

# *First Sunday of Advent*



*December 1, 2024  
10:00 am  
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Egbertsville Campus  
First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024*



*Guest Musician: Billy Brandau*

*Confession and Forgiveness*

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God of mercy,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful and we cling to false comforts.
- P God of might,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.
- P God in our midst,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We forget to notice you present with us. We yearn to see you again!
- P Friends, a righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ☩ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.
- C Amen.

## The King Shall Come



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
-dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

### *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.

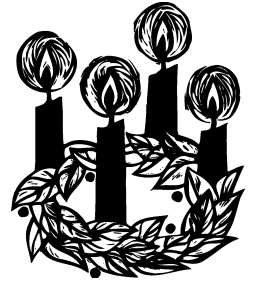
C And also with you.

### *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

## *Children's Time*



### *Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Week 1: Hope*

- P Today we light the candle of hope. In our most desperate times, by day or by night, the hope of Christ may be found. We watch and we wait to witness the hope of heaven making a place here on earth.
- C We light the candle of hope, because hope has come to us. Welcome, hope of Christ!

### *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.*

<sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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 This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

### *Psalms 25:1-10 (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 This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

***Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13***

*Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation**  
*Celtic Alleluia*



*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st Chapter  
C Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: Luke 21:25-36***

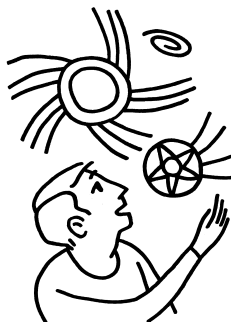
*God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.*

[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***



## My Lord, What a Morning

*Refrain*



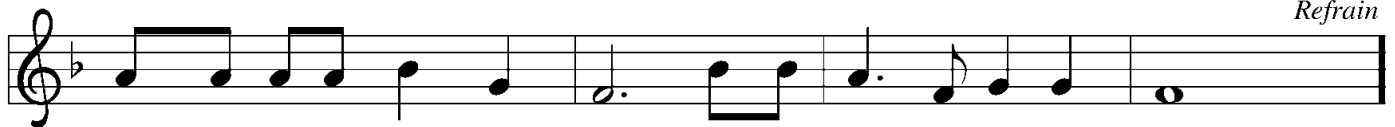
My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



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.

## *Apostle's Creed*

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)
- God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.



### *Ways to Give to St. Paul's:*

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:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

QR Code:



### *Offering Music and Prayer*

P Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, God of surprising grace. You call us to bold acts of kindness and brave gestures of solidarity. Receive and hallow these offerings of our time and treasure that we share today and in our planned giving. Multiply these gifts so that your reign of plenty and peace may be known by all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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

*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 and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. 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 Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C Amen.

### *Benediction*

P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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: ELW 439 (on the following page)*

### *Sharing the Peace and Sending*

P Go in peace to 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: December 1-8, 2024

\* Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus \*

- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum  
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at (AC)  
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School  
11:30-1:00 pm: Confirmation Class at Parkside Lutheran  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:30-5:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study  
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main  
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group  
6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group  
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Friday:** 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging (formerly Emotional Sobriety II)
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC  
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC  
6:00-9:00 pm: Youth Night at AC
- Sunday:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC  
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School  
10:45 am: Annual Congregational Meeting following 10:00 am Worship Service  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

*Altar Flowers:* Are given in honor of Sharon Ries for her Birthday this week.

*Deacons:* 12/1: Martin Troutman; 12/8: Nancy Bartels-Holliman

*Ushers:* 12/1: Gerri Horton & Helen Gibson; 12/8: Ellen Herdman & Jim Tanevich

*Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family:* Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Thomas Maier; Charles Herschlag; Kathy Greenawalt; Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson

*Prayer List: Shut-Ins (\* indicates new names or changes added this week)*

Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031 Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

Elaine Masman: Doseberg Campus, Room 120, 2700 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221  
Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221  
David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

### ***PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS***

***In-Person Worship:*** St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

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

***Prayer Team Ministry:*** Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: [Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com)

***Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room:*** Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

### ***NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS***

***Daily Bread Food Truck:*** The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:30-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or [dailybread4007@gmail.com](mailto:dailybread4007@gmail.com). The DBFT is in need of volunteers to help with our Wegman's Sunday morning food pick up. We work along with the Western New York Food Shuttle to distribute donated prepared food, veggies/fruit and bread received from Wegman's. All donations are distributed with our Monday Food Truck meals. We need additional support to pick up at the Wegman's Alberta Drive location at 7:45 am and then do an additional pick up at the Wegman's Sheridan Drive location immediately after. All product is then brought back to the church kitchen.

***Tigers Den Food Pantry:*** The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The pantry hours for December are: Thursdays 12/5 and 12/19 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 12/14 and 12/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for December: toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues.

### ***Angel Tree 2024***



Once again we're partnering with the Amherst Middle school social workers to provide assistance for families who need a little extra help this time of year. You may select a tag and purchase the item and return it by Dec. 15th. Attach the tag and place the gifts, UNWRAPPED, under the tree. The parents enjoy wrapping the presents. There will be a box for gift cards under the tree.

If you don't like to shop, "angels" will do the shopping for you.

Any questions, Cheryl 341-507



The Peniel Haitian Church at the Amherst Campus  
is once again sponsoring a coat drive for Haitian families in need.  
All donations can be placed in the large bin at both campuses.  
Donations need to be in by December 15.



**Family Retreat at LCLC**  
Light to the World!  
Fri. Jan 10 - Sun. Jan 12

Time for your family to connect and play together as well as some time planned separately for kids and adults. We'll explore how to harness your family's unique gifts.  
Retreat is designed toward families with children and led by Kristen Arends.



**Adult Retreat at LCLC**  
Anchored in God's Love  
Fri. Jan 24 - Sun. Jan 26



Through small group discussions, worship together and cocktail hour, explore what it means to be anchored in God's love with other St. Paul missionaries and friends. Enjoy some time away for respite & renewal. This retreat is designed for adults and led by Barb Walters.  
If you are interested in attending, please sign-up on the sheet in the Church Vestibule.



*+ 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: Robert Simpson  
Vice-President: Tim Johnson  
Treasurer: William Niblock  
Secretary: Scott Vahue  
Bob Brown   David Dahlberg   Susan Epstein  
Sara Hannon   Janet Schmidt   Vanessa Solomon   Barbara Walter*

**Pastoral Leaders**

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: [steve@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:steve@stpaulseggertsville.com)  
Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)*

**Directors of Music:** *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)*

**Christian Education Coordinator:** *June Piette*

**Youth Ministry:** *Kristen Arends*

**Digital Ministry:** *Andrew Gruszka*

**Facilities Manager:** *Jeff Stein*

**Church Office Staff**

*Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary  
E-mail: [office@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com)  
Telephone: (716) 835-0407  
Website: [www.stpaulseggertsville.com](http://www.stpaulseggertsville.com)*

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus  
4007 Main Street  
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

*Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am*

*St. Paul's Amherst Campus  
5125 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221*

*Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm*