



SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Phil Beck
 Lector.....Phil Smith
 Organist.....Jeff Gentry
 Ushers.....Sam and Madison Carroll
 Acolytes.....Camden Plog, Journey Gardner & Kay Wachter

Staff

Minister:202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Pastor Phil Beck
 Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Joann Valainis
 Music CoordinatorJeff Gentry
 Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
 Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
 SextonLarry Beard
 Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
 Property Coordinator.....
 Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney

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. From sundaysandseasons.com | Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved | License # SAS103410, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #736745-A. All rights reserved. CCLI Copyright © 2024 License 21412874, Streaming 21412867 All rights reserved



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
 December 21, 2025**

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE —9:00 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600

E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org>

Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEggsBUXlow1I7-Q>



*Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body,
 mind, and spirit of all.*

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Sheila Kahler
 Vice-President—Lauren McCloskey
 Treasurer—Patty Rimel
 Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

**Stand as you are able*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BELL RUNG

CANDLES LIT

GATHERING

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRAYER LIST REMINDER:

As of January 1, 2026 our prayer list will begin anew. If there is anyone on the list currently that you would like to remain on the list going into 2026, please email or call the Parish Office.

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator. When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you *specifically* ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. *The power of prayer is amazing!*

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20



**Annual Reports are
due 12/31/2025**



**Deadline for January
Epistle is Monday,
December 22nd**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Choir rehearsals will
be Thursday Dec. 23rd
at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.*



COMMUNITY DINNER

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Bring Family and Friends
Tuesday, January 6, 2026 and
Saturday, January 17, 2026 5pm-7pm
Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church,
101 S Main St., Woodsboro, MD
Please see Roxanne Smith with any questions.

Donations for
Glade Valley Food Bank
are always accepted!

UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:

cereal, boxed crackers, tuna,
spaghetti sauce and
peanut butter.



REMINDER



JANUARY 18TH, 10:00AM

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

JANUARY 25TH, 10:00AM



'Calling all the helpers!'

We are at that time of year when the outgoing council members are seeking new hands to continue our work as the leadership of St Paul's. If you have ever felt a calling or curiosity about council leadership and what we do, please seek out Pastor, Sheila, Lauren or any council member for answers!

GATHERING HYMN

Fling Wide the Door.....ELW 259

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

*GREETING

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)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath

O come, O come Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on
high, and close the path to misery.

Refrain

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

Refrain

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

Anthem: "Advent Grace"Choir

Words adapted from Phillips Brooks (1867) by Jean Anne Shafferman, and Arranged by Lloyd Larson Tunes: NEW BRITAIN (Virginia Harmony, 1831) and FOREST GREEN (Traditional English melody), Copyright 2009 Lorenz Publishing, Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading
Joseph like a flock;

**shine forth, you that are
enthroned upon the
cherubim.**

² In the presence of Ephraim,
Benjamin, and Manasseh,

**stir up your strength and
come to help us.**

³ Restore us, O God;

**let your face shine upon us,
and we shall be saved.**

⁴ O LORD God of hosts,

**how long will your anger
fume when your people
pray?**

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of
tears;

**you have given them bowls of
tears to drink.**

⁶ You have made us the derision of our
neighbors,

**and our enemies laugh us to
scorn.**

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;

**let your face shine upon us,
and we shall be saved.**

¹⁷ Let your hand be upon the one at
your right hand,

**the one you have made so
strong for yourself.**

¹⁸ And so will we never turn away
from you;

**give us life, that we may call
upon your name.**

¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;

**let your face shine upon us,
and we shall be saved.**

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 151)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*******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=MSjMt2zt0KM> December 14, 2025. Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@saintpaulslutheranchurchof7880>

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of
God and in honor of John-Paul Kadoura's
birthday by his mom, Kate Stottlemeyer.*



St. Paul's will have our traditional 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Please consider joining us in person to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

***Would you like to sponsor
Altar flowers?***

***Please contact Patty Rimel through
the Parish Office if you would like to
arrange a date to offer flowers.***



***The Parish Office will
be closed December 25th,
Christmas Day and on
Friday, December 26th.***

<u>This Week at St Paul's</u>	
<u>Sunday, December 21st</u>	
Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
Fourth Sunday of Advent	
<u>Tuesday, December 23rd</u>	
Choir Rehearsal	6:30-8:00pm
<u>Wednesday, December 24th</u>	
Christmas Eve Service	7:00pm
<u>Thursday, December 25th</u>	
<i>Christmas Day</i>	
<u>Sunday, December 28th</u>	
Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
<i>First Sunday of Christmas</i>	
Faith Formation	10:00am

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,110.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need: \$350.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income

December 14, 2025

Weekly Contributions: \$

Property Loan Fund: \$

Total: \$

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions: \$

Property Loan Fund: \$

Total: \$

ATTENDANCE:

December 14, 2025

In person:

Virtual:

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon....."SAVIOR, Not What We Expect"Pastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior of the Nations, Come.....ELW 263

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: ... God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

***The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

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

***OFFERTORY HYMN:****DOXOLOGY**.....**ELW 885**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (ELW p. 144)

P: Let us pray.
God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING, MEAL (p. 152)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***THE PREFACE:**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**PRAYERS
FOR OUR MILITARY
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

†Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce,
grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
†U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik,
grandson of Sam Purswell
†Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of
Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
†Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of
Marcia & Raj Gupta
†Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of
Mary Ann Ferguson
†Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of
Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in
law
†Aaron Martz, U.S. Navy, Grandson of
Ken Martz

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

*Do you or someone you know
have need for prayer?
If so, please know that we have a
prayer team at St. Paul's that is
ready to help.
Simply contact Merle Anderson at
301-845-2317.
All requests are confidential.*

OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community. Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.

<https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/>



Betsy Galliher, Member
Joe Collins, Cousin of Joann Valainis
Mark Holloway, Husband of Kate Stottlemeyer
Sue Snyder, Member
Bert Fiske, Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider
Joseph Matthew Moschella, Friend of the Plowmans
Jack Lotwick, Friend of Robb and Dianne Port
Bob Schmidt, Brother of Dottie Titmas
Parker Bazarewski, Extended family of Ed Chaney
Dudley Cate, Family friends of Ed Chaney
Patty Plitt, Cousin of Ed Chaney
Regina Baker, Member
Leanne Colwell, Friend of Sue Snyder
Geraldine Hills, Friend of St. Paul's
Charlie Snow, Friend of Sue Snyder
Kira Wynne, Friend of Sue Snyder
Ariana Christ, Family Friend of Pastor Phil Beck
Marion Lawrence, Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer
Pastor Phyllis Haynes, A colleague of Pastor Phil Beck.
Elizabeth Krouse, Friend of Nancy Cochran
Nancy Wynne, Friend of Sue Snyder
Ellen Bucheimer, Member
Shirley Eyler, Member
Anne Barstow, Sister of Dan Carroll
Jamie Sulima, Member
Linda Koelsch, Friend of Ed Chaney
Joseph Evans, Father of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima
Lauren McCloskey, Member
Mark Wichtendahl, Friend of Sue Beck
Marion Lawrence, Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer
Emily Kilmon, daughter of Betsy Galliher
Richard Pratt, brother of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing!

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (p. 153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW P. 153)

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

***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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

- P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION HYMN (P.154)

- C: **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,
grant us peace.**

COMMUNION

- P: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P: Let us pray,
God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day
when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make
known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in
harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you
may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: The God of all grace † bless you now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN.....All Earth Is HopefulELW 266**

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

***DISMISSAL**

GO IN PEACE, CHRIST IS WITH YOU.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

