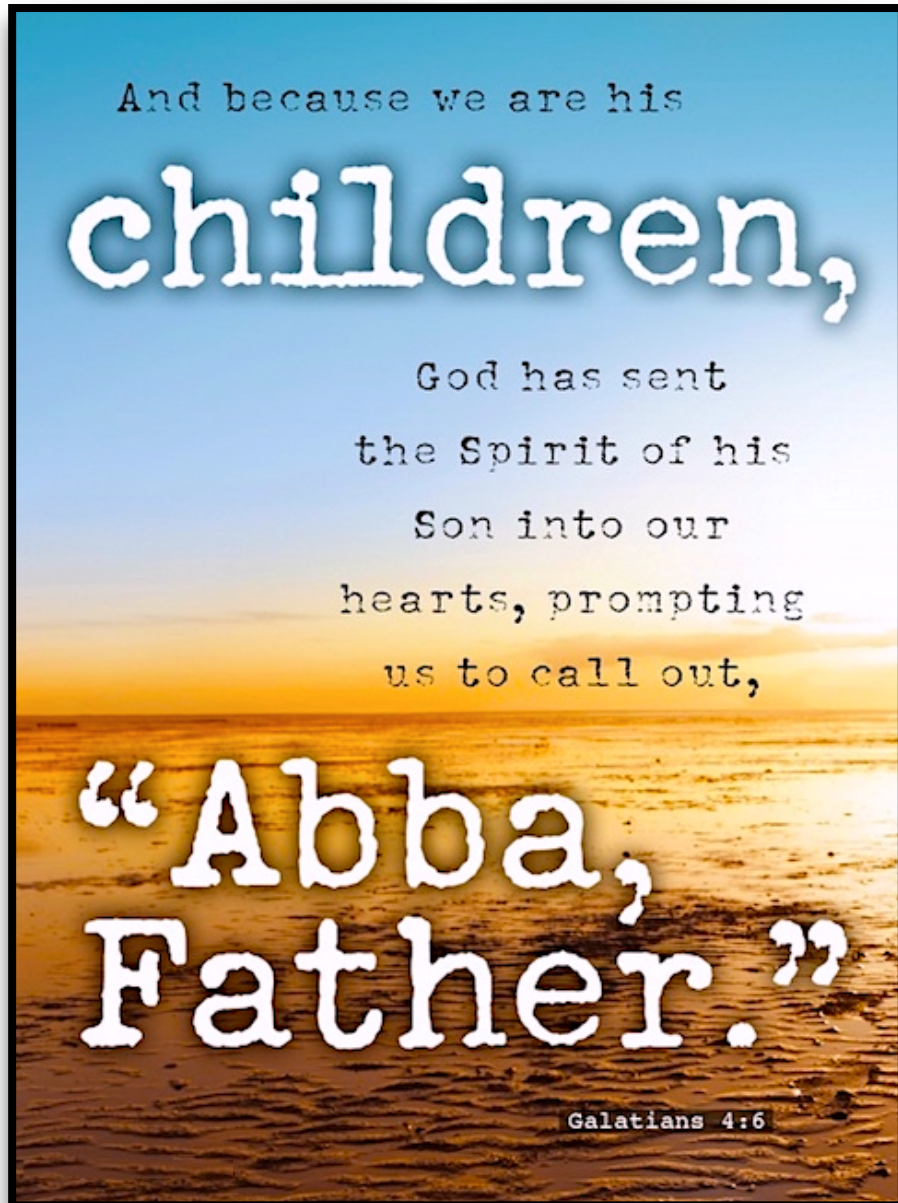


St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

- Church of the Lutheran Confession -
Lakewood, Colorado



**2nd Sunday after Christmas
January 2, 2022**

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

*2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214
(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com*

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Order of Worship: Service of Word & Sacrament

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

Organist: Jeana Kettner

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 148 (pew bible, p.559)
- ◆ The Hymns: *124 (1-3), 352, 637, *124 (4) [**back page of bulletin*]
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Genesis 17:1-7, Luke 1:68-75
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 119
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Galatians 4:1-7

The Birth of Jesus Christ Ushered In A New Era In World History

1. Not centered on the bondage of the Law.
2. But on the freedom of the Gospel.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn 124, stanza 4 (*bulletin back page*)

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*Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by
the tract rack or by request from an usher.*

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Genesis 17:1-7

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. 2 I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.” 3 Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, 4 “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. 5 No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. 7 I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 119

P Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees:
C Then I will keep them to the end.
P Give me understanding, and I will keep your law:
C And obey it with all my heart.
P Direct me in the path of your commands:
C For there I find delight.
P I delight in your commands:
C Because I love them.
P How sweet are your words to my taste:
C Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
P I gain understanding from your precepts:
C Therefore I hate every wrong path.
P Your word is a lamp to my feet:
C And a light for my path.

Second Lesson – Luke 1:68-75

68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. 69 He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David 70 (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), 71 salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us— 72 to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, 73 the oath he swore to our father Abraham: 74 to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

Sermon Text – Galatians 4:1-7

1 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, 2 but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. 3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the

world. 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. [NKJV]

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A Warm Welcome in Christ to our Worship Guests. We're glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (1/2)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Undecorating (No Sunday School or Bible Class)
Sun (1/9)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:45 am	Mary/Martha Ladies' Meeting

Upcoming in January

- Church Council Meeting: Sunday, January 23, 8:30 am
- *Annual Voters' Meeting: Sunday, January 30, 10:45 am
- *Church Council Installation: Sunday, February 6

** Please note date changes*

In Our Prayers: Don and Ruth Claeys who have both tested positive for Covid. They are experiencing mild symptoms and will remain in quarantine till later this week. <> Doug Tiefel and Willie Tiefel who have been dealing with health issues. <> May the Lord keep all of them safe in His Good Shepherd care.

Pastor Will Be Out of Town this week, taking vacation days visiting family in Minnesota. He plans to return to Colorado at the beginning of the next week. In an emergency you may reach him at this number: 720-465-4809. In the pastor's absence, next Sunday's service will be a lay service.

Synod News

- ◆ **Called Home:** “On the fifth day of Christmas, December 29, our Heavenly Father took Prof. Paul Sullivan home to endless bliss. When the women ran from the tomb on Easter morning they went with both fear and joy. Paul's wife Jan, and their family, are now navigating a time of both grief and thankful rejoicing. Please grieve and rejoice with them in prayer before our LORD ... Cards may be sent to the Sullivan home at 632 Ripley Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701. A service of thanksgiving and praise to Christ for the grace shown to His servant Paul will be held at Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire, on Saturday, January 8 ... Memorials can be designated to Kinship or CLC Missions (501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701). ‘Good Christian men, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath ope’d the heavenly door, And man is blessed evermore. Christ was born for this!’” (Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer, Berea Lutheran, Inver Grove Heights, MN)

- ◆ **Nomination for ILC President:** “The Board of Regents announces the following (only) nomination for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College: Daniel Schierenbeck. The term of office for this call is two years, extending to the end of Academic Year 2024. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding this candidate are to be received by March 15, 2022 (postmarked by March 1), to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.” (Board of Regents Chairman, Pastor John Hein)

- ◆ **New Book for Sale:** *Get on the Ark* by Daniel Fleischer. “The individual Christian and the Church today live in a world similar to Noah’s time that moved the Lord to send the cataclysmic flood from which only Noah and his family were saved. *Get on the Ark* is both a devotional and an alert to God's people to discern the times, and through faithful study of God’s Word to nourish their faith, confidence, and hope in the Lord Jesus as they anticipate His return. Christian readers are urged without delay to get into the Word—*Get on the Ark*—through which the Lord carries His children through the storms of life to the blessed peace of heaven.” Cost: \$12 plus postage. See Pastor Schuetze for ordering information, if you are interested.



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions January 3-8

Mon Isaiah 50:4-9a The speaker is Jesus, telling us that the Father equipped Him to deliver the Truth to sinners wearied with their burdens (4); His heart was in it (5) all the way to the cross (6). He was determined to endure all the suffering, for He was absolutely, positively sure that *He is near who justifies* (validates and acquits) *Me*. “Nobody—not Satan, death, or hell—will win any confrontation or struggle with Me. Just you wait and see!”

Tues Luke 2:39-52 Because Jesus was born into an Israelite family with godly parents, He became subject to sacred obligations, and His earthly family served to fulfill them (39-42). In Jerusalem Jesus and His caregivers were following diverse priorities (54-46), so they lost one another in the shuffle. Having learned Scriptures at home and synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus was fully prepared for advanced courses in His Father’s business (46-49).

Wed Hebrews 2:10-18 The key word is *brethren*, and the key thought is that Jesus became our big brother so that He could fight (and win) our battles for us. He was well equipped to survive every skirmish and firefight day after day, year in and year out; trench warfare stopped when He came out the other side of the cemetery—alive and fully functional. All for us, always.

Thurs Psalm 72 The Hebrew hymnal is sectioned according to authorship, and the Davidic section closes with this psalm. What’s the subject? God’s loving care of His people (1-3), for all time (5), generously (6-7), over the entire planet (8), over all sorts of people (9-11), for all their needs (12) and for salvation (13-14), abundantly (15-16), for their blessing forever (17). Therefore—blessed be His glorious Name forever! Amen and Amen!

Fri Luke 2:51-52 Jesus chose to leave the classroom behind, for He obeyed and obliged His parents in all respects. No doubt the Holy Spirit kept His hand in on Jesus’ growth in *wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man*. [Godly parents know how to train up their child into adulthood—even if it means taking the child out of formalized education. Home schooling can be done—and done well, as we know from experience.] Praise the Lord!

Sat Romans 8:33-39 We note that here the Holy Spirit via the Apostle Paul is echoing Jesus’ assertion via Isaiah (in Monday’s reading):

He is near who justifies Me = *It is God who justifies;*

Who will contend with Me? = *Who shall bring a charge against God’s called? Who is he who will condemn Me? = Who is he who condemns?*

So Jesus remains dependable—whether in Isaiah’s time or when He walked in our shoes or through years yet to come. He is standing guard over us, just as He has done before—and as He will do throughout the new year. Amen!

Opening & Closing Hymn
(stanzas 1-3 to open service, stanza 4 to close)

NEW YEAR

124 **♩ Lord, Our Father, Thanks to Thee**

Ps. 107: 1
Herr Gott Vater, wir preisen dich
Cyriacus Schneegass, 1597
Tr., August Crull, 1880, alt.

8. 7. 8. 7. 8. 8. 7.

Nun freut euch
"Etlich' christliche Lieder"
Wittenberg, 1524

1 O Lord, our Fa - ther, thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der,
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, our thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der;
3 Lord Ho - ly Ghost, our thanks to Thee In this new year we ren - der,
4 Our faith - ful God, we cry to Thee: Still bless us with Thy fa - vor,

For ev - 'ry e - vil had to flee Be - fore Thee, our De - fend - er.
Thy reign hath kept Thy peo - ple free, Hath shown Thy mer - cies ten - der.
For Thou hast led our eyes to see Thy truth in all its splen - dor
Blot out all our in - iq - ui - ty, And hide our sins for - ev - er.

Our life was nour - ished, we were fed With rich sup - plies of dai - ly bread,
Thou hast re - deemed us with Thy blood, Thou art our Joy, our on - ly Good,
And thus en - kin - dled from a - bove With - in our hearts true faith and love
Grant us a hap - py, good new year And, when the hour of death draws near,

And peace reigned in our bor - ders.
In life and death our Sav - ior.
And oth - er Chris - tian vir - tues.
A peace - ful, blest de - part - ure. A - men.