

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Last Sunday of the Church Year
21/22/23 November 2020

By faith we are prepared for our Lord's Return: *"The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night"* (1 Thess. 5:1–11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. *"For you know neither the day nor the hour"* when the Son of Man is to return. (Matt. 25:1–13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however, are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God's grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people. (Is. 65:17–25)

The Divine Service

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis



Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



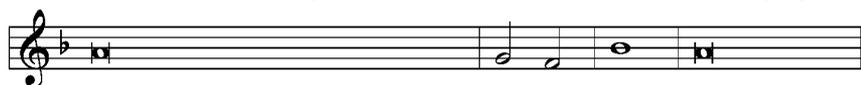
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

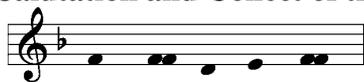


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

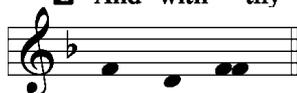
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed, we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17–25

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent’s food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 45:14-15

In many-colored robes the king's daughter is led | to the king,*
with her virgin companions following be- | hind her.
With joy and gladness they are | led along*
as they enter the palace | of the king.

Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

Rev. 21:2



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of
heav- | en from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her | husband.

Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly

To meet the Bride-groom, who is near.”
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Sermon

Offertory

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

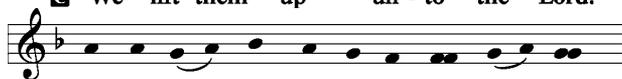
Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.
P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei



G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

The Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ

A Prayer before receiving the Sacrament

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the Holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal, through Jesus Christ, My Lord. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

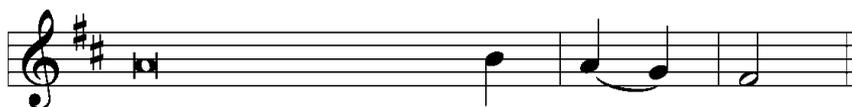


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



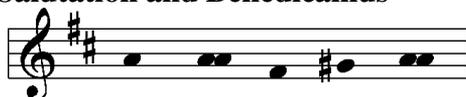
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You... now and forever.

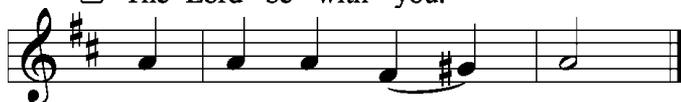


C A - men.

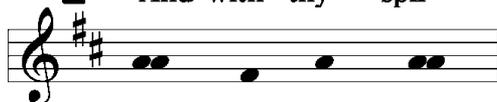
Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Announcements for the Last Sunday of the Church Year

Advent Service Registration – The forms to sign up are on the table in the narthex if you haven't registered online. Services are at 8:20am, 6:00pm and 7:30pm. If able to do so, School Parents are encouraged to attend the 8:20am service with their children. The time you register for will be for all three mid-week services.

Thanksgiving Services – will be held on Wednesday evening (Vespers) at 7:00pm and Thursday morning (Matins) at 9:00am. If you plan on attending and still haven't registered, please contact Pastor Ball directly.

No School – School will not be in session Monday, November 23 through Friday, November 27 for Thanksgiving Break. The church/school office will be closed. School/office hours will resume on Monday, November 30.

Thank You – ladies for helping LWML make 25 blankets for the Community Hope Center. Seven ladies worked 2 days at church and 4 more worked at home. We hope to sew again in January. All help is appreciated.

Advent Devotional – Pr. Weedon has written an Advent devotional as catechist for The Word of the Lord Endures Forever. These devotionals are available for families for free on the table in the narthex. Pr. Ball commented on the Gottesdienst blog that these devotions “are brief enough so that things don't fall apart (either as children want to eat or as children melt down in post-dinner clean-up chaos), and at the same time be worthy of being called a devotion to the living God, whereby the souls of His children are fed.”

Bible Class – Our Wednesday Evening Bible class will not meet between Thanksgiving and Epiphany. Class will resume on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Christmas Cookie Sale – The Ladies Aid, LWML and Board of Christian Life are sponsoring a Christmas Cookie Sale. An assortment of 3 dozen boxed homemade Christmas cookies may be purchased at \$15.00 per box. Cookies will be available for pickup in the church basement after services the weekend of December 12, 13 & 14. Orders must be received by December 4th (only 50 boxes will be available). To place an order phone or text Serena Ball at (708) 369-8106 or Ann Schmidt at (618) 334-4277. Proceeds from the event will support our missionaries, Pastor Fritsche and Pastor Sharp. Cookies will also be provided to the shut-ins. Supplemental funding for the event received from THRIVENT.

Please Consider Scrip – for the upcoming holidays. Scrip is a gift card which you can use as cash at the store whose name is on it, or you can give it to someone else to use at that store. You pay no extra for the card, and it redeems at full value. The store where it is redeemed gives our school a percentage of the sale. DK's is a local store that honors scrip, so if you are a regular shopper there, please consider using it. We have scrip for many other stores and restaurants too. Please check us out. A list of the cards available is on the table in the narthex for those interested in seeing what is available or would like to place an order. If there is a card that is not listed that you are interested in, please ask Mary – new stores are added by the company as they become available. You can purchase scrip or drop orders off at the Church office during office hours or if you have any questions or special requests contact Mary Klaustermeier at 618-488-7473 or Joanie in the Church office at 618-633-2202. Thanks so much! Our last order being placed before Christmas will be on Monday, December 14. Please note the office will be closed the week of November 23-27 for Thanksgiving Break.

More Topics, More Guests, More Jesus – Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: Thanksgiving in the Bible; The Lord's Prayer Petition "Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread;" God Condoning War & Killing in the Old Testament; The Book of 2 Peter and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

Elected Officers for 2021 –

Chairman: Ken Moehle

Secretary: Paula Kipp

Treasurer: Julie Johnson

Assistant Treasurer: Aaron Hanks

Elders: Kurt Johnson – Kelly Krausz – Scott Wagner

Trustees: Darren Ott – Dan Steinmann

Finance: Carolyn Detchman – Beth Hellinger – Lois Sander

Parochial School Board: Pr. Roy Askins – David Weedon

Board of Early Childhood Education: Holly Earley – Cassie Ott

Board of Christian Education: Jenna Inman

Board of Christian Life: Sarah Hanks – Cheyenne Hellmann –
Dana Hellmann

- **Steve Hellmann** – replacing Floyd Henke as the cemetery trustee
- **John Thielke** – replacing Julie Johnson on the auditing committee
- **Sharilyn Moehle and Angela Imhoff** replacing Leroy Langendorf and Duane Meyer on the nominating committee

Matthew 25:4 – “... but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.”

Why did they take flasks of oil with them? Because they listened to the bridegroom’s words and believed what He told them. Our actions always start with and flow from our beliefs. What do your actions in the realm of financial stewardship say about what you believe?

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- For the spread of the Holy Gospel
- For the Holy Church throughout the World, For our Synod
- For our country, that we might be at peace and live in harmony
- For our families as we seek to live together in holy love and peace
- For those who live alone
- For all doctors, nurses and medical personnel
- For first responders in our communities
- For the sick, the suffering, the dying of Covid-19

Healing and Comfort for: **MARC BEHRHORST**, undergoing foot surgery this Wednesday; **DAVID BRYAN**, hospitalized at Barnes; **SARAH HANKS**, recovering from hip surgery; **CRYSTAL WAGNER**, recovering from surgery; **BILL HUELSMAN**, Sonya Woods father, positive with COVID-19; **RICKEY MILLER**, Alhambra Care Center; **DORENE LANE**, friend of Dave DeVries, spiritual and health issues; **CAROL CASE**, JW’s mother, hospitalized with pneumonia; **CLARA WEHREND**, recovering from broken hip surgery; **STEVE SCHWEIZER**, brother of Julie Johnson, cancer diagnosis; **KEITH QUADE**, son-in-law of Dave DeVries, recovering from COVID and health issues with mold; **SIDNEE SCHWARZ**, ulcerative colitis; **NORMAN MICNHEIMER**, Neil’s father, health issues; **TIM DILLON**, grandson of Dave DeVries, severe headaches from falls; **EMILY KIEHL**, niece of Cindy Gleason, vision problems; **SID PRESIDENT TIMOTHY SCHARR**, recovering from surgery; **BARBARALYNN DEVRIES**, niece of Dave DeVries, rehab for leg amputation and health issues; **MARY GRAFF**, friend of Dave DeVries, cancer treatments; **KIM TOBIN**, niece of Dave DeVries, drug issues; **TOMIKO JUEDEMANN**, mother of Linda Behrhorst, cancer treatments; **DALE GROTEFENDT**, friend of Paula Kipp, brain cancer; **KAY GROTEFENDT**, friend of Paula Kipp, radiation treatments; **THOMAS SEXTON**, grandchild of Keith and Judy (Sievers) Loemker, health issues; **TINA THORLEY**, former St. Paul member and student, health issues; **STRENGTH FOR ALL PREGNANT MOTHERS**