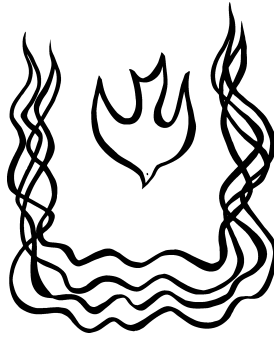


*Third Sunday  
of Advent*



*In-Person/Live Service*  
*December 12, 2021*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church*  
*Third Sunday of Advent*  
*December 12, 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.

## Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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### *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 the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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: Micah 5:2-5a*

*The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

### ***Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10***

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings". Then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the First Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

### ***Gospel: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]***

*Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner*

*Hymn of the Day: LBW 29*

## Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 “Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain!



Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign!



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## *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.

Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great.

A Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day, 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 Rejoicing God, you exult over us in singing. Enliven the song of this assembly and bless the ministry of church musicians. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A We give you thanks for your servants who showed us your goodness and grace. By the power of your Spirit, keep us steadfast in faith until we make our home with you. 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.

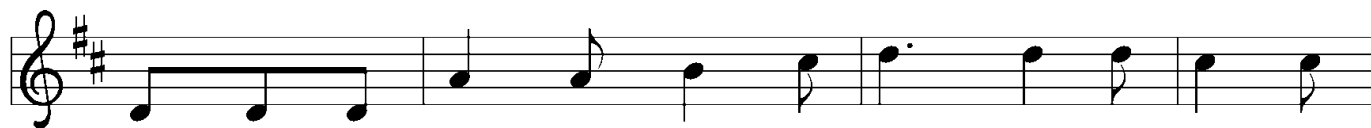
***Closing Hymn: WOV 626 (on the following page)***

***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.

## People, Look East



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: December 12th—19th

**TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, Sunday School  
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:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
7:00 pm: Alanon  
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday:** 9:00-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship

**Sunday:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Children's Christmas Pageant, Communion, and Sunday School  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

**Attendance last week:** YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 103

***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, 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 16th, 23rd and 30th from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 12/11 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.

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

***Haiti:*** Due to the ongoing unrest and safety concerns in Haiti, we have not been able to send any mission teams to Ile A Vache, Haiti in over two years. We are hoping and planning to resume when it is safe to do so. In the meantime our hearts are heavy with a desire to help our Haitian friends. We want to remind you that Caribbean Children's Foundation is seeking donations for their ongoing work at Grace school and orphanage and you can donate to them at <https://www.caribbeanchildrensfoundation.org/donate>. Closer to home, we are collecting donations for Vive shelter, a program of Jericho Road Community Health Program in Buffalo. According to a recent Buffalo news article people from Haiti and Colombia are among the largest groups of refugees seeking asylum in the US and Canada and being housed temporarily at the shelter on Wyoming Ave. Michelle Biegner is facilitating a collection of items on their wish list to assist with the influx of these families. Please consider making a donation of one of the following items between Thanksgiving and Christmas and they will be delivered to the shelter for use at the shelter.

Vive Shelter Wishlist: Donation box at church entrance.

Warm sleep sacks for infants 0-12 months (fleece, long-sleeved preferred), Baby Bottles, Diapers Sizes 4, 5, and 6

Towels, Shower flip flops (all sizes), Shampoo (especially for Black/African hair), Sanitary/ menstrual pads, Nail clippers, Women's and children's underwear

Tissues (required back to school supply), Disinfectant wipes (required back to school supply)

Twin sheets, Pillows

Kids' snacks (Goldfish, granola bars, animal crackers, fruit snacks, dried fruit chips)

Gift cards to Walmart, Target for needed supplies (can be given to Pastor Steve or Michelle Biegner)

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**Christmas Worship  
Schedule**



*Come join us for an abbreviated  
40 min in-person service at*

**12 pm at Clarence Town Park  
Pavillion on Goodrich Rd -  
WNY Church Unleashed Staff**

**4 pm at St. Paul's**

**5 pm on MeTV - WNY Church Unleashed**

**7 pm at St. Paul's**

*In accordance with NY State mandates, and for the health  
and safety for all of our members,  
masks are required in the building at all times.*

*If you have any questions,  
please feel free to contact the office at  
716-835-0407.*

ST. PAUL'S  
4007 MAIN STREET  
EGGERTSVILLE, NY 14226

716-835-0407



*+ 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](mailto: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](mailto:katie@stpaulseggertsville.org)*

*Telephone: (716) 835-0407*

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*Website: [www.stpaulseggertsville.org](http://www.stpaulseggertsville.org)*