

First Sunday of Advent



In-Person/Live Service

November 28, 2021

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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*Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.
MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:
For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1*

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
- C God, you see us and you know us better than we know ourselves. You see those places in our lives we are holding back from you. All the ways our greed stops us from sharing the gifts you have given us; all the ways our selfishness has blocked us from knowing your love; all the ways our fears keep us from living life in all its fullness. God, for Jesus sake, forgive us. Help us to trust you so that we can let go of all that holds us back from you.
- P People of God, remember this truth. Jesus will never hold back his love, grace, or mercy from us. He has gone all in for us on the cross. Hear this promise and let it sink in. You are forgiven and you are unconditionally loved by God. So let go of everything holding you back, be changed by grace, and live life in all its fullness.
- C Amen.

My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

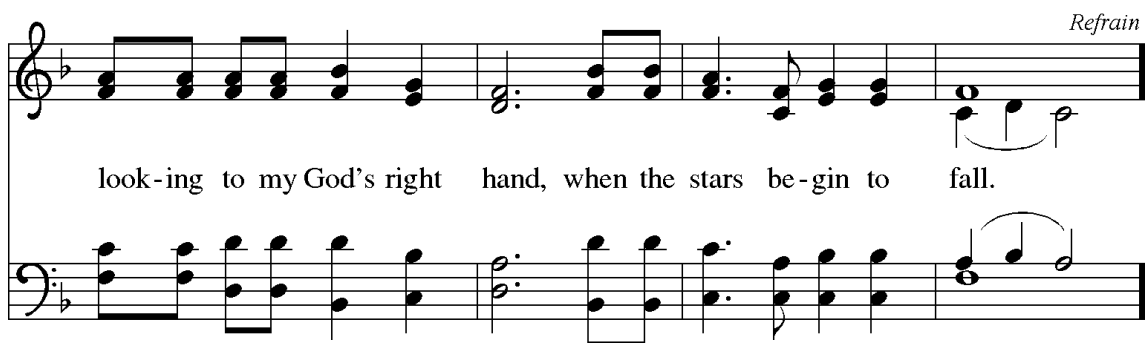


my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Apostolic 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.

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.

C Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The LORD is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-20 (read responsively)

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)

A To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

C My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

A Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

A 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.

- C Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**
- A 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.**
- C You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- A You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.**
- C All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**
-
- A The Word of the Lord**
- C Thanks be to God.**
-
- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st Chapter.**
- C Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[Jesus said:] "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner

Hymn of the Day: TFF 37

He Came Down

The musical score for 'He Came Down' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 7/8. The first system contains the first four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn, including the 'hal-le-lu-jah' refrain. Both systems feature triplet markings over groups of three notes in both the vocal and piano parts.

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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Apostles' Creed

A Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Prayers of the Church

A In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer List, and those we name either silently or aloud Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by

natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

Offering, Music, and Offertory Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not be able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's to the church office 4007 Main St., Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

P Let us pray.

C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence and your love. Amen

Dialogue and Preface

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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

*Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread, take the wine and return to your seat via the side aisle. *Or remain in your seat and use the elements you picked up on the way into church. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.*

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: WOV (744 on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P May you be unleashed, unleashed into the world, as we go in peace and serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: November 28-December 5, 2021

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, Sunday School
11:00 am: Annual Christmas Decorating Party
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30-6:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share at St. Paul's
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
7:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety Too Meeting
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Friday:** 6:00-9:00 pm: Parish Hall is booked for a meeting
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
11:00 am-2:00 pm: Holiday Needs Drive
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 108

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031
Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221
Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227
Chad Israel and Hayley Israel
David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214
Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221
Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105
Betty Venator: PO Box 386, Williamsville, NY 14231
David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Lanny Repman and Norm Kreuzer (friends of Sharon Ries); Aurora Miano (Robin and Joseph Miano's granddaughter); Ira Striejewske; Thomas Maier

Deacon Schedule: 11/28: Barbara Walter; 12/5: John Schunak

Usher Schedule: 11/28: Lonny Walter and Gerry Keppel; 12/5: Mike and Michele Degen

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Reservations are not required. With the increase of the Covid variant in our area, we are asking everyone to wear a face mask until they are seated and distanced in church. If you are singing, please make sure you have a face mask on. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also being livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

WNY Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The Pantry hours for December are: Thursdays 12/2, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 12/13 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm.

Donations for December are Juice, snacks such as pretzels, spaghetti-O's, and canned ravioli.

Daily Bread Food Truck: The Daily Bread Food Truck has moved onto their "give one" season and is parked in the St. Paul's driveway next to the flag pole each Monday giving hot meals out from 4:30-6:30 pm. Starting Saturday December 11th, we will also be giving meals on the Saturdays that the Tiger's Den Food Pantry is open from 9am-11:30am.

Second Annual Holiday Needs Drive: Sunday December 5th from 11 am-2 pm. Bring your non-perishable food items, grocery gift cards or cash donations for drop off. All proceeds benefit FeedMore WNY and the Tiger's Den Food Pantry, the Daily Bread Food Truck and the Parkside Food Pantry. Meet some of our church and tv personalities while you're here. For more information, go to www.wnychurchunleashed.com.

Haitian Church: Welcome to the Haitian Church. They are now worshipping at St. Paul's every Saturday from 9am-3pm.

Christmas Eve Worship: St. Paul's will be offering 40 min abbreviated in-person worship services on Christmas eve at 4pm (which will be live-streaming to you-tube channel) and 7pm. WNY Church Unleashed will also be offering their service at 5 pm on MeTV.



Annual Poinsettia Dedications

Poinsettias are \$10 per plant

Dedications for Poinsettias will be noted in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please indicate how you wish the dedication to read on the form below. Please return order form with check payable to St. Paul's by mail or on the offering plate.

ABSOLUTE Deadline for orders is December 5th

Poinsettia(s) ____ (\$10 each)

____ Please deliver my plant to a shut-in member
after Christmas

Poinsettias are Given to the Glory of the Newborn King...

in memory of _____
by _____

OR

in honor of _____
by _____

OR

in celebration of _____
by _____





+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: David Schunak

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Gerri Horton

*Janelle Andersen Susan Epstein Matt Fricano
Nick Hazlett Debbie Regan-Howe Robert Simpson*

*Pastor Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)
E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org*

*Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer
Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette
Youth Ministry: Adam Weber*

*Parish Administrator: Katie Basham
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