

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026

Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Vertrau Auf Gott! [Trust in God]
Services are being live-streamed and recorded.

The Holy Eucharist

Announcements & Prelude

A Hymn in Procession –*"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"***Hymnal #242**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord!
People **Thanks be to God.**
Celebrant O Root of Jesse, who stands as an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and to whom the Gentiles shall make their supplication:
People **Come, and deliver us and tarry not.**
Celebrant
A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots… on that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. *Isaiah 11:1, 10*

Celebrant
Father in heaven, you sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn–*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* **Hymnal #257 verse 1**

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Comforting God, **we are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.**

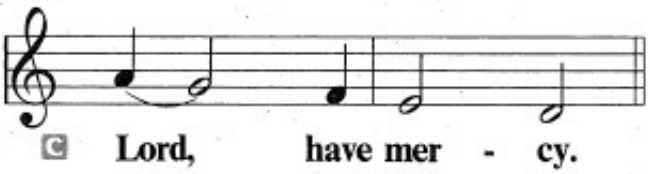
Celebrant
"Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! **Amen.**

The Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie Eleison – *"Lord, have mercy"*

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*Response:***And also with you.***)*

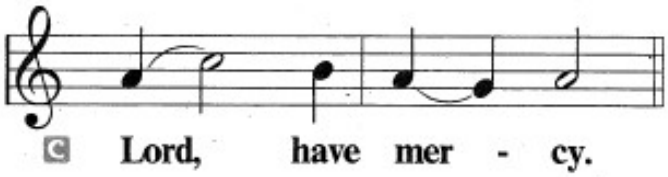
Celebrant In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People



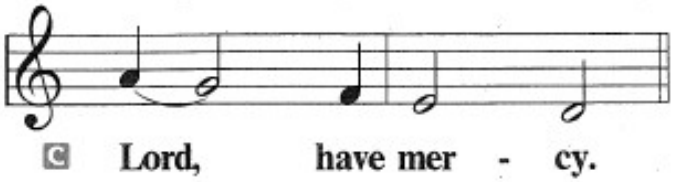
Celebrant For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People



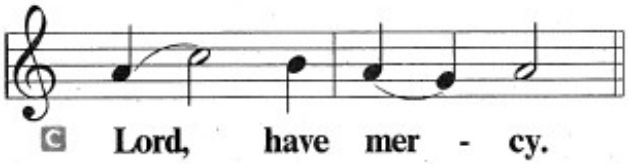
Celebrant For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People



Celebrant For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People



Celebrant Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

People



The Canticle – *The Gloria in Excelsis*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.** *Celebrant* Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Reading of Isaiah 64:1-9

[1] O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—[2] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! [3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. [4] From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. [5] You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. [6] We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. [7] There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. [8] Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. [9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Read responsively.

[1] Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

[2] **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.

[3] Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

[4] **O LORD God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

[5] You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

[6] **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

[7] Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

[17] **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.

[18] And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

[19] **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

A Reading of 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—[7] so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be

blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

The Alleluia and Verse

The Celebrant and People

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

A Reading of the Gospel according to Mark 13:24-37

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] [24] "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, [25] and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. [26] "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. [27] Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

[28] "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30] Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. [31] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

[32] "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. [33] Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. [34] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. [35] Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, [36] or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon *Rev. Robert Lehman*

A Hymn – *"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"* **Hymnal #251**

The Apostles' Creed

The Celebrant and People together

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

After each petition, (God, in your mercy) the congregation responds: **Receive our prayer.**

The Sharing of Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be with you always.
People **And also with you.**

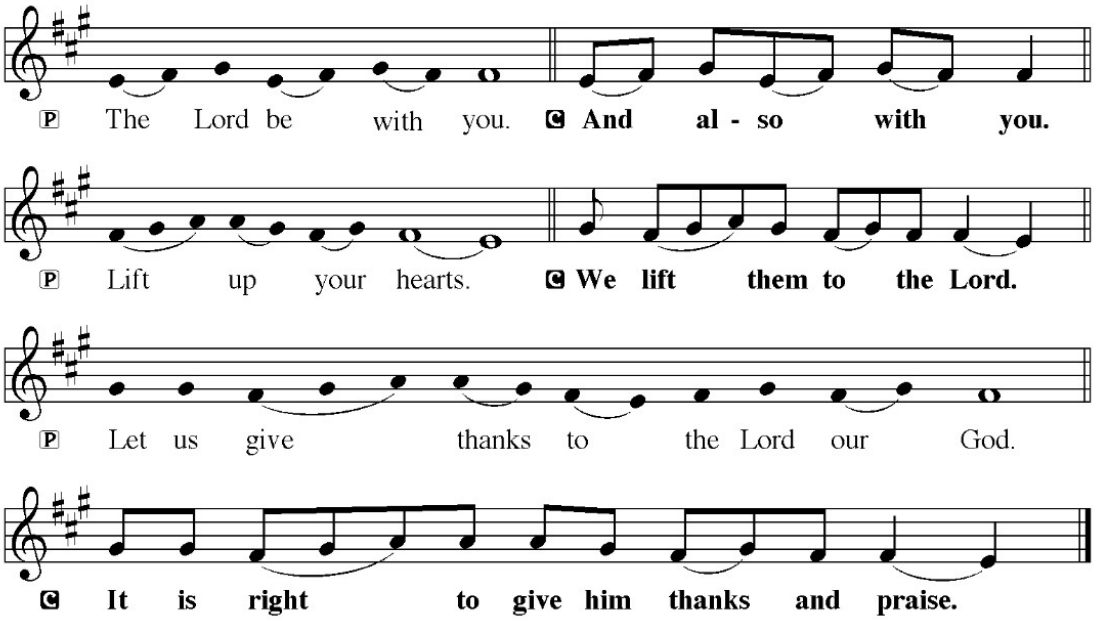
The Liturgy of the Altar

The Offertory Hymn- *"Blessed Be the God of Israel"* **Hymnal #250**

The Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
People **Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

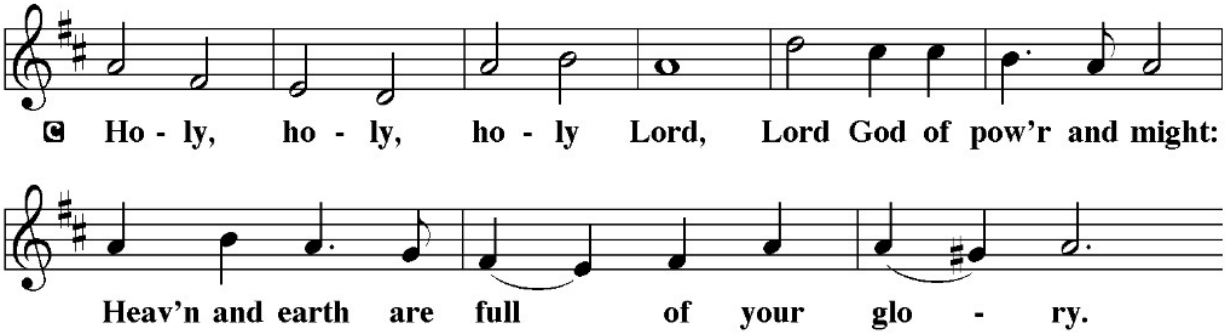
The Great Thanksgiving

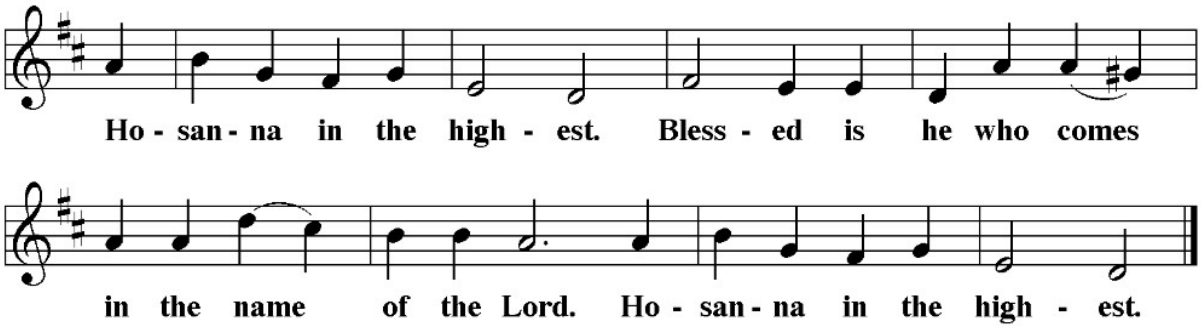


The Celebrant continues

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will make all things new in the day when comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Celebrant and People together





The Celebrant continues

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are the most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 in the forgiveness of sin. Do this for remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

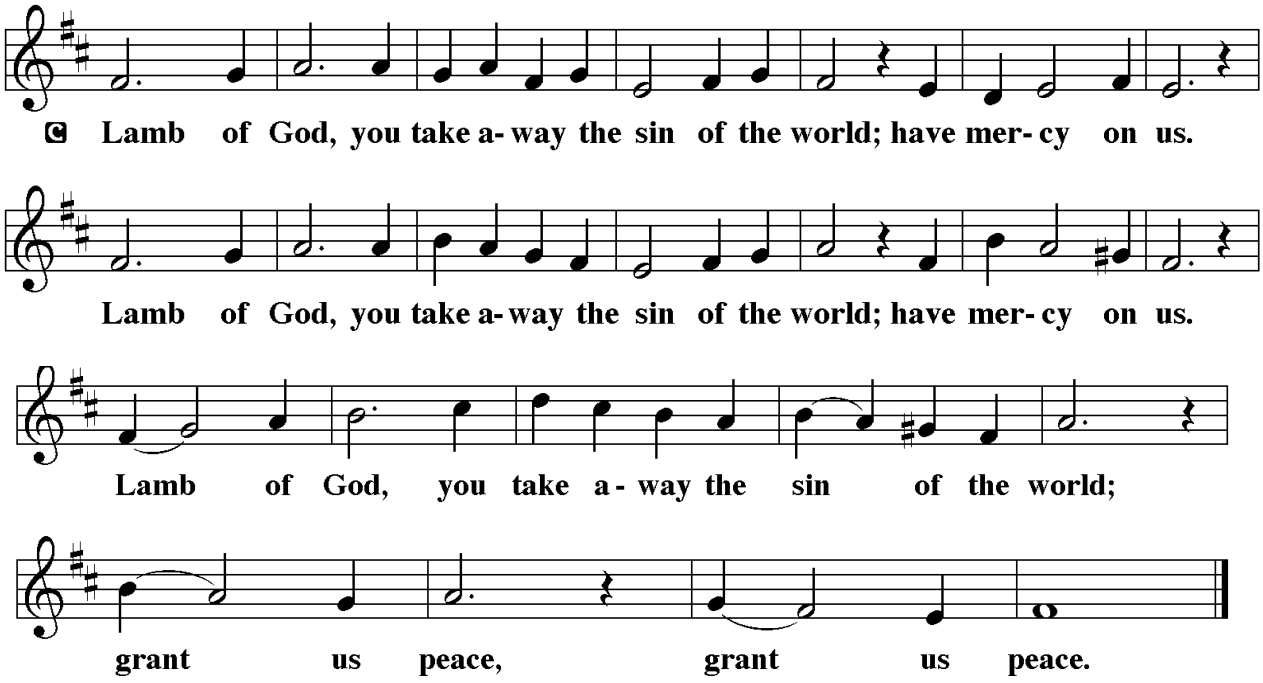
The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

The Celebrant and People together

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.

The Anus Dei – *"Lamb of God"*



Invitation to Holy Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his Supper.

People **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you. But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The Distribution of Holy Communion

In the Evangelical-Lutheran tradition, we invite all baptized persons to receive Holy Communion at the altar. We believe that in the Blessed Sacrament we receive the true Body and precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Please come forward as directed by the usher and return by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward, the Celebrant will bring Holy Communion to you.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant May the true body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life. **Amen.**
Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People together

Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Final Hymn – *"Soon and Very Soon"* **Hymnal #439**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving this Week
Ushers & Tellers: Donnie Davis and Keith Davis/Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
Lector, Communion Assistant and Acolyte : Declan Corley
Lighting Our Advent Wreath : The Sump Family

Serving Next Week
Ushers & Tellers: Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
Lector : Beth Roesel Communion Assistant and Crucifer : Couper Barletta
Acolyte : Ella Barletta
Lighting Our Advent Wreath: The Stichberry Family

Next Sunday, December 6
9: 45 am Congregational Meeting to Vote on By-laws

Christmas Caroling: Please join us as we bring the holiday spirit to local nursing homes with a variety of Christmas songs and hymns.

Sunday, January 31
Annual Meeting After Worship
Ratification of By-laws