

*St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*Paulding, Ohio*  
*Sunday, December 20, 2020*  
*Fourth Sunday in Advent*  
*Holy Communion*  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church** God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

*\*please stand as able*



**PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Most merciful God,

**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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG**

**LBW 34**

*“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”*

(Verses 1 & 5)

**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.**

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

**\*ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP**

Now hear the words of Isaiah: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
**and the government will be on his shoulders.**

And he will be called  
**Wonderful Counselor,**  
*(The first candle of the Advent Wreath is lit at this time.)*

And he will be called  
**Mighty God,**  
*(The second candle of the Advent Wreath is lit at this time.)*

And he will be called  
**Everlasting Father,**  
*(The third candle of the Advent Wreath, the pink candle, is lit at this time.)*

And he will be called  
**Prince of Peace,**  
*(The fourth candle of the Advent Wreath is lit at this time.)*

He is...  
**Emmanuel, God is with us.**  
*(The Christ candle of the Advent Wreath is lit at this time.)*

So with all the joy of Christ's coming, we gather and sing:

**\*HYMN**

*"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"*  
**Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.**

**ELW 240**

**Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.**

**Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway  
for the King of glory.**

**Light four candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.  
Let your lights be shining!**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*FIRST READING**

**2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make

you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*PSALM**

**Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26**

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**<sup>2</sup>For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**<sup>4</sup>"I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations."**

<sup>19</sup>You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: "I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

**<sup>20</sup>I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

<sup>21</sup>My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

**<sup>22</sup>No enemy shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked bring him down.**

<sup>23</sup>I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

**<sup>24</sup>My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him, and he shall be victorious through my name.**

<sup>25</sup>I will set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.

**<sup>26</sup>He will say to me, 'You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'**

**\*SECOND READING**

**Romans 16:25-27**

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***“Emmanuel”***W&P 36**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
His name is called Emmanuel;  
God with us, revealed in us;  
His name is called Emmanuel.**

**\*GOSPEL****Luke 1:26-38**

The holy gospel according to Luke the first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

<sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.”

<sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MORNING MESSAGE****Pastor Clyde Singh****HYMN OF THE DAY***“What Child is This?”***LBW 40**

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,**

whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you;  
hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

#### **\*APOSTLES CREED**

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 INTERCESSION**

*Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God,"*

*The congregation responds: "Your mercy is great."*

God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and faiths. Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence especially Carol Flint, Elaine Sierer, Betty Blockberger, Mary & Steve Clark, Lynn Conrad, Bud Cotterman, Betty Smalley, Jared DeLong, Sam Clippenger, Burl Barnes, and Ivan Aldred. Our friends Nick Bostelman, Alice Hunt, George Hunt, Roberta, Tom Zuber, Scott St. John, Romaine Boundy, Bob and Gretchen Noneman and Nancy Kuns. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING SONG**

*“We Are An Offering”*

**W&P 146**

**We lift our voice, we lift our hands,**

**We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,**

**Lord, use our lives, they are yours; we are an offering**

**All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to  
you, we give to you.**

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:**

**We are an offering, we are an offering**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

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.

**Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**\*PREFACE**

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:

**\*SANCTUS**

*“Holy, holy, holy...”*

**ELW pg. 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**

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\*COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

**\*COMMUNION SONG**

**“One Bread, One Body”  
(Verse 2)**

**W&P 111**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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. **Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

**LBW 45**

(Verses 1-2, 4)

**O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**The highest, most holy,  
light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father  
now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**



**Birthdays:**

Brad Kauser.....December 25

Kim Strahley.....December 25

**WHEN YOU PRAY, REMEMBER.....**

Carol Flint, Elaine Sierer, Betty Blockberger, Mary & Steve Clark, Lynn Conrad, Bud Cotterman, Betty Smalley, Jared DeLong, Sam Clippenger, Burl Barnes, and Ivan Aldred. Our friends Nick Bostelman, Alice Hunt, George Hunt, Roberta, Tom Zuber, Scott St. John, Romaine Boundy, Bob and Gretchen Noneman and Nancy Kuns.

**Those Serving In The United States Military:** Jordan Phlipot, Taylor Hatcher, Jared DeLong, Miah Coil, Brad Crawford, Adam Deatrick, Adriana Gonzales, Ian Munger, Brendon Lothamer, Suzanne Laney, Sarah Scott, Westen Phlipot and Macy Iler.

**Child Fund Orphans:** Andre & Ana

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020:  
OFFERING December 13: \$2032                      NEEDED WEEKLY: \$3458**

**The flowers adorning our altar** this morning are given to the glory of God by Margaret Phlipot in honor of her church family.

We will be having a Christmas Eve. service Thursday, December 24 at 9pm. Pastor Clyde Singh will be leading our service.

**THOSE SERVING SUNDAY, December 20, 2020:**

Pastor.....Pastor Clyde Singh  
Pianist.....Bill Brune  
Reader.....Dave Burtch  
Money Counters.....Dave Burtch, Michelle Johns, Margaret Phlipot  
A/V Tech.....Jon Rhodes

**THOSE SERVING SUNDAY, December 27, 2020:**

Pastor.....Pastor Clyde Singh  
Pianist.....Bill Brune  
Reader.....Doug Burtch  
Money Counters.....CW & Sandra Harper, Cindy Kauser  
A/V Tech.....Dan Wilder