

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



*May he so strengthen
your hearts in holiness*

1 Thessalonians 3:13

**1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020**

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)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 24 (pew bible, p.491)
- ◆ The Hymns: 340, 333, 623, 705
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 63:16b,17; 64:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 47

Sermon Text – Mark 13:33-37

ANOTHER YEAR OF GRACE LIES AHEAD

1. A year of watchfulness.
2. A year of opportunity.
3. A year of expectancy.

- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (705, tan hymnal)

† † †

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

*You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.
There will be no offering collection during the service.*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Isaiah 63:16b-64:8

63:16b You, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. 17 Why, O LORD, do you make us wander from your ways and harden our hearts so we do not revere you? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your inheritance. 64:1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! 2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! 3 For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. 4 Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. 5 You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? 6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. 7 No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away because of our sins. 8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Psalm for the Day – From Psalm 24

P The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it:
C The world, and all who live in it;
P For he founded it upon the seas:
C And established it upon the waters.
P Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?:
C Who may stand in his holy place?
P He who has clean hands and a pure heart:
C He will receive blessing from God his Savior.
P Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors:
C That the King of glory may come in.
P Who is this King of glory?:
C The LORD strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
P Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors:
C That the King of glory may come in.
P Who is he, this King of glory?:
C The LORD Almighty— he is the King of glory.

Second Lesson – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge— 6 because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Sermon Text – Mark 13:33-37

33 Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. 34 It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. 35 "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. 36 If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. 37 What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"

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A CORDIAL GREETING AND WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS. We are pleased to have you worshipping with us today and invite you to come often. Please take a few moments to sign our guest book. If you have no church home in the community and are seeking a fellowship in which you might worship and serve your Lord, we invite you to speak with the Pastor who will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

SERVING US AT GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

- Organist: Carly Meyer
- Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today (11/29)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (The Birth of Christ, NT 3)
	10:45 am	Christmas Decorating
Sun (12/6)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Christmas Baskets Preparation

UPCOMING DECEMBER EVENTS

- ➔ Choir Practices: TBA
- ➔ Children’s Christmas Eve Service Practice: Sunday, Dec.20, 10:45 am
- ➔ Children’s Christmas Eve Service: Thursday, Dec.24, 6:30 pm
- ➔ Christmas Day Worship: Friday, Dec.25, 9:30 am
- ➔ NY’s Eve Communion Service: Thursday, Dec.31, 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS BASKET ITEMS: The Mary & Martha ladies group is planning to prepare Christmas baskets again this year for sharing with St. Paul members who aren’t able to regularly attend our services. If you have non-perishable food items you would like to donate for these baskets, please bring them to the church by next Sunday, December 6. Cash donations for purchasing items for the baskets are also welcome. These may be given to the ladies’ treasurer, Crystal Ruegge. Thank you.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY (ANNIVERSARY) BLESSINGS TO . . .

Ethel Eastridge, Dec 2	Brooke Peters, Dec 16
Willie Tiefel, Dec 8	Carrol Rankin, Dec 25
Steve Phillips, Dec 11	(Mike & Lisa Sprengeler, Dec 4)

CALL NEWS: Michael Gurath, Holy Cross, Phoenix, AZ has been called to serve as the pastor of Redeemer, Cheyenne. <> Del Maas, pastor of the dual parish of Gift of God, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul, Ponsford, MN has received the call to serve the dual parish of Redeemer, Bowdle and Zion, Ipswich, SD. <> Recently colloquized Terry Stringer, a member of St. Stephen, Hayward, CA has accepted the call by Trinity, Spokane, WA to serve as assistant vacancy pastor in a one year call. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane, Spokane Valley, is serving as Trinity’s vacancy pastor.

TOUR CHOIR CD: A new Immanuel Lutheran College Tour Choir CD was recently produced and is now available for purchase. If you are interested, see the information included on the poster on the bulletin board in the church entry.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 5

Mon Isaiah 63:16b-64:1-8 When a sinner strays so far that he dares blame God for his degeneracy, did God stop being God? Indeed, such sinners need help from the only One who controls all forces of nature (64:1-4)—and although God knows how despicable we are (5-6), He still deals with us as our Father, and we are but clay shaped by His hand. From where You abide, O Lord God, come down to where we live, and have mercy on us!

Tues Mark 13:32-37 The Advent of Jesus has many facets: He arrived long ago in His prophetic Word, later in Bethlehem, then in our hearts, and He will arrive finally . . . at midnight? 4:27 a.m.? 6:06 p.m.? Nobody knows, so let's stay prepared (awake in heart and soul) for our Lord and Master to make His final, once-and-for-all appearance on our troubled planet.

Wed 1 Corinthians 1:32-37 While we are waiting, we depend on *the grace of God given to us via Jesus Christ* (and received by us in repentant hearts) in order to *enrich us* in every way possible. And we intend to remain dependent on God to not forget us but preserve us for the end of Time's weary course . . . and re-enliven us in the *fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord*. Amen!

Thurs Psalm 24 Our planet belongs to Jesus, who doesn't play games with Earth as His toy but nurtures it as His special project (1-2). Who wants to thank Him (3)? Well, I do, and so do you (4-6). We open all our gateways in private and in public (7) for Jesus, who is ready to come in glory/splendor with the retinue of His holy angels, *strong and mighty*—and all for us!

Fri Luke 12:41-48 It seems like a good question, "Does God want everyone to understand Him and His ways?" Yes, He does, and therefore every servant of God is responsible for how he handles God's business. The servant who is abusive, despises others, or is self-serving is headed for disaster (45-46), and likewise for the servant who is negligent (47). Dear readers, let's step up to the privileged responsibilities God has placed on our shoulders (48).

Sat Acts 19:1-10 Evidently Paul walked around the city on the lookout for fellow disciples. The ones he came across had a lot to learn (1-3), so Paul started at the beginning, taking time and effort to enlighten them about baptism (4-5) to prepare them for some advanced service-gifts from God the Spirit (6-7). Then he helped other Jews absorb God's good news (8-9)—and when Satan's scholars produced a rift in the congregation, Paul conducted Bible Religion classes for Jews and Greeks, including many who came from surrounding counties. Ephesus was never the same again, thanks be to Jesus, His Spirit, and His disciples. Hallelujah and Amen!