

# First Sunday of Advent, Sunday, November 28, 2021

# ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

# Worship Service LIVE—9:25 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Web Site: <u>http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org</u>



Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7\_-Q

# **SERVING TODAY**

Minister	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector	Marie Purswell
Organist	Jeff Gentry

# **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

President—Trisha Valcarcel Vice-President—Sheila Kahler Treasurer—Amy Mildenstein Secretary—Patty Rimel



PRELUDE

CHURCH BELLS RUNG

# \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- **P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.
- *P:* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*
- P: Most merciful God,
- C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.
- P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the <sup>+</sup> Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

# \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P: The Peace of Christ be with you
- C: And also with you.

- Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying; awake, Jerusalem, at last.
   Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
   "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
   The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!"
   Alleluia!
   Rise and prepare the feast to share; go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.
- Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing. She wakes, she rises from her gloom. Her dear friend comes down, all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious: her star is ris'n; her light is come. Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Sing hosanna! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all, and follow to the banguet hall.
- Gloria! Let heav'n adore you! Let saints and angels sing before you, with harp and cymbal's clearest tone. Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming, with angel choirs around your throne. No eye has caught the light, no ear the thund'ring might of such glory. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

There sweet delight will ever flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

### GREETING (ELW, p. 147)

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

## C: And also with you.

## KYRIE (ELW, p. 147) (Sung)

- L: In peace let us pray to the Lord
- C: Lord, have mercy
- L: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy
- L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.

# HYMN OF PRAISE......ELW 257

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

#### Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7  $\otimes$  1997 Augsburg Fortress.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

AnthemSongs for Advent and Christmas: Lord Jesus Come - YouTub	е
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Offering Talk......Sarah Lefler

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

L: The Word of the Lord

## C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 25

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul. <sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,

**nor let my enemies triumph over me.** <sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>⁴</sup>Show me your ways, O Lord,

and teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  <sup>6</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
 <sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
 <sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.
 <sup>9</sup>You lead the low- ly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness

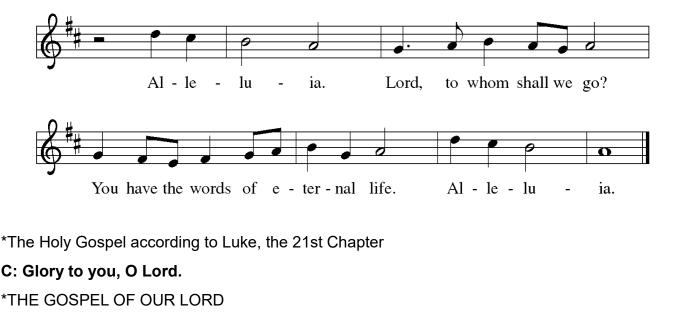
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW Page 151)



C: Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

SERMON ......Pastor Phil Beck

\*HYMN OF THE DAY......ELW 435

- Lo! he comes with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain; thousand thousand saints attending join to sing the glad refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2 Now redemption, long-expected, comes in solemn splendor near; all the saints this world rejected thrill the trumpet sound to hear: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! See the day of God appear!

 Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
 Savior, take the pow'r and glory, claim the kingdom as thine own.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
 Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

### \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's **C**: 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.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN: (ELW 801)**



Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyeard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- ... hear us, O God, P:
- **C**: Your mercy is great.

### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER:

- P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...
- 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.

### \*BENEDICTION:

- **P:** People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, **†** one God, bless you now and forever.
- C: Amen.

### \*SENDING HYMN.....ELW 259

- Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; the King of glory comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the Savior of the world who brings his great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth and praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.
- 2 He is the rock of our belief, the heart of mercy's gentle self. His kingly crown is holiness; his scepter is his loveliness; he brings our sorrows to an end. Now gladly praise our king and friend, and worship him with song for saving us from wrong.
- Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; our hearts are open wide in trust.
   Oh, show us now your lovely grace, upon our sorrows shine your face, and let your Holy Spirit guide our journey in your grace so wide.
   We praise your holy name, from age to age the same!

.Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## GO IN PEACE, CHRIST IS NEAR, THANKS BE TO GOD!

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated until the postlude concludes.)

#### Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.



Ellen Hatgi, Member Katrina Pank, Member Tommy Sorge, Nephew of Marie Purswell Marion Forrest, Friend of the Ports Rick Fischler, Friend of the Ports The Stuck Family, Friends of Amy Mildenstein Milton & Dolores Denn, Members Heather & Lexi Anderson, Family of Merle & Kelly Anderson Karen White, Friend of Tammy Snurr Audrey McDougall, Member Erica Hoff, Daughter of Betty Walker Sharyl Mildenstein, Family of Russ & Amy Mildenstein Robb Port, Member Joe Collins. Cousin of Joann Valainis Dr. Heather DeVincentis, Friend of Sue and Lin Snyder Libbianna LeDuff, Family of Hope Donati Sharon Crayton, Friend of Betsy Galliher Ronald Zeimen, Father of Amy Mildenstein Thelma Powell, Member Florence Shell. Member Robert Hoff, III, Member Family of Barbara Miller, Relative of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider Joe Evens, Father of Patty Rimel Gary Wachter, Member Brenda Bruning, Member Dennis and Regina Cavell, Members Eric and Anna Cavell, Son and Daughter-in-law of Dennis and Regina Cavell Debbie O'Brien & children, Matthew Lokos, Benjamin & Dorothy Cavell, Family of Dennis & Regina Cavell Family of Jeanne Smith, Member Barb Callow. Close friend of Marie Purswell **Peggy E.**, Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider Kathryn Evens, mother of Patty Rimel MaryAnn Rimel, mother in law of Patty Rimel Joseph Crone, father of Michelle Harrod Sharon Kahler. Mother of Sheila Kahler **Bob Schmidt.** Brother of Dottie Titmas Cc (Cindi Ferry Lucas), Cousin of Robb and Dianne Port Gail Carlson, Friend of Shirley Merando Irene Matthews, Mother of Tammy Snurr Betsy Galliher, Member Dustin DiMarcello. Nephew of Dianne and Robb Port Tammy Brown, Friend of Pastor Phil

# **PRAYERS** FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

+Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy, niece to Linwood Snider
+Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce, grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
+U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik, grandson of Sam Purswell
+Dan Beck, 1st Lt., U.S. Army, son of Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
+Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of Marcia & Raj Gupta
+1st LT Patrick Campion, US Army, son of Michelle and Michael Harrod Do you have need for prayer? Do you know someone else who has need for prayer? If so, please know that we have a prayer team at St. Paul's that is ready to help. Simply contact the Church Office. All requests are confidential.

\*\*Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold.** They have a specific current need for Christian love and support.

# **Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses**

Torvend, in Homilies for the Christian People, ed. Gail Ramshaw (New York: Pueblo, 1989), 369-71.

We gather on this first Sunday of Advent, at the beginning of this new year of grace, in order to recount in word and meal and song the ancient story of our salvation. There is, burning before us, one small candle-light: not enough to warm our bodies, certainly inadequate to illuminate this place in which we gather, a frail sign itself at the beginning of our Advent vigil. But to conjure out of our ancient book the calamitous moment of judgment is simply one more way of diverting us from what Paul says is our fundamental hope and project in life: that we may overflow with the love of Christ for one another and for all. But we must recognize this anxious truth of the modern age: that if the Creator does not desire our destruction and the obliteration of all that lives, we now have the power within our hands to ignite the nuclear flame, the final holocaust. To dwell at length on this vision can only lead to despair. And so we gather to hear the words of the prophet who names our hope in this nuclear age as "The Lord our righteousness." We gather in the name of the one who is our Security, our Strength, our Holiness, our Ransom. We hold before him our frail lights, our fears for the present day and our hope for the world to come, praying that we might stand secure and strive to ensure the progress of justice and peace for the children of the earth. *—Samuel Torvend* 



# **REMINDERS**

# \*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT REMINDER\*\*\*\*\*

Please remember, it is imperative that you completely fill out the PINK sign in sheets located on the bulletin board in the Church and on the table inside the door in the Parish Hall if you are entering either building at a time other than a scheduled meeting or service. *Please* remember to check in with the Office *before* entering the Church building or the Parish Hall.



LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:	This Week at St Paul's
Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,825.00 Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:\$360.00 <u>Electronic/Mail ins Income</u> November 7, 2021:	Sunday, November 28thFirst Sunday of AdventIn Person Worship (Livestream)9:25amChildren's Faith Formation10:30-11:30Stocking Stuffers10:45am
Weekly Contributions: \$ 856.15 Property Loan Fund: \$ 80.00 Total: \$ 936.15 <u>In Worship Offerings</u> November 7, 2021:	Monday, November 29thFEC8am-5pmWednesday, December 1st5pmFEC8am-5pm
Weekly Contributions: \$1,365.00 Property Loan Fund: \$ 150.00 Total: \$1,515.00	Friday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup> Christkindl Set Up10am-4pmSaturday, December 4 <sup>th</sup> Christkindl Mart10am-3pm
ATTENDANCE: November 21, 2021 In person: 39 Virtual: 24	Sunday December 5 <sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Advent Worship (Livestream) 9:25am

## Church Council October 19, 2021

**Present per Zoom**: Pastor Phil, Trish Valcarcel, Sheila Kahler, Patty Rimel, Troy Keeney, Betsy Galliher, Tom Waters, Keith Horton, Marcia Gupta, Kate Stottlemyer, and Linda Yopp. Absent: Gary Wachter, Russ Mildenstein, Amy Mildenstein.

Pastor Phil opened with prayer and devotions.

**September 21, 2021, Council Minutes:** Betsy Galliher made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Marcia Gupta. **Council** approved with corrections.

Pastor Report: (see September 22, 2021, to October 19, 2021)

- Classes going well and challenging.
- Outdoor service this Sunday, October 24, 2021.

Treasurer Report: (see Balance Sheet by Account January 1, 2021, to September 30, 2021)

• Gift from Fuller Fund of \$20,000 due in November is a dedicated fund to Electric and Fuel.

#### Finance Report: (see October 11, 2021.)

Worship & Arts: (see September 27, 2021, minutes)

- Choir start up on a month-to-month decision.
- Nancy Cochran out November 22nd thru the end of the year. Jeff Gentry (organist) will coordinate in her absence.

Congregational Life: (see October 12, 2021, minutes)

- Congregational life committee made a motion to donate \$100 of Octobers local benevolences to Religious Coalition (earmarked for cigarette disposal container(s) and donate \$100 of November local benevolences to go to Children's of Incarcerated Parents Partnership; seconded by Kate Stottlemyer. Council approved
- Christkindl Market will be sending out information on how to contribute, making crafts and baked goods. Checking on required permits for raffle.

#### **Christian Education:**

- Youth and Adult Faith Formation currently being held in person.
- Upcoming events: Stocking Stuffer and Youth Event at Victoria Park.

#### Stewardship:

• Suggested having Girl Scout troop do a video for offering talks, show how we're being good stewards of the building.

#### Media & Technology:

- Wiring is run for new safety swipe card system. Waiting on installation of hardware.
- Determining assignment of swipe cards. Members can be let in remotely. Report suggestions back to council.
- Purchasing microphone and microphone stand.

#### **Old Business:**

- Mission statement Present at next council meeting to approve to present to entire congregation at our Annual Congregational meeting.
- Constitution Attached in google folder and sent to council member's e-mail. Council to read and present comments and suggestions to Sheila by November 5<sup>th</sup>, and council to approve at next council meeting November 16<sup>th</sup>. Ready to present to entire congregation at our Annual Congregational meeting.
- Nominee committee met and sent out letters, excerpt from the constitution re: roles & responsibilities of council members included with letters; asking to prayerfully consider being a council member and will be contacting them in early November for their decision.

#### **New Business:**

- Trish to assign November Epistle article.
- Church directory updated and will be sent to Council to start calling members not attending in -person. Cards available to write a personal note to members. Pastor Phil ask for additional ways we could stay connected to our church family who are not able to be in person.

Adjournment: Motion made by Patty Rimel; seconded by Keith Horton. Council approved.

Trish closed with prayer.

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# Help us decorate for Christmas by purchasing a Poinsettia!

Red are available for \$10.00 each. You can sign up on line at <u>https://forms.gle/eP2TYGSjeWKDX4SV9</u>, You can use the QR code here, or in person at the Parish Office, with a check or cash.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 19th.





# SAVE THE DATE!

TOWN OF WALKERSVILLE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING Creamery Park (corner of S. Glade Rd. & Pennsylvania Ave. Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 7:00pm. *Please Join Us!* 



# Dec. 4 th is getting close!!

- We still have a need for Mrs. Claus's Attic (Any Christmas items you no longer use/need or gently used knick knacks getting dusty waiting for a yard sale) Call Marie for a pickup 240-446-1641
- Also needed are donations of baked goods (cookies/breads) which should be sent to the Parish Hall no later than Thurs. 9 am to 1 pm .... and 4:30 pm til 7pm
- Also need some extra hands to sit at tables to help people choose their items (no selling involved) we have a cashier at the door.

This event is to keep the community spirit alive and invite people to get to know us better. The church will also be open that day with the Christmas tree up and the new organ playing music for all who enter in.

# So, prayerfully consider volunteering where you can!

Starting November 28th through December 19th Christmas Dinner envelopes and Hat and Mitten donation tree will be located in the library area as you enter the church on the side door. Please take an envelope to be put in the offering plate if you would like to donate to the food bank. Hats and mittens can be placed on the tree or nearby. **THANK YOU!!** 





We are again blessed that an anonymous donor has offered a matching challenge of \$1,500 to assist where most needed by the end of the year. If members of the congregation can contribute \$1,500 over and above their normal giving, the anonymous member will match the contribution.

If you are writing a check, please include "Challenge" on the memo line. If you prefer to give on-line, please use the "GIVE NOW" button and choose the undesignated selection in the Fund dropdown and add "Challenge" in the "Note" section. The deadline for the challenge is Sunday, December 26 th .



Winter Love Bags – an outreach project to comfort those during the winter months who are recently bereaved, sick, elderly, unable to leave one's home (especially during COVID) and those we care about at St. Paul's and in our community.

# ALL FAMILIES AND CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!

Congregational Life Committee is asking for your support by donating monies or purchasing the following items to help us fill the comfort bags: packaged hard candy bags, cough drops, Chapstick (brand), playing cards, word search books, puzzle books, Kleenex small square boxes, any prepackaged snacks, or anything that will bring care and love to shut-ins.

*Now through December 5th* – Submit names of loved ones to receive a comfort bag to the Parish Office.

*Now through December 8th* - Donations can be dropped off during office hours (in the designated bin) or on Sundays (church).

# **PLEASE JOIN US!!**

**December 11th @ TBD** – Everyone is invited to help with packing the winter comfort bags in the Parish Hall. *Afterwards, we will carpool and deliver the comfort bags and sing carols.* 

You can make an impact on the Saint Paul's Community while you shop for Black Friday deals. Simply go to: smile.amazon.com and AmazonSmile will donate to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, at no cost to you.



# \*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\*

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hxL6neuQ5Y

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming in our weekly email. You can always watch live on our Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/saintpaulslutheranofwalkersville/</u>,

by going to our website, www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org,



Would you like to schedule a Sunday to sponsor Altar flowers? Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office to arrange a date

# \*\*\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*\* Parish office closed for Thanksgiving November 25th and 26th.

# **GVCS Food Bank**

Donations for Glade Valley Food Bank are always accepted! Items of need are: Mac-n-cheese Spaghetti sauce Individual fruit cups Toothpaste Shampoo and Conditioner Feminine pads.



Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall

# <u>Staff</u>

Minister-202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)Pastor Phil Beck
Youth Coordinator-240-315-5030 (youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)Belinda Burriss
Office Administrator- 301-845-4600 (office administrator@saintpauls luther anchurch.org) Joann Valainis
Music CoordinatorNancy Cochran
Flower CoordinatorPatty Rimel
Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
SextonLarry Beard
Stephen MinistryLinda Yopp
Property CoordinatorRuss Mildenstein
Financial SecretaryTroy Keeney