



November 26th, 2023

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Pastor Christopher P. Vossler

Organist: Sara Glynn-Dishaw

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

2045 LYNN RD | SANFORD, MI 48657

- Welcomes you! -

Hymn: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

sts. 1-4



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
 3 No, too close - ly I am bound By my hope to Christ for -
 4 I am flesh and must re - turn To the dust, whence I am



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
 wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
 ev - er; Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
 tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
 Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
 Grasped it, and will leave it nev - er; E - ven
 That from death I shall a - wak - en With my

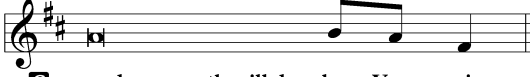


night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
 fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
 death now can - not part From its Lord the trust - ing heart.
 Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.

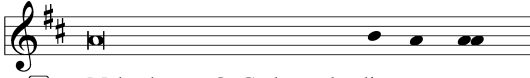
Stand



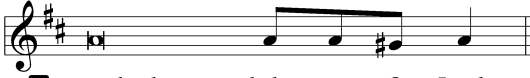
L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody



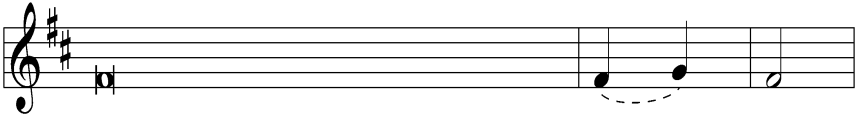
L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

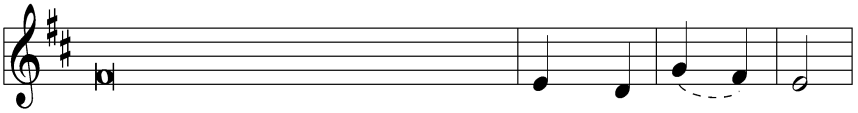
Venite

LSB 220



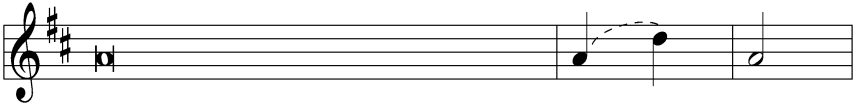
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great God
- 3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

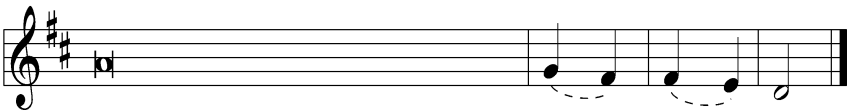


- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
- 4 For He is our God,
- 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,

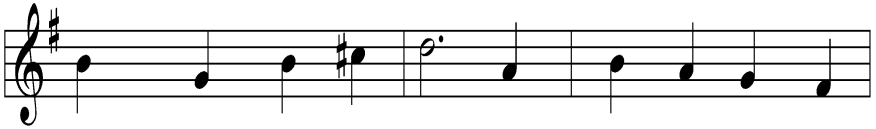


- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
- 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Hymn: 532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns



1 The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Is
3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With



crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -
His, is His by right, The King of kings and
Joy of all be - low, To whom He man - i -
all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -



dem a - dorns The might - y Vic - tor's brow.
Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal Light;
fests His love And grants His name to know.
last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.

- 5 They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The myst'ry of His love.
- 6 The cross He bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

Readings

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

L A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 34.

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . .

.. .
²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my

servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

L A reading from 1 Corinthians, chapter 15.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand in Honor of the Holy Gospel

Holy Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:31–46

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a

stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

L This is the Gospel of The Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Pastor Christopher P. Vossler

Goal: That the hearers would rejoice in being God’s sheep.

I. Introduction

-

II. Sorting

- How are all the people being sorted?

III. Sheep and Goats

- What characterizes the sheep? What characterizes the goats?
- How do the two groups respond to the King’s decrees?

IV. Blessings and Punishments

- For whom was the punishment prepared? The blessing?
- Is the blessing received for their works? The punishment?

V. Conclusion

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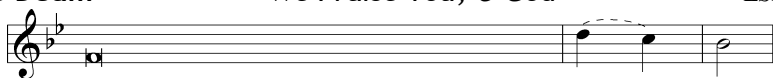
Canticle

Stand

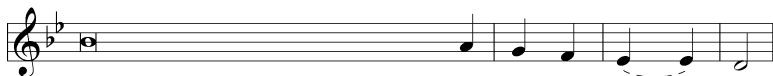
Te Deum

“We Praise You, O God”

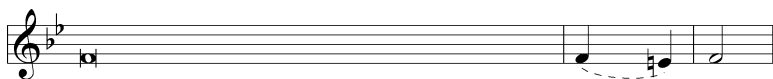
LSB 223



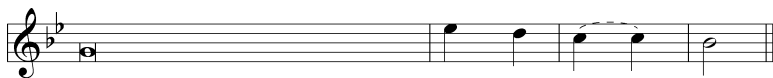
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
3 The noble army of martyrs praise— You.



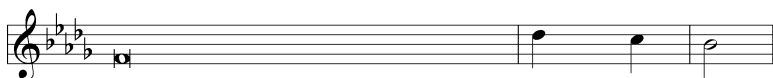
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



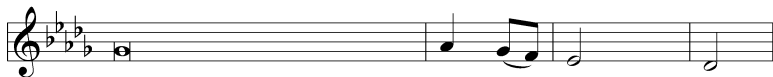
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
2 The glorious company of the apostles praise— You.
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
4 You are the king of glory, O— Christ;



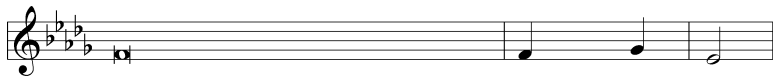
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise— You.
3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



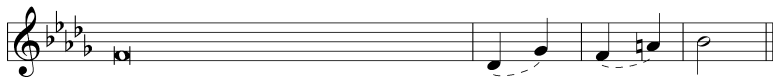
- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



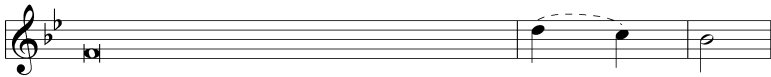
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



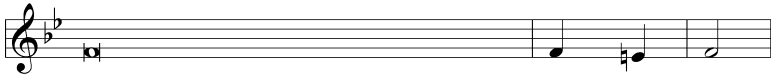
- 5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be— our— judge.



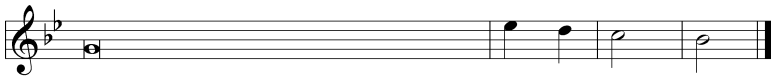
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
 8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
 9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out _____ sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
 8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
 9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on _____ us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
 8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
 9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is _____ in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
 8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
 9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

Sit

Offering

Special Music

Prayer

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie

LSB 227



☐ Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

☐ **Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;**

and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Collects



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

C Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving *...after each petition...*

L Through Jesus Christ our Lord:

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stand

Benedicamus

LSB 228



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 228



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Hymn: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

sts. 5-8



5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new With this flesh then be en -
6 Then take com - fort and re - joice, For His mem - bers Christ will
7 Laugh to scorn the gloom - y grave And at death no long - er
8 O, then, draw a - way your hearts From all plea - sures base and



shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view
cher - ish. Fear not, they will hear His voice;
trem - ble; He, the Lord, who came to save
hol - low; Strive to share what He im - parts



God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this
Dy - ing, they will nev - er per - ish; For the
Will at last His own as - sem - ble. They will
While you here His foot - steps fol - low. As you



flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.
ver - y grave is stirred When the trum - pet's blast is heard.
go their Lord to meet, Tread - ing death be - neath their feet.
now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts be - yond the skies!

Dismissal for Sunday school

Dismissal for Youth Bible Study

P Go in Peace, serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Church Office: 989-687-2824
 E-Mail: stpaul.lutheran@tds.net |
www.stpaulsanford.org

WELCOME:

We join in welcoming our visitor's this morning. If you would please be sure to sign the guest book (Elders can direct you to the location), Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL
SUNDAY: <i>Worship Service 9:30am/10:30am/ Fellowship/Bible Class 11am</i>
MONDAY:
TUESDAY: <i>Peanut Brittle Season 9-1pm/Confirmation Class 5pm/</i>
WEDNESDAY: <i>Quilting 9:30am /Washington Woods Community Service 10:30am/Choir 7pm</i>
THURSDAY: <i>Pastor Hoogerhyde Bible Study 2:30pm 105 E. Youngs Ct. Midland/Youth Ministry Board 6pm</i>
FRIDAY: <i>Stephen Ministry Class 10am/Sanford Shines Parade Set up 5pm-Parade Starts @ 6pm</i>
SATURDAY: <i>Christmas Decorating 9am/Band Rehearsal 4pm</i>
SUNDAY : <i>First Sunday in Advent-Worship Service with Communion 9:30am/10:30am/ Fellowship/Sunday School/ 11am Bible Study</i>

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 11/19				
OFFERINGS	mom	Memorials	TOTAL	ATTENDANCE


Env / Plate				
\$2081/56	20	-	\$2157	85

Christmas Decorating Next Saturday, December 2nd @ 9am. Join in as we decorate the church for the celebration of Advent 😊

Joy to the World, The Lord has come!

The Reith's invite the ladies of St. Paul to celebrate an afternoon of Christmas fellowship Thursday, December 7th @ 1pm. 2152 Lynn Rd. Sanford.

Please RSVP to Ann Reith, or use the sign up sheet on the bulletin board 😊

This week's flowers are sponsored by Jack  and Donna Moeller in recognition of their anniversary. **Happy 70th**

Anniversary Donna and Jack! 😊

The most **delicious Peanut Brittle** you will find **on sale now-\$10/bag**. Please see a Ladies Aid member for purchase. You will be glad you did :)

Thank you, Ladies Aid for all you do around the church. Luncheons, activities, events ...we appreciate all you do!!

2023 United Way Sharing Trees: **TODAY** is the deadline to bring gifts to St. Paul, all gifts will be picked up after church service **today**. Questions can be directed to Erin Teachworth (989)859-7096 or to the Salvation Army (989) 496-2787.

Please consider donating this Christmas time. We will have **share boxes** set up in the fellowship hall to distribute to a few families as Christmas approaches

Mission of the Month: **In November** is the **Rajek Missionary family**. Pray for Cory and Jennifer as they serve in Riga. Ask God to watch over them as they adapt to a new country and serve people from around the world. Also, pray for the work of the Luther Academy in Latvia, as well as the students who study there. Give thanks that the Rajek's are serving God's people in this part of the world.

LWML 2024 Michigan District Convention- June 28-30, 2024 at Amway, Grand Rapids
LWML Prayer Day/Spring Rally 2024 at St Paul, Sanford. Date to be determined. For more LWML information, Please contact Diana Kausch.

*Youth Movie Night-Saturday, December 9th
@ 6pm featuring the "Polar Express".
Pizza/popcorn/smores and movie
discussion. 😊*



For more information about youth group, Sunday School, youth bible study and events, please use the QR code to get to the form.

Prayer Request: *If you or someone you know are in need of prayers please call or email Edna Rottiers at 989-687-9687 / hughrottiers@gmail.com . Those with additional prayer request please complete a prayer slip and give to one of our Elders before the service or to one of the Ushers during the offering. Your prayers are important and our Lord does promise to answer*

November Altar Guild representative is
Carolyn Sutton 989.631.3953

Choir Practice-This week Wednesday @ 7pm

Budget meeting is in December. If you would like to be add anything to the budget, please speak with Curt, Julie or Jan for consideration.

January meeting will include voting for board members. Please let board know if you are interested.

To our families with small

children: Relax! You and your children are welcome to our worship service! Being in worship with you to observe and participate in the service will help them to learn how to behave in church – and they will learn that best by watching you worship on a regular basis! Sit anywhere in the sanctuary that you wish. The last two rows of pews are set aside for families with small children, but you don't *have* to sit there. In fact, sitting close to the front so your children can see what's happening may help them to feel more involved in the service. If they need something to keep their hands occupied, please ask one of the ushers for a copy of the children's bulletins for them to color. If for any reason you need to take your children out of the sanctuary so they can calm down, feel free to bring them into the bathroom at the back of the church. In addition, at the bottom of the stairs we have a cry room to the right, as well as the fellowship hall to the left. With the speakers in the basement, you will be able to hear the service while your child calms down. If your children don't want to sit still or be quiet through the whole service, there is absolutely nothing wrong with them: they are young and learning. The sound of children in worship is the sound of the Church's future.



Blacktop Project-We are accepting donations to the Blacktop project as we work toward the upgrade to the parking lot in the future.

Pastoral Care: Please contact the Pastor @ cell 973-303-8252, office 989-687-2209, or email stpaulrev@tds.net. The Church Office (989-687-2824) / cell (989 859-9300) email stpaul Lutheran@tds.net, or Deacon Don Barnard (989-751-7726) email: stpauldeacon@tds.net or esocidnator01@gmail.com if you or

anyone you know are in need of a visit from the Pastor or Deacon whether it's an illness, hospitalization, nursing home or shut-in. It is important to us that we receive these communications to plan a call or visitation. May God's blessings be upon you today and every day!

Please remember to lock the Church doors and turn out the Lights 😊

#Up Coming Events#

-Peanut Brittle making...Continues every Tuesday through the last session being on December 5th , 9-1pm.

Would you like to walk in the **Sanford Shines Christmas Parade-This Friday, December 1st at 6pm?** Join us as the church will have a float and anyone who would like to walk or ride is welcome 😊

Christmas Decorating Next Saturday, December 2nd @ 9am. Come join us as we decorate the church for the celebration of Advent😊

Midweek Advent Services begin December 6th at 7pm. Advent dinner before service at 6pm-free will offering

Saturday, December 16th Cookie Decorating

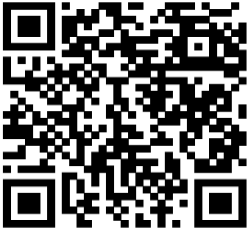
Children's Christmas Concert-December 17th @ 4pm

January 19th @ 6pm **Wild Game Dinner** with Guest Doug Roberts of ConQuest Scents

3 Lent Crosses – First showing of the 3 crosses made by Mike Schweigert, Randy Engblade, and Don Retzloff will be Feb 11th

We are currently forming a **Youth Ministry Board**. Next meeting is this Thursday @ 6pm. The board will focus on the planning of education and activities designed for our congregation’s youth. Please let Gerianne or Pastor know if interested.

<i>SERVING</i>	This Week 11/26	Next Week 12/03
Flowers:	Jack Moeller	Open
Music:	Sara Glynn-Dishaw	Heidi Stecker
Proclaimer:	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler
Fellowship Host	Open	Myrna & Christy
Ushers	Elder’s	Jack Moeller & Duane Grubaugh
Acolytes	Natalee & Madison	Jeffrey & Sam
Greeters	Carolyn Sutton	Laura Juengel & Marilyn Bowen



ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2023 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

2045 Lynn Road * Sanford, Michigan *

989.687.2824

Website: www.stpaulsanford.org

CELEBRATE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

December 3rd – December 25th

DECEMBER

Sunday the 3rd 9:30am Advent I Worship/Communion

Wednesday the 6th 6pm Dinner
7pm Advent I Communion

Sunday the 10th 9:30am Advent II Worship

Wednesday the 13th 6pm Dinner
7pm Advent II Worship

Sunday the 17th 9:30am Advent III Worship/Communion

4pm Children's Christmas Concert

Wednesday the 20th 6pm Dinner
7pm Advent III Worship

CHRISTMAS WEEK

Sunday the 24th 9:30am Advent IV Worship

Sunday the 24th 6:30pm Christmas Eve- Candlelight Service

Christmas the 25th

9:30am Worship

NEW YEAR'S EVE

9:30am Worship/Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Sanford Food Pantry: The current needs for the Food Pantry are **Boxed Potatoes-Scalloped, AuGratin, Mashed.** There are refillable canvas bags from the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry available on the food pantry table in the fellowship hall. The bags have a suggested list of items and instructions. You may take these bags home and place the purchased items in the bag and return it to the church. The bags will be delivered to the Sanford Food Pantry the last week of the month. The empty bags will be returned to the church to be used again. *Thank you for all of the items and monetary donations. Please remember that the food pantry does not accept expired or dietary food.*

Read the Bible in a Year!

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

For Christians – and especially for Lutherans – nothing is more important than God’s Word. God speaks to us through His Word, and we do well to listen to what He has to say to us. That is why regular devotions and prayer and Scripture reading are so important for our spiritual life.

It’s always a good time to start a plan to read the Bible! And in fact, you can read through the entire Bible in a year, with only 15-20 minutes per day. Are you worried that the Bible might be too much for you to read in a single year? There are resources that can help. One option that is available is on your smartphone: Download the YouVersion Bible App and look up the “Reformation Reading Plan,” which was developed by the Michigan District to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

If you don't have a smartphone, you can follow this reading plan in the bulletin every week, along with suggested readings from Luther's Small Catechism. Note that whatever day you start the reading plan in the app will be "Day 1," so you may find yourself on a different day than what is in the bulletin.

Daily Readings:

Days 29-35	Reading	Catechism
Monday	John 14, Isaiah 1,2,3,4	The Lord's Prayer The Conclusion
Tuesday	John 15, 16:1-4, Isaiah 5,6,7,8	Means of Grace
Wednesday	John 16:5-33, Isaiah 9,10,11	The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Thursday	John 17, Isaiah 12,13,14,15,16	The Nature of Baptism
Friday	John 18, Isaiah 17,18,19,20,21	The Blessing of Baptism
Saturday	Proverbs 3:1-12, Psalm 19,20	The Power of Baptism
Sunday	Isaiah 64: 1-9, Psalm 80: 1-7, 1 Cor. 1: 3-9, Mark 11: 1-10	What Baptism Indicates

Daily Devotion Resources:

Daily Prayers for Morning, Noon, Evening, Close of Day
(LSB 294-298)/*Treasury of Daily Prayer*/Portals of
Prayer

Prayer Requests:

- Youth in the Church, especially our Confirmands
- Our Shut-ins
- Peanut Brittle Making
- Pastors of our congregation and Synod, and for increase in the numbers of Seminary students for future Pastors

