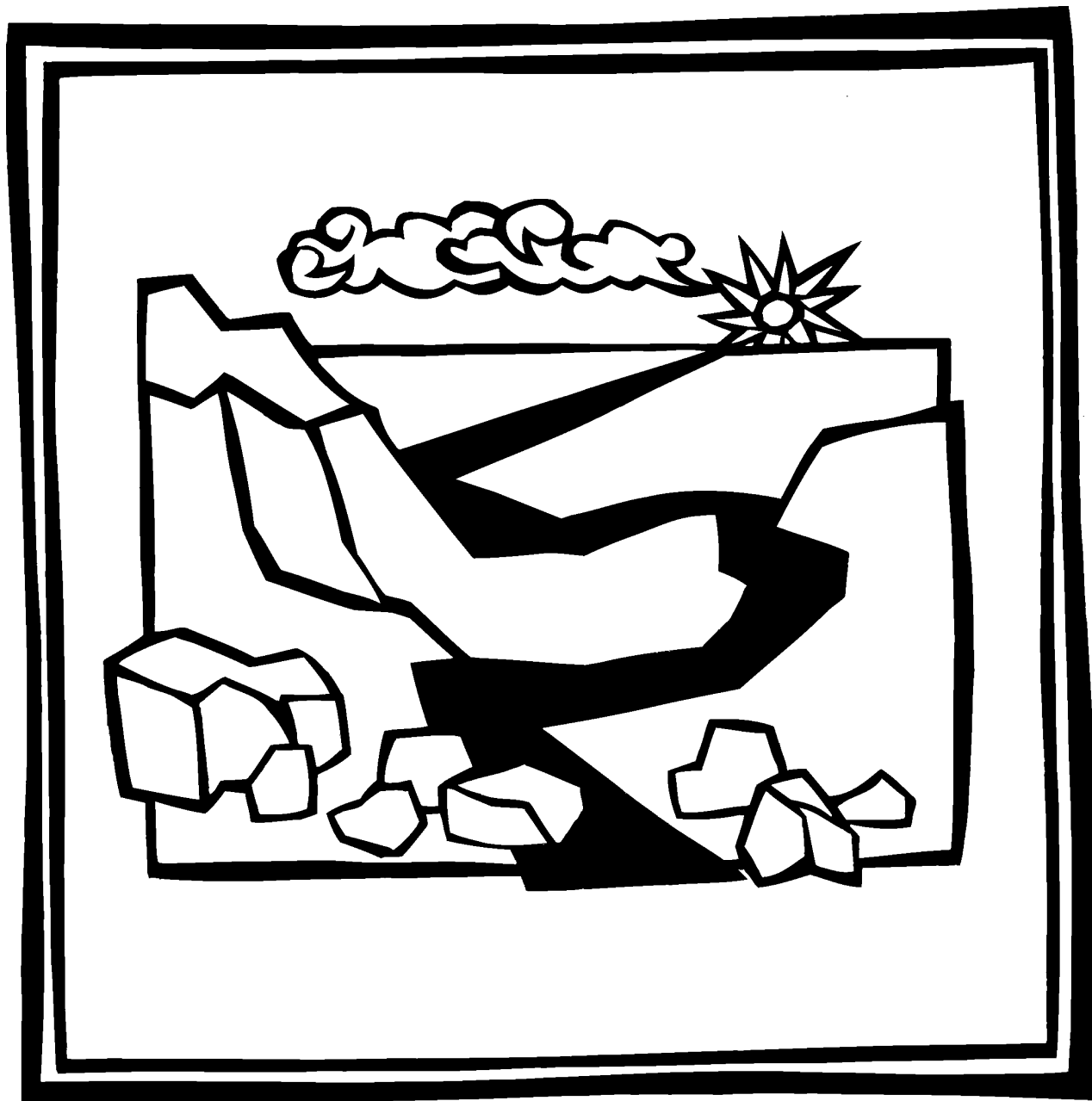


*Second Sunday
of Advent*



In-Person/Live Service
December 5, 2021

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Second Sunday of Advent
December 5, 2021



*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, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.
- C God for whom we wait, as church together, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.
- P God's love is unleashed into this world for all of us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven and through the grace of Jesus, you are set free from the burdens of fear and shame. Amen.

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79 (read responsively)

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (Lk. 1:78)

A Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free.

C You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.

A Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

- C** to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.
- A** This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- C** free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.
- A** And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
- C** to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.
- A** In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- C** to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
-
- A** The Word of the Lord
- C** Thanks be to God.
-
- P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 3rd Chapter.
- C** Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

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

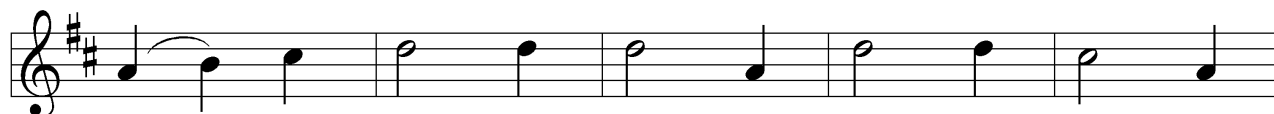
Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner

Hymn of the Day: LBW 36

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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.

You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming.

Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Send your Spirit to all living creatures that are endangered. Provide them with shelter and care, and bring us into right relationship with the earth that you create and call good. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; immigrants; the imprisoned; those living in poverty; and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries and our lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, or ill, especially for the people on our Prayer List, and those we name either silently or aloud. Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A Send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received. Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A We remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming. 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 Street, 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: (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.

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: December 5th–12th

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, Sunday School
11:00 am to 2:00 pm: Annual Holiday Needs Drive
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:** 8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 7:00 pm: Alanon
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday:** 9:00-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship
9:00-11:30 am: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share with TD Food Pantry
9:00 am–1:00 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry is open
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 110

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: Kevin Dennis (friend of Scott Vahue), Judy Brown (daughter of Kathryn Brown and sister of Bob Brown), Lanny Repman and Norm Kreuzer (friends of Sharon Ries); Aurora Miano (Robin and Joseph Miano's granddaughter); Ira Striejewski; Thomas Maier

Deacon Schedule: 12/12 Sara Gallagher

Usher Schedule: 12/12 Ellen Herdman and Sharon Adimey

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Reservations are not required. In accordance with NY State mandates and because of the increase of the Covid variant in our area, we are asking everyone to wear a face mask while in the building at all times regardless of vaccination status. 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 2nd, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 12/13 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. The Pantry will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25th. 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 (through the winter), 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: **TODAY!** 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 Peniel 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 and 7pm. Both services will be live-streamed, as well. 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 today, 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

E-mail: katie@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org