

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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www.denverlutheran.com

Find us on Facebook at: “St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church”

Member Congregation:

Church of the Lutheran Confession

www.clclutheran.org



2nd Sunday in Advent – December 8, 2024

A Warm Welcome to Our Worship Guests!

The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are happy that you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word in the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Holy Scriptures. It gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again!

Today's Order of Worship is "Divine Worship Setting 2" (as printed in the new liturgy pamphlet). This service is based on pages 5-14 in *The Lutheran Hymnal*. Please leave your copy in the pew after the service concludes or drop it into the designated box in the entry, so that it may be used in future services. Thank you.



Serving Us Today
Organist: Suzannah Miller
Ushers: Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 119:33-48 (pew bible, p.545)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: 343, 344, 354 (1-3), 354 (4)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Malachi 3:1-4, Philippians 1:3-11
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: Psalm 24

Sermon



Text – Luke 3:1-6

Theme – *"Company Is Coming"*

(A CLC Ministry by Mail Sermon)

The Scripture Lessons, Psalm of the Day, and Sermon
Text are printed on the following pages.

Today's Scriptures



First Lesson – Malachi 3:1-4

The Coming Messenger

1 “Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts. 2 “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderers’ soap. 3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. 4 “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years.



Psalm of the Day – Psalm 24

The King of Glory and His Kingdom

P The earth is the LORD’s and all its fullness:

C The world and those who dwell therein.

P For He has founded it upon the seas:

C And established it upon the waters.

P Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?:

C Or who may stand in His holy place?

P He who has clean hands and a pure heart:

C He shall receive blessing from the God of his salvation.

P Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors:

C And the King of glory shall 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 up, you everlasting doors:

C And the King of glory shall come in.

P Who is this King of glory?:

C The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!



Second Lesson – Philippians 1:3-11

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, 5 for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; 7 just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. 8 For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. 9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.



Sermon Text – Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, 2 while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, 4 as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: *“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”*

This Week at St. Paul

Today (12/8)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Christmas Potluck
Sun (12/15)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Gift Bag Assembly

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

Pastor Schuetze Is Conducting the Service this morning at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Loveland. Our thanks to Mike Sprengeler for conducting the service here at St. Paul.

Christmas Congregational Potluck: Today, after the service! All are invited to stay and enjoy!

Christmas Gift Bags: Paul's Mary & Martha group is collecting items to make Christmas gift bags for our shut-ins. We will be assembling the bags after church on Sunday, Dec. 15. We are accepting donations of NON-perishable & NON-refrigerated items (no fruit, please) such as what you might pack in a lunch box. There are 6 shut-ins this year, and if you would like to donate items for this project you would purchase 6 of one item, such as 6 pudding cups. Please bring them to church and leave them either downstairs in the kitchen in the box marked "Shut-Ins" or you can give them to Lisa Sprengeler who is coordinating this event. Please ask Lisa if you have any questions. Thank you!

The Mary & Martha Ladies are still accepting donations for our Kinship sem student sponsorship. The annual amount, \$600, is coming due in January. So far we've received donations of \$485, so we are getting close to our goal! The student's name is *Asukwo Asukwo Usuyak*. He is enrolled at the NCLC's Immanuel Lutheran Seminary in Nigeria and is expected to graduate in

December 2027. To make a contribution for Asukwo's seminary training:

- Place your gift in your offering envelope with “Mary/Martha Kinship” on the “OTHER” blank
- Place your gift in a regular envelope with “Mary/Martha Kinship” and place it in the collection
- Give your donation to the ladies’ treasurer, Crystal Ruegge

To make a donation with a check please make out to “St. Paul Lutheran Church” with “Mary/Martha Kinship” on the memo line. Thank you!

The Next Young Adults Bible Study Gathering will be in January, on a date TBA. Stay tuned!

St Paul Offerings Through September 30, 2024				
	'24 YTD R'cvd	'24 YTD Budget	+ / -	Annual Budget Amt
St. Paul General	\$53,043	\$65,355	-12,312	\$87,140
CLC General (CBP)	\$10,707	\$8,325	2,382	\$11,100

CLC News & Notes

- Your prayers are requested for the people in southern India, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been hit with heavy rains and flooding. Here is a video from Chennai: www.facebook.com/share/v/19nEpXbeSL. And here is a more detailed prayer request from the BELC president, Pastor D. Paul:

Advent Greetings, We would like to inform you that Cyclone Fengal triggered heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The rains flooded many parts of the area. Cyclone Fengal triggered heavy rainfall, inundating all the residential areas. Many of our pastors and our believers houses were waterlogged and residents couldn't step out of their dwellings. Many BELC pastors from Chennai, Chengelpet, Ponneri, Uthukottai, Thiruvallure, Vellore, Tiruttani of Tamil Nadu State and Koppedu, Tada, Sathyavedu, Chittoor, Puttur, Nellore, Renigunta, Ananthapuram and Royachoti districts had to move their families to safe places. I am to move my family to a rented

house and I am staying in our office. Many of our pastors lost their livelihoods. We request you to pray for our pastors and our BELC families and our peoples who have been affected by the Cyclone storm. Yours in Him, D. Paul

- The choirs of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will be presenting “Salvation unto us Has Come: A Choral Christmas Service” on December 20 at 7:00 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire.
- A National CLC Women’s (Virtual) Retreat will be held via Zoom on January 25, 2025, 10:00 am. To register visit: <https://tinyurl.com/PressPause25>. This is a free event.
- Mission Helper Trip Nepal website: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/> The deadline to apply is January 13.
- A Youth Camp will be held in Pillager, MN, June 8-14, 2025. For more information visit: <https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp>.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

December 9-14

Mon Luke 1:26-36 Gabriel brings the Word of promise to Mary. When she wants more information, she seeks it from the messenger rather than from human experience. The power of the Most High will do this.

Tues Romans 1:16-17 The heart of it all: The gospel of Jesus is the power of God for salvation, for it brings a righteousness from God which is received by faith. Salvation comes with Jesus!

Wed Romans 1:18-25 Mankind is certainly in desperate need of the power of God for salvation (v16), for God's anger is revealed against all who suppress the truth and worship the creation rather than the Creator.

Thurs Genesis 3:1-15 The reason for the Savior's coming begins with the temptation and fall of Eve and Adam in the garden. The tempter would not always lead them, but would be crushed by the woman's seed.

Fri Psalm 8:1-2 From the highest heavens to the lips of little children and nursing babies comes the praise (cp Mt 21:16) of Him who put a stop to the enemy of all mankind.

Sat Psalm 8:3-9 The Son of God came from heaven to become a son of man, to suffer and rise again in majesty. Jesus called Himself the Son of Man (Lk19:10) and Hebrews 2 applies these verses to Him.