

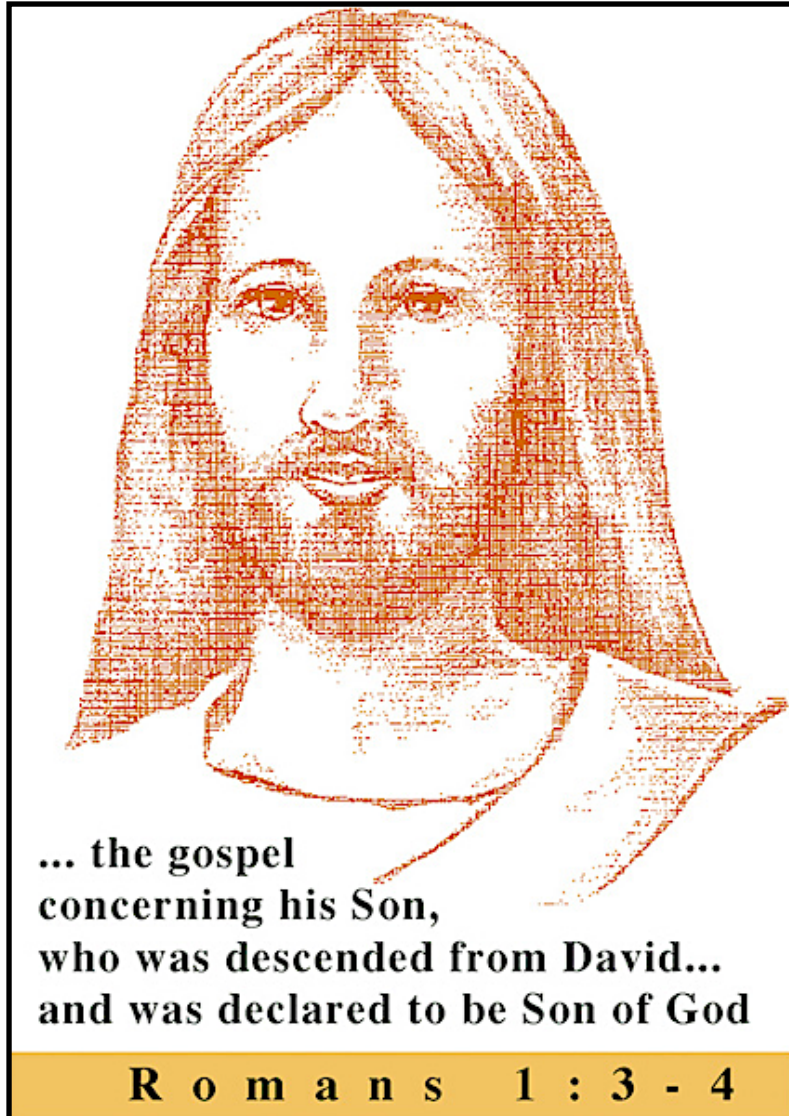
# St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

*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](http://www.denverlutheran.com)

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

Member Congregation:  
Church of the Lutheran Confession  
[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent – December 15, 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 1" (as printed in the new liturgy pamphlet). This service is based on pages 12-21 in the tan hymnal (*Worship Supplement 2000*). 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 Carly Mess  
Ushers Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 130 (pew bible, page 551)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: 359, 645\*, 398 (1-4), 398 (5)  
*\*printed on page 9*
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Jeremiah 23:1-7, Matthew 1:1-17
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: Psalm 18

**Sermon**



**Text – Isaiah 11:1-2**

**Theme – *Isaiah's Picture of the Coming Messiah: A Lowly Shoot from the Stem of Jesse***

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

# Today's Scriptures

## First Lesson – Jeremiah 23:1-7

### *The Branch of Righteousness*

1 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the LORD. 2 Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: “You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings,” says the LORD. 3 “But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 4 I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the LORD. 5 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “That **I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.** 6 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now **this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.** 7 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that they shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ 8 but, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ And they shall dwell in their own land.”

## Psalm of the Day – Psalm 18

### *The Lord Is My Rock and My Fortress*

P I will love You, O LORD, my strength:  
C **The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer.**  
P I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised:  
C **So shall I be saved from my enemies.**  
P The word of the LORD is proven:  
C **He is a shield to all who trust in Him.**  
P He delivers me from my enemies.  
C **You also lift me up above those who rise against me.**  
P Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles:  
C **And sing praises to Your name.**

P Great deliverance He gives to His king, and shows mercy to His anointed:  
C **To David and his descendants forevermore.**

## **Second Lesson – Matthew 1:1-17**

### *The Genealogy of Jesus Christ*

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. 4 Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. 5 Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, **Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot David the king.** David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. 9 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. 11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. 12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. 13 Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. 14 Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. 15 Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. 16 And **Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.** 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

## **Sermon Text – Isaiah 11:1-2**

### *The Righteous Reign of Jesse's Offspring*

1 **There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,** and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are taken from *The Holy Bible*, New King James Version (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., © 1982). Used by permission. All rights reserved.

### **This Week at St. Paul**

Today (12/15)      9:30 am    Worship Service  
                         10:45 am    Children's Christmas Eve Practice  
                         10:45 am    Christmas Gift Bag Prep  
Sun (12/22)        9:30 am    Worship Service  
                         10:45 am    Children's Christmas Eve Practice

### **Extended Calendar**

Dec. 24    Children's Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm  
Dec. 25    Christmas Day Service, 9:30 am  
Dec. 31    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. Also, for retired pastors Daniel Fleischer and Timothy Wheaton, and Pastor Paul Nolting, each of whom are dealing with health issues.

*“(Pray) always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. Ephesians 6:18.*

**Thank You:** Willa Mae Janssen would like to express her appreciation for those who have shared cards of Christian encouragement in the medical ailment she's been dealing with.

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

- Place your gift in an 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



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

## Synod News & Notes

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Find more information at: [mht.lutheranmissions.org](http://mht.lutheranmissions.org). The deadline for applying is January 13.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ A Youth Camp will be held in Pillager, MN, June 8-14, 2025. For more information visit: <https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp>.
- ◆ Missionary Todd Ohlmann has posted a new update to his mission blog, which you can view at: [missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com](http://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](http://clc-tz.blogspot.com)
- ◆ Family Bible Camp: "Are you still considering plans for a family vacation in 2025? If so, the voters of Zion Lutheran Church in Loganville, GA invite you to consider the possibility of joining us for our first annual Family Bible Camp. Currently, we are hoping to have enough expressed interest in this idea to reserve the group campsite at Cloudland Canyon State Park in northwest Georgia for early June. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know by sending an email to [pastorfrankgantt@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfrankgantt@gmail.com). At this time, we are not requesting a firm decision from you but a simple "Yes, I'm interested." Also, please inform us of how many you would likely bring if you were to join us. Please respond by December 31."
- ◆ Hard copies of the CLC November Financial Report are available by the tract rack. Feel free to pick up a copy. It's good to stay informed on the financial needs of our wider church family and God's goodness in provisioning our Gospel-outreach efforts in His Name.

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

### December 16-21

**Mon Luke 1:37-45** Mary humbly accepts the Lord's working in her life. She visits Elizabeth, who also has a part in the saving promises of God. Elizabeth already knows by the Spirit that Mary is the mother of her Lord.

**Tues Luke 1:46-56** Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting by emphasizing the Lord's greatness and her own lowliness. The Lord brings down rulers and exalts the lowly as He keeps His ancient promises.

**Wed 1 Peter 1:3-9** Through Jesus, God has given us all a new birth into a living hope (v3). Looking forward to our inheritance in Him, we rejoice even in the midst of trouble and grief, for salvation is still ours.

**Thurs 1 Peter 1:10-12** The prophets of old serve us and our salvation, for by the Spirit they proclaim the sufferings and glories that were accomplished in Jesus, whose birth and life we now celebrate.

**Fri Genesis 6:5-8** The Lord saw the evil in people and the wickedness done by them. Truly they deserved the judgment He pronounced. But still He looked with favor on Noah and found a way to save him . . . and us!

**Sat Deuteronomy 33:1-15** Moses bids the people of Israel farewell with words of blessing, and truly every blessing upon land and people is a gift, and God blesses with the best gifts (vv13-15)!



## Behold, a Branch is Growing

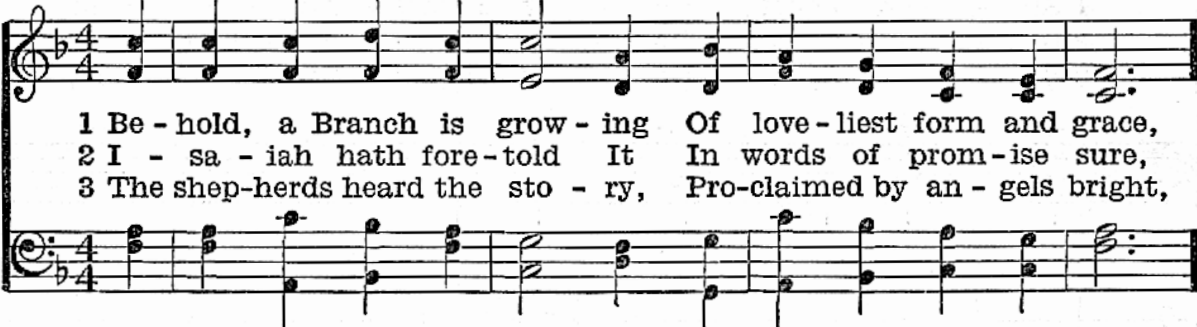
645

Is. 11: 1, 2

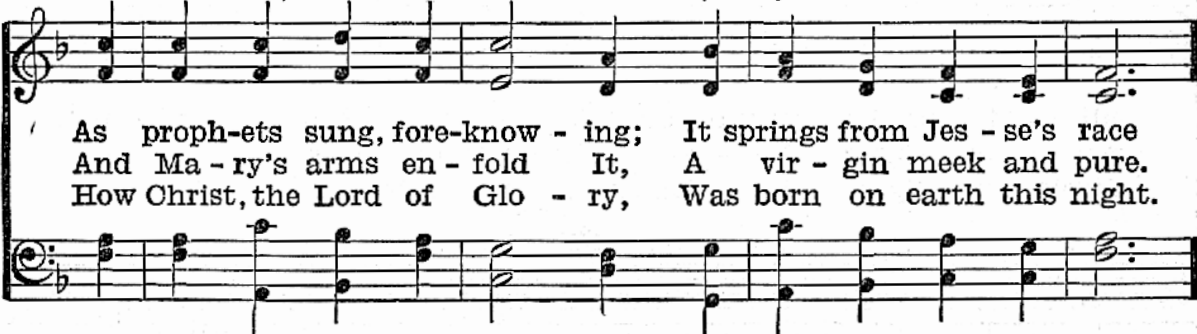
7. 6. 7. 6. 6. 7. 6.

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen  
 German author unknown, c. 1500  
 Tr., st. 1-4, Harriet R. Spaeth, 1875  
 Tr., st. 5, John C. Mattes, 1914


Es ist ein' Ros'  
 "Alte geistliche Kirchengesäng"  
 Cologne, 1599



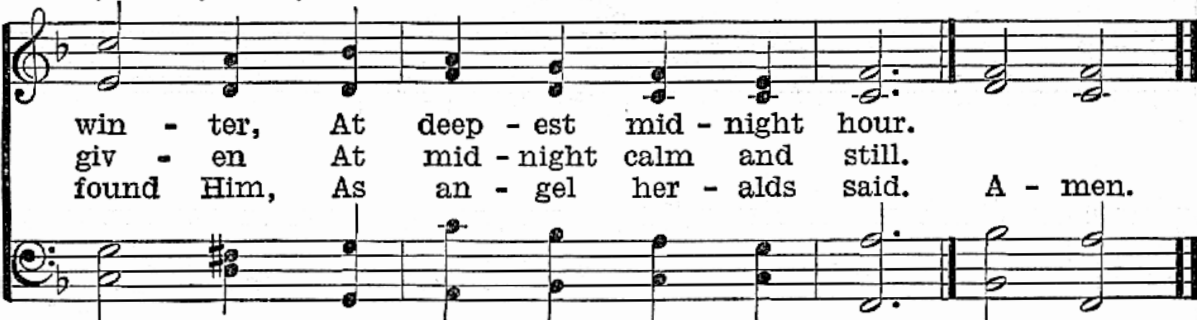
1 Be - hold, a Branch is grow - ing Of love - liest form and grace,  
 2 I - sa - iah hath fore - told It In words of prom - ise sure,  
 3 The shep - herds heard the sto - ry, Pro - claimed by an - gels bright,



As proph - ets sung, fore - know - ing; It springs from Jes - se's race  
 And Ma - ry's arms en - fold It, A vir - gin meek and pure.  
 How Christ, the Lord of Glo - ry, Was born on earth this night.



And bears one lit - tle Flow'r In midst of cold - est  
 Thro' God's e - ter - nal will This Child to her is  
 To Beth - le - hem they sped And in the man - ger



win - ter, At deep - est mid - night hour.  
 giv - en At mid - night calm and still.  
 found Him, As an - gel her - alds said. A - men.

4 This Flower whose fragrance tender  
 With sweetness fills the air,  
 Dispels with glorious splendor  
 The darkness everywhere.  
 True Man, yet very God;  
 From sin and death He saves us  
 And lightens every load.

5 O Savior, Child of Mary,  
 Who felt our human woe;  
 O Savior, King of Glory,  
 Who dost our weakness know,  
 Bring us at length, we pray,  
 To the bright courts of heaven  
 And to the endless day.