifer Wirth
- 23 - Molly Gilbert
- 24 - Maude Hartman, Luke Wetherell
Phyllis Weiss
- 25 - Chris Tabbert
- 26 - Kingston Rincker

HOUSEHOLDS OF THE WEEK

Mary (Pieper) London, Scott & Lori Pieper, Tasha Pieper, Derryl & Sue Pikesh, Neil Pikesh, Steve Polk, Jessica (Hanfland) Polko, John & Judy Radloff, Ramona Radloff, Merle Ragan, Roy & Mary Reed, Roy Reed, Jr

ADOPTED SEMINARY STUDENTS 2020-2021

Sem. Brian Homann
Concordia Theological Seminary
6600 N Clinton St.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46825

Sem. Mason Vieth
Concordia Seminary
801 Seminary Place, Box 218
St. Louis, MO 63105

HEALING

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Brett Kull | Jackie Stodden |
| Diane Paraiso | Melba Storm |
| Anna Schlechte | Ken Hagan |
| Mary Rincker | Carolyn Stremming |
| Merle Ragan | Shirley Stremming |
| Judy Wittenberg | Rosemary Sporleder |
| Sue Bowers | |

LIMITED MOBILITY

Noma Rose Huddleston - Lakeland NH
Imogene Lading - Villas of Holly Brook
Bill Orr
Mildred Rincker - Brookstone Suites
Larry Storm - Heartland, Neoga
Doris Stremming - Brookstone Suites
Rosemary Sporleder-Brookstone Mattoon
Brett Kull- Shelbyville

FRIENDS & FAMILY (non-members)

Jean Lowe (Hip Replacement-Susan Hanfland Friend)
Erica Stollard (cancer)
Matt Durbin
Melissa Wirth
Family of Crewe Jones
Rhiannon (Wallace) Klier (surgery)
Colin Kinkelaar (car accident)
Dennis Ogle (cancer, Mac & Lois Ogle's son)
Diana Vonderheide (Joe & Linda Oakley' daughter)
Madonna Nichols (liver cancer)
Ivan Crutcher (cancer, Karen Rentfro's uncle)
Karl Zalman (cancer)
Bryan Mowry (Laurie Wirth's brother, health)
Caralea (Moffett) Smith (cancer, undergoing treatments)
Dave Polk (cancer, Virginia Vogel)
Dennis Noffke (Stage IV bone cancer)
Austin Miller, (leukemia, Dennis & Nitelle Lading's gson.)

Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 20, 2020
PRESERVICE MUSIC – RINGING OF THE BELLS – WELCOME

Opening Hymn A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383

- 1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:
 The virgin bears the infant, With virgin honor pure! Refrain
- ref Proclaim the Savior's birth:
 "To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth!"
- 2 The Word becomes incarnate, And yet remains on high,
 And cherubim sing anthems, To shepherds from the sky. Refrain
- 4 Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,
 The infant born in Beth'lem,, The Savior and the Lord. Refrain
- 5 All idols then shall perish, And Satan's lying cease,
 And Christ shall raise His scepter, Decreeing endless peace. Refrain

Text: Public domain

Please be stand

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. LSB 203
- C **Amen.**
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.**

Glory to God in the Highest (spoken)

- C **1** To God on high be glory, And peace to all the earth;
 Goodwill from God in heaven, Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
 We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing
 Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heavenly King.
- 2** To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
 O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated, At God's right hand on high
- 3** For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit, Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

*Please be seated***Epistle***Romans 16:25–27*

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.***Please Stand***Holy Gospel***Luke 1:26–38*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.****Apostles' Creed**

- C **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.**

Please be Seated

Sermon Hymn From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358

- 1 "From heav'n above to earth I come, To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 "To you this night is born a child, Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be, From all your sins to set you free.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery, That You might share Your joy with me.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart, For You to dwell within my heart.

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Sermon "God is All Powerful" Luke 1:37

Please Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

- P **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.**

Closing Collect

- 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 **Amen.**

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

LSB 390

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice, Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes, We may reign in gladness.
- 3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore, Here on earth and yonder.

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Please be seated, Pastor Cluver will dismiss the congregation by rows.

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from LSB. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible copyright © 2001. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 CPH.