St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Church of the Lutheran Confession –
Lakewood, Colorado

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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 the Word

(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

Serving Us At God's House Today Organist: Jeanna Kettner; Usher: Bob Rankin

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 113 (pew bible, p.542)
- ◆ The Hymns: 869, 900, *70 (1-3), *70 (4-5) (*page 5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Numbers 6:22-27, Colossians 2:6-15
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 20
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (liturgy insert, p.15)

Sermon Text - Luke 2:21

On the Eighth Day after Christmas

- 1. The Infant Jesus was circumcised as the law demanded.
 - 2. He was named "Jesus" as the angel promised.
- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- **♦** Benediction
- ◆ Closing Hymn (#70, stanzas 4-5, on page 6)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Number 6:22-27

22 The LORD said to Moses, 23 "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: 24 "The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; 26 the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." 27 So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Psalm of the Day - From Psalm 20

- P May the LORD answer you when you are in distress:
- C May the name of the God of Jacob protect you.
- P May he send you help from the sanctuary:
- C And grant you support from Zion.
- P May he give you the desire of your heart:
- C And make all your plans succeed.
- P We will shout for joy when you are victorious:
- C And will lift up our banners in the name of our God.
- P Some trust in chariots and some in horses:
- C But we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Second Lesson – Colossians 2:6-15

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. 8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. 9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Sermon Text – Luke 2:21

21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

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This Week at St. Paul

Today (1/1)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Communion
Sunday (1/8)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:45 am	Christmas Undecorating

Extended Calendar

- Jan 15 CLC Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) Presentation, 10:45 am
- Jan 22 Church Council Meeting, 8:30 am
- Jan 22 Mary/Martha Ladies' Meeting, 10:45 am
- Jan 29 Annual Voters' Meeting, 10:45 am
- Feb 5 Installation of Church Officers (during the service)

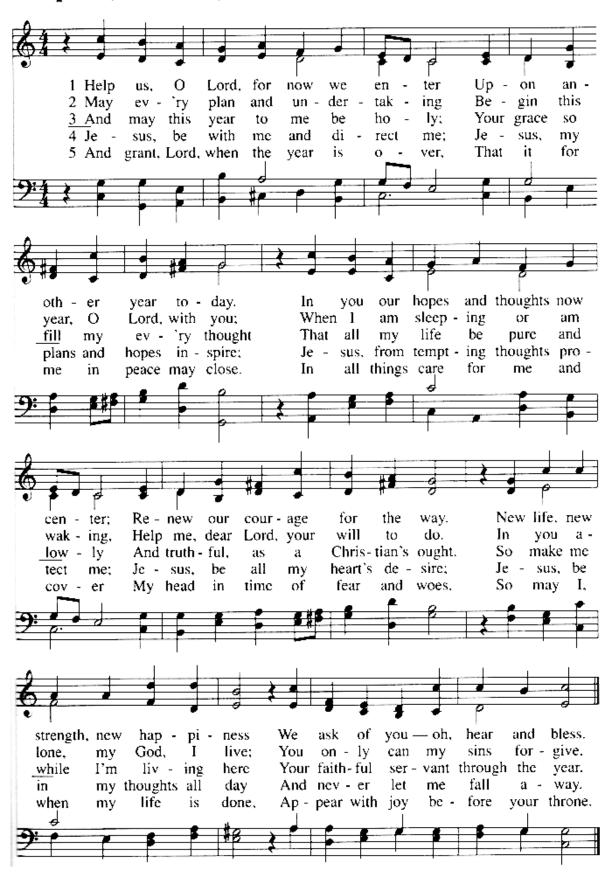
In Our Prayers: Ethel Eastridge who is recovering from a stroke she suffered a little over a week ago. She was dismissed from the hospital last Friday and is now receiving medical care at the Reunion Rehabilitation Center in Englewood. Remember Ethel in your prayers.

Pastor Will Be Out of Town beginning this Tuesday through January 9 visiting family in Minnesota. In an emergency you may reach him at 720-465-4809 or through an elder (their numbers may be found in the church directory). In the pastor's absence, a lay service will be conducted at St. Paul next Sunday.

Ministry by Mail Podcast: "The CLC's weekly sermon publication 'Ministry by Mail' provides print sermons by postal mail, email, and online (www.LutheranSermons.org and on Facebook). Beginning with Advent, we have added audio publication of our sermons with the current sermon uploaded each Saturday. Audio is available on most major podcast providers – Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Spotify, and Anchor.FM. Search 'CLC Ministry by Mail' in these services to find us and subscribe to follow. For more information contact Editor Nathan Pfeiffer at editor@lutheransermons.org"

To the Members of St. Paul: "Thank you for the cards and gifts you shared during this Christmas season and for the privilege of serving as your pastor for another year. It is my joy to bring you the message of salvation in Christ and to offer the comfort of the Gospel through the year. The Lord bless and keep you through the days of this new year of His grace. Pastor Schuetze"

Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions January 2-7

Mon Luke 4:16-21 When Jesus taught in the synagogue, it was not only as another prophet, but as the fulfiller of prophecy proclaiming the "year of the Lord's favor" (v19). As we enter a new year, we may recognize our poverty, captivity, afflictions, or oppressions. His answer: it is another year of the Lord's favor in Christ.

Tues Romans 8:24-32 Looking forward, we recognize our weakness and long for the redemption of our bodies. The Spirit helps us in our weakness. Indeed, the triune God is on our side and will in this and every year graciously fill our every need (v32)!

Wed Psalm 90:1-4,12,14,17 God is eternal and almighty, before the mountains were made. We are mortal, return to dust, and need to recognize that our days are numbered. But God's steadfast love in Christ assures us of the Lord's favor resting upon us and blessing us day by day in 2023.

Thurs Matthew 16:1-4 The Pharisees and Sadducees were not satisfied with the One whom God had sent to them, neither in His words nor in His deeds, but looked for some other sign. But if they will not receive the fulfillment of Moses and the prophets (Lk4:21), they will not believe even if one rises from the dead, as Jonah came back from the great fish. Thank God He has given us His Word as we face the future!

Fri James 4:13-17 The beginning of a year is a time when people make plans. But it is the Lord who holds the future in His hands, and will determine what is best for our brief life. "If the Lord wills," our plans will bear fruit. He is in control, knows our weakness, and wants to bless us.

Sat Psalm 73:23-28 If we should be troubled in 2023 by the success and prosperity of the wicked, who test the Lord (Mt16) and boast of their plans (Jas4)the Psalmist was troubled by the same thing in his day. But the Lord was near him, supported him, and kept him upright, giving him eternal blessings to look forward to. So does He also promise to be our refuge.