

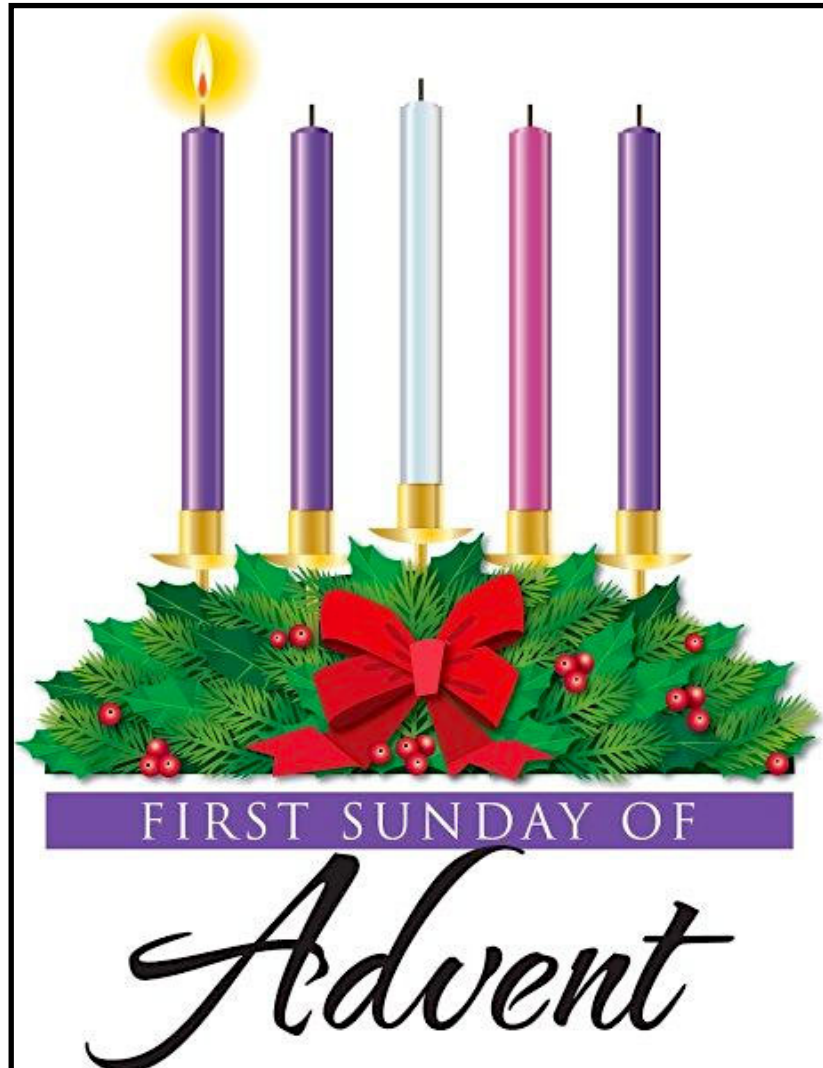
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

Pastor: Thomas Schuetze, 303-428-5524, trschuetze@yahoo.com

Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776

Sunday School Superintendent: Derek Barthels



www.denverlutheran.com

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Member Congregation:

Church of the Lutheran Confession

www.clclutheran.org



1st Sunday in Advent – December 1, 2024

Serving Us Today

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler; Ushers: Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge
Communion Usher: Mike Sprengeler

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 34 (pew bible, p.496)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: 334 (1-4), 331, 637 , 334 (5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons (printed below): Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36
- ◆ Psalm of the Day (printed below): Psalm 25

Sermon



Text – 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

**Theme – *Our Earnest Prayer for a
New Year of Grace:***

1. Lord, deepen our faith.
2. Lord, increase our love.
3. Lord, improve our lives.

To Our Guests Seeking an Altar at which to Commune

We believe that those who partake of the Lord's Supper together are giving expression to the close-knit bond of fellowship God has created among them in all that the Bible teaches. For this reason we ask only those who have publicly professed such oneness of faith and belief with us, by membership here or at another CLC church, to come forward to receive Communion. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith but an expression of ours. If you wish to commune with us in the future, please speak with the Pastor at your convenience. We'd love to have you!

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Jeremiah 33:14-16

Prophecy of the Righteous Branch

14 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: 15 “In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 25

A Plea for Deliverance and Forgiveness

P To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul:

C O my God, I trust in You.

P Show me Your ways, O LORD:

C Teach me Your paths.

P Lead me in Your truth and teach me:

C For You are the God of my salvation.

P Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses:

C For they are from of old.

P Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions:

C According to Your mercy remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

P Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me:

C For I am desolate and afflicted.

P Look on my affliction and my pain:

C And forgive all my sins.

P Keep my soul, and deliver me:

C For I put my trust in You.

Second Lesson – Luke 21:25-36

The Coming of the Son of Man / The Lesson of the Fig Tree The Importance of Watching

25 “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” 29 Then He spoke to them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. 31 So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. 34 “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. 35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Sermon Text – 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Paul's Prayer for the Church

9 For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

New Liturgy Pamphlets

Today, for the first time, we are making use of new pamphlets containing the liturgy that will be used in our worship services (based on pages 12-21 in the tan hymnal, *Worship Supplement 2000*). Moving forward, this pamphlet will be used on the first, third, and fourth Sundays of the month (also on fifth Sunday in months when there are five). Worshipers are requested to leave the pamphlets in the pew or drop them into the designated box in the entry so they may be used in future services. Note: A different pamphlet will be used on the second Sunday of the month containing an order of worship based on pages 5-14 in *The Lutheran Hymnal*. It is hoped that through the use of these pamphlets members and guests will find it easier to follow the order of worship. A separate bulletin will be printed each week with the Bible readings, sermon text, church announcements, calendar items, and so forth. You're invited to share comments you may have on the use of the liturgy pamphlets with elders or pastor. Thank you.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (12/1)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Christmas Decorating
Sun (12/8)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Christmas Potluck & Gift Basket Prep <i>(see announcement below)</i>

Extended Calendar

Dec. 24	Children's Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Service, 9:30 am
Dec. 1	New Year's Eve Communion Service, 7:00 pm

We Ask the Lord for His Continuing Gracious Care for our fellow members, Willa Mae Janssen, Joyce Maulis, and Pat Newton, in health challenges they are experiencing. Willa was hospitalized last week with pneumonia. She has been responding well to treatment. Joyce is recovering at home from injuries sustained in a fall. Pat was dealing with a sinus infection and is doing much better. We thank the Lord. <> *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Psalm 91:1-2.*

Christmas Congregational Potluck: Next Sunday, December 8, is our annual Christmas potluck after church. You are invited to bring a hot dish, dessert, or other menu item. Feel free to invite a friend!

The Mary & Martha Ladies Group will be assembling our Christmas gift baskets for shut-ins (and few others) after the service next Sunday. If you have non-perishable food items you would like to donate for the baskets, please bring them to church by next Sunday. Cash donations for purchasing basket items are also welcome. These may be given to ladies' treasurer, Crystal Ruegge. Thank you.

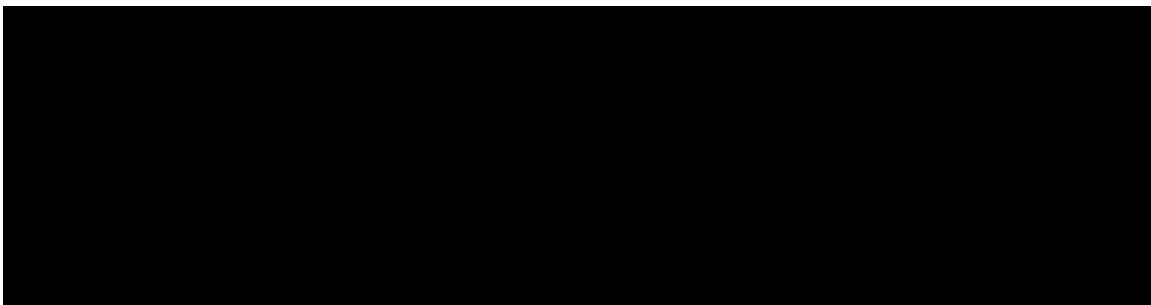
The Mary & Martha Ladies are still accepting donations for our Kinship sem student sponsorship which is coming due in January (annual amount: \$600). To make a contribution for this cause:

- Place your gift in a church offering envelope with "Mary/Martha Kinship" in the "OTHER" blank.
- Place your gift in a regular envelope marked "Mary/Martha Kinship" and place it in the collection.
- Give your donation to Crystal Ruegge.

If you make a donation with a check make out to "St. Paul Lutheran Church" with "Mary/Martha Kinship" on the memo line.

December Birthday (Anniversary) Blessings To . . .

Ethel Eastridge, Dec 2	Carrol Rankin, Dec 25
Willie Tiefel, Dec 8	(Mike & Lisa Sprengeler, Dec 4)
Karen Thompson, Dec 20	(Doug Tiefel & Karen Thompson, Dec 17)



Synod News & Notes

Missionary Todd Ohlmann has posted a new update to his mission blog in November, which you can view at: missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com

Missionary Bruce Naumann and Paula will spend a few weeks in December in the U.S. to visit family. They plan to return to Tanzania in time for the beginning of the new semester at the seminary in early January. You can follow Missionary Naumann's blog at: clc-tz.blogspot.com

Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: mht.lutheranmissions.org

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

December 2-7

Mon Luke 1:1-25 How did God prepare for Christmas? He sent an angel to announce the coming of the promised fore-runner, John. Not even Zechariah's disbelief could stop the Lord's promise from being fulfilled.

Tues Colossians 1:16-20 It was in connection with the Son that all things were created. Not only is He the head of the church, but all things hold together in Him. This is the One whose coming we prepare to celebrate!

Wed Colossians 1:21-23 Jesus' rescue mission took Him to the cross and death in order to present us holy and blameless before God. This good news is our hope and joy, the foundation of our faith.

Thurs Genesis 1:26-31 The creation of mankind (male and female, v27) crowns the work of creating. God blesses them and pronounces everything He has made "very good" (v31). To rescue them He would give His Son.

Fri Genesis 2:1-3 On the seventh day God rested from His work of creation. He wants mankind to enjoy that rest in fellowship with Him. Jesus invites: "Come to me . . . and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28).

Sat Proverbs 8:22-31 The Wisdom of God was present before the creation of the world and delighted in the human race (v31). John and Paul use similar terms in speaking of Jesus (Jn1:1-3; 1Cor1:24).