

+++THE GUIDE +++
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-STRASBURG ILLINOIS

January 5, 2025

Second Sunday after Christmas

Pastor	Kene Whybrew	Secretary	Sue Bowers
Pastor's Cell	815-383-1148	Secretary HRS	M-W 4-7PM TH 12-4PM
Pastor's Home		Church Office	217-644-2661
Pastor's E-mail	chebrev@yahoo.com	E-mail	stpaulsstrasburg@gmail.com
Pastor's Address	512 S Walnut St Strasburg	Address	511 S Walnut St Strasburg
Sunday School Supt	Karen Kull	Website	stpaul-strasburg.com
Altar Flowers	Charlene Telgmann	YouTube	St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Organist	Muriel Merriman		Strasburg Illinois
Choir Director	Karen Rentfro	Pause for Peace	217-644-3124
Accompanist	Sheryl Vonderheide	Prayer Chain	217-821-3038
Greeter	Barb Ohnesorge		

THIS WEEK WITH THE LORD

SUN.	8:30 AM	Worship Service
	9:30 AM	SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S., College+
	5:30 PM	Worship Service @ Grace
	6:30 PM	LYF @ St. Paul's
	6:30 PM	Bible Trivia
MON.	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
TUE.	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Study
WED.	8:30 AM	Chair Yoga
	2:30 PM	Social Hall Communion
	6:30-7:30PM	WDS
THURS.	8:30 AM	Blanket making
SUN.	8:30 AM	Communion Service
	9:30 AM	SS, Alpha, W.L.S., H.S., College+
	11-12:30PM	LYF Soup Luncheon
	5:30 PM	Worship Service @ Grace

December 29 8:30: 118 Year Ago: 122 Sunday School: 27

Welcome The Magi followed a star to worship Jesus and present him gifts. We too have been guided here by God's light, to worship Jesus and offer him our gifts of love. Welcome. *If you are a visitor, we invite you to worship with us again and to please sign our guestbook.*

Pause For Peace We are making the new calendar for Pause for Peace for 2025. We have a couple of empty days that we need people to fill. It just requires a few minutes one day each month. Talk to Patsy Lenz for more information and to volunteer.

Christmas Shoe Boxes We sent 122 shoe boxes to children around the world in November. It takes many items to fill that many boxes so it is time to start collecting items for next year. The items we are collecting for January are small toys for either boys or girls ages 2 to 16. Thank you for helping.

Thank you The Sunday School and Weekday teachers want to thank the Board of Education for their generous Christmas gifts to us.

FOR THE LORD'S WORK

CURRENT OFFERINGS	\$ TO MEET	YEARLY BUDGET	\$ RECEIVED	\$
<u>DIFFERENCE</u>				
Dec 29	\$	3,750.00	\$ 3,189.00	\$ -
561.00				
year-to-date	\$	184,875.00	\$203,476.56	
\$18,601.56				
<u>Synod-Offerings</u>				
Dec 29	\$	481.00	\$ 525.00	\$
44.00				
year-to-date	\$	24,012.00	\$23,879.00	
\$ -133.00				
<u>TRINITY GOAL-\$10,000</u>				Total to Date
\$10,140.00				\$120
Building \$960 Trinity \$600 Seminary Student \$120				
Cemetery \$110 SS \$525				
Lutheran Care Center \$140 Choir \$190 Mission Work \$150 LYF \$1000				
			Dec 25	\$ 697.00
			Dec 29	\$6,812.00

- 1/14 9:00 AM Morning Bible Study
- 1/15 8:30 AM Chair Yoga
- 6:30-7:30 PM WDS
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
- 1/16 1:00 PM St. Paul's Cemetery meeting

Thank you I want to thank the Church Trustees and the St. Paul's members for my Christmas gifts. It meant a lot to me. Neva

Congratulations We rejoice that a son, Beau Eugene, was born to Isaac and Mariah Kramer December 18, 2024. Grandparents are Erin and John Mueller and Kevin and Chris Kramer.
Great grandparents are Rodney and Karis Riley and Bruce and Danyele Boaz.

LYF Soup Luncheon The Joint LYF of Grace, St. Paul's, and Trinity will be hosting a Soup Luncheon on Sunday, January 12 at Trinity Lutheran Church. The youth will begin serving homemade chili and chicken noodle soup, hot dogs, potato chips and desserts from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Dine-in and To-go available! Proceeds from your freewill donations will go toward local youth group activities and trips. We appreciate your support and hope to see you after church on the 12th!

January LYF Meeting The January LYF meeting will be held tonight, Sunday, January 5th at St. Paul's, 6:30pm. Following the meeting, members will be preparing for the soup luncheon.

Mites Sunday Mites Sunday will be January 5th.

Council meeting The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 6th at 6:30.

Thank you Thank you to the Trustees and members who brought me goodies at Christmas. Everything was greatly appreciated. Sue

Birthday Celebration Rosemary Schlechte will be celebrating her 92nd birthday on January 10th. If you would like to send her a card, she would enjoy hearing from you. Her address is: Rosmary Schlechte, 1103 N Maple St., Apt #5, Effingham, IL 62401.

Annual Report Please have your annual report turned in to the church office by January 23, 2025.



ANNIVERSARIES

6-Richard & Cathern Stremming
7-Tim & Delreen Lenz
9-Ron & Carolyn Boldt
10-George & Debra Glasscock;
Theron* & Linda Newell

BIRTHDAYS

6-Tim Beals
7-Imogene Lading; Whitney Furr;
James* Hortenstine
8-George Glasscock
10-Rosemary Schlechte;
Ryan Sporleder
11-Chris Ashmore

HOUSEHOLDS OF THE WEEK

Linda & Theron Newell, Joe & Linda
Oakley, Mac & Lois Ogle, Barb Ohnesorge,
Dylan & Amelia Ohnesorge, Brittani &
Nick Oller, Dusty & Claudia Rincker, Gary
Rincker, Jim & Sharon Rincker

Recorded Services

Website: stpaul-strasburg.com

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Strasburg Illinois

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

PRAYER

Dianna Gibson	Anna Schlechte
Nick Hanfland	Kendall Fulk
Frances York	Wayne Wirth
Robert Pfeiffer	Ronda Schlechte
Margaret Swank	Nick Oller
Beulah Ulmer	Debra Richards
Karla Tabbert	

LIMITED MOBILITY

Rose Schlechte- StoneBridge
Robert Stremming
Imogene Lading – Villas of Holly Brook
Bill Orr
Rosemary Sporleder-Brookstone
Mattoon
Mildred Rincker – Heartland, Neoga
Doris Stremming – Willowbrook,
Effingham
Margaret Swank – Willowbrook
Effingham

FRIENDS & FAMILY **(non-members)**

Cody Chasteen (Sue's nephew; ATV
Accident)
Ken Daily (Karen Pfeiffer's father)
stroke
Zona Doty (Health)
Walker Warden (cancer)
Christie Dust (Howard & Kay's
daughter) (Primary Progressive
Multiple Sclerosis)
Laikyn Bauer (Digeorge syndrome)
Matt Durbin
Ivan Crutcher (cancer, Karen Rentfro's
uncle)

Adopted Seminary Students 2024-25

4TH Year Student

Micah Brown (Wife Jen)

6C Founders Way

St. Louis, MO 63105

mrbrown5462@gmail.com

2ND Year Student

Hunter Kinnison (Wife Naomi)

6600 North Clinton St., Box 194

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

**2024-25 Vicar assignment at Concordia
Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN**
Joshua Gerken (Wife Rachel, son Callan)
5418 Brighton Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

2nd Sunday after Christmas – Setting Four

Once in Royal David's City

LSB 376

- 1 Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 For He is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.
- 5 Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt. Text: Public domain

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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, 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14

Kyrie

LSB 204

C *Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.*

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

**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 heav'nly 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.***

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; 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.**

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

C ***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second 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.

Children’s Message

Within the Father’s House

LSB 410

- 1 Within the Father’s house The Son has found His home,
And to His temple suddenly The Lord of life has come.
- 2 The doctors of the Law Gaze on the wondrous child
And marvel at His gracious words Of wisdom undefiled.
- 3 Yet not to them is giv’n The mighty truth to know,
To lift the earthly veil that hides Incarnate God below.
- 4 The secret of the Lord Escapes each human eye,
And faithful pond’ring hearts await The full epiphany.
- 5 Lord, visit Thou our souls And teach us by Thy grace
Each dim revealing of Thyself With loving awe to trace
- D 6 Till we behold Thy face And know as we are known
Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Coequal Three in One.

Text: James R. Woodford, 1820–85, alt. Text: Public domain

Sermon Ephesians 1:3-14 “Blessed in Christ”

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks that Your Son, the eternal Word, has become flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Extend His praise into all the world, that many would come to hope in His steadfast love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You have blessed us in Christ, Your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Preserve Your Church by the preaching of the Gospel of salvation and the seal of the promised Holy Spirit in Baptism. Raise up among us faithful preachers to the praise of Christ's glory, until we acquire the inheritance promised us in Him. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You prepared a place for Your Son, Jesus, in the womb of the Virgin Mary and in the home of Mary and Joseph. Bless our homes and all who dwell in them, that Your Word would be heard and Your mercy be shown therein. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You gave to Your servant Solomon unsurpassed wisdom to rule Your people Israel, chiefly the wisdom that begins in fearing You. Give to the leaders and elected officials of our nation wisdom for their task to discern between good and evil and to govern this people in peace and quietness. Be gracious to preserve our president and president-elect, our governor, and all legislators and judges. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, give patience and endurance to all who are sick or in any need, [*especially* _____] and heal them according to Your will. Receive our thanksgiving for every blessing and kindness You have shown to Your people in Christ [*especially* _____]. Give comfort and hope to all who mourn [*especially* _____]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, Your Son has won redemption through His blood, granting the forgiveness of our trespasses. According to the riches of Your grace, receive those who come to Your blessed Sacrament this day. Grant worthy repentance and

confident faith to all who commune, united in a sincere confession of the faith. Lord,
in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, in mercy You have established the Christian home among us. We implore You, rule and direct our hearts to be good examples to children and those subject to us. Grant that we may not offend them by word or deed but faithfully teach them to love Your Church and hear Your blessed Word. Give them Your Spirit and grace, that this seed may bring forth good fruit and our homelife may advance Your glory, honor and praise as well as our own improvement and welfare, giving offense to no one; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

The Only Son from Heaven

LSB 402

1 The only Son from heaven, Foretold by ancient seers,
By God the Father given, In human form appears.
No sphere His light confining, No star so brightly shining
As He, our Morning Star.

- 2 O time of God appointed, O bright and holy morn!
He comes, the king anointed, The Christ, the virgin-born,
Grim death to vanquish for us, To open heav'n before us
And bring us life again.
- 3 O Lord, our hearts awaken To know and love You more,
In faith to stand unshaken, In spirit to adore,
That we, through this world moving, Each glimpse of heaven proving,
May reap its fullness there.
- D 4 O Father, here before You With God the Holy Ghost
And Jesus, we adore You, O pride of angel host:
Before You mortals lowly Cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
O blessed Trinity!"
- Text (sts. 1-3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500-1535; (sts. 1-3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Text: Public domain

Next Week's Readings – Isaiah 62:1-5, Ephesians 3:14-21, John 2:1-11

This Week's Memory Verse – Ephesians 1:7 "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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