

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

Sunday after Christmas – December 29, 2024

A Warm Welcome to Our Worship Guests!

It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come and worship with us again.

Today's Order of Worship is "Divine Worship Setting 1" as printed in the liturgy pamphlet distributed by the ushers. The service is based on pages 12-21 in *Worship Supplement 2000*. Please leave your liturgy pamphlet in the pew after the service. Or you may drop it into the designated box on the shelf in the foyer so it may be used in future services. Thank you.



Serving Us Today
Organist Lisa Sprengeler
Ushers Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 52 (pew bible, p.507)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: 370, 375, 376 (1-4), 376 (5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: 1 Samuel 2:18-26, Hebrews 2:10-18
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: Psalm 111

Sermon



Text – Luke 2:40-52

Theme – *"How Amazing Is This Child!"*

Already as a 12-year-old ...

1. He sets for us the Perfect Example!
2. He acts as our Perfect Substitute!

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

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – 1 Samuel 2:18-26

Samuel's Childhood Ministry / Prophecy Against Eli's Wicked Sons

18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, even as a child, wearing a linen ephod. 19 Moreover his mother used to make him a little robe, and bring it to him year by year when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. 20 And Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “The LORD give you descendants from this woman for the loan that was given to the LORD.” Then they would go to their own home. 21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile the child Samuel grew before the LORD. 22 Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. 23 So he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people. 24 No, my sons! For it is not a good report that I hear. You make the LORD’s people transgress. 25 If one man sins against another, God will judge him. But if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?” Nevertheless they did not heed the voice of their father, because the LORD desired to kill them. 26 And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the LORD and men.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 111

All Who Follow the Lord's Precepts Have Good Understanding

- P The works of the LORD are great:
C **Studied by all who have pleasure in them.**
P His work is honorable and glorious:
C **And His righteousness endures forever.**
P He has made His wonderful works to be remembered:
C **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**
P All His precepts are sure. They stand fast forever and ever:
C **And are done in truth and uprightness.**
P He has sent redemption to His people:
C **He has commanded His covenant forever.**
P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:
C **A good understanding have all those who do His commandments.**

Second Lesson – Hebrews 2:10-18

He Had To Be Made Like Us in Every Respect

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 saying: “I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.” 13 And again: “I will put My trust in Him.” And again: “Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.” 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Sermon Text – Luke 2:40-52

The Boy Jesus Amazes the Scholars / He Advances in Wisdom and Favor

40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. 41 His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. 42 And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. 43 When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; 44 but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day’s journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. 45 So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. 46 Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. 48 So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.” 49 And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I

must be about My Father's business?" 50 But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. 51 Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

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This Week at St. Paul

Today (12/29)	9:30 am	Worship Service
Tues	7:00 pm	NY's Eve Service with Holy Communion
Sunday (1/5)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Church Undecorating

Extended Calendar

- ▶ Mary/Martha Ladies Meeting: Sunday, January 12, 10:45 am
- ▶ CLC Cooperative Budget Plan Presentation: Sunday, Jan.21, 10:45 am
- ▶ Church Council Meeting: Sunday, January 19, 8:30 am
- ▶ Annual Voters Meeting: Sunday, January 26, 10:45 am
- ▶ Installation of Newly-Elected Church Officers: Sunday, February 2

Thank You: "Dear parishioners of St. Paul, I would like to express my appreciation for the cards and gifts you shared with me for Christmas and for your many expressions of kindness during the year. The Lord's blessing to you all! Pastor Schuetze"

Looking to spend more time around God's Word in the new year? Check out the *Ministry by Mail!* *Ministry by Mail* is a weekly publication of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. Each edition includes a sermon, Bible readings, hymn suggestions, and a prayer. You can access the weekly sermon and an archive of sermons online at www.lutheransermos.org or on Facebook. Sermons are also available to listen to on Spotify. To receive the weekly sermons via email, contact the editor at editor@lutheransermos.org.

January Birthday Blessings To . . .

Jesse J. Cornish, Jan 11	Crystal Ruegge, Jan 19
Julie Whitmer-Wright, Jan 11	Marty Schmoldt, Jan 21
Jim Wamboldt, Jan 16	Jesse W. Cornish, Jan 30

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

December 30 – January 4

Mon Luke 2:22-32 Jesus has been born under the law of Moses, and His parents soon take Him to the temple to fulfill the rites of purification and presentation. The Spirit uses this opportunity to bless Simeon and those who hear him.

Tues Hebrews 3:1-6 Jesus deserves greater glory than Moses, just as the builder deserves greater glory than the house. Moses was faithful as “servant in God’s house,” but Jesus is faithful as “Son over God’s house.”

Wed Luke 4:16-21 New Year’s Day Isaiah prophesied of the Messiah’s time, a wonderful time of good news, spiritual freedom, and recovery, the year of the Lord’s favor (v19). With Jesus that time has come, also in 2025 (v21)!

Thurs Isaiah 12:1-6 As we journey forth into another calendar year, we look back and thank God for the forgiveness that brings salvation and the wondrous things that He has done for the human race.

Fri Psalm 2:1-6 While it may seem fearful when the nations rage, the Lord, our God, has no fear of them. He has installed His King on Mount Zion in spite of all opposition!

Sat Psalm 2:7-12 The Son of God towers above all human opposition, and the mighty ones of this world would do well to honor Him. “How blessed are all who take refuge in Him” (v12)!