



November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Pastor Christopher P. Vossler*

*Organist: Heidi Stecker*

**ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS**

2045 LYNN RD | SANFORD, MI 48657

*- Welcomes you! -*

Hymn: 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me  
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and  
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his  
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of  
 righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His  
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All  
 yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose  
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we  
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our  
 in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His



meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry  
 mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite  
 pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the  
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and  
 spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as  
 flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but  
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -



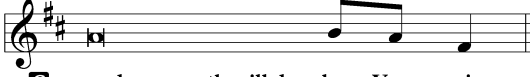
care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who  
 heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So  
 through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We  
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our



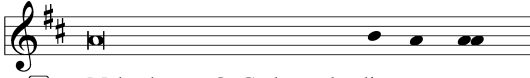
leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.  
 far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.  
 with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.  
 life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!



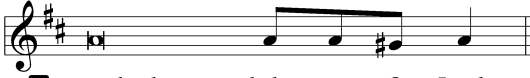
**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**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.

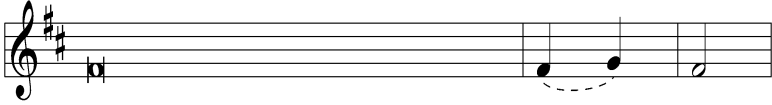


**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

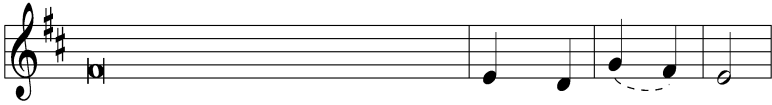
Venite

“O Come, Let Us Sing”

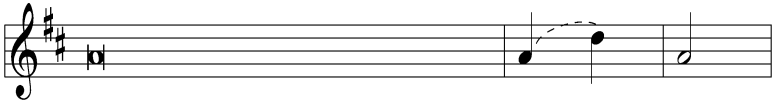
LSB 220



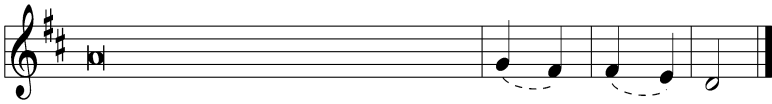
- 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God
- 3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,
  
- 5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



- 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.

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

**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

**Psalm**

*Psalm 70; antiphon: v. 4*

<sup>1</sup>Make haste, O God, to de - | liver me!\*

**O LORD, make haste to | help me!**

<sup>2</sup>Let them be put to shame and confusion  
who | seek my life!\*

**Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor  
who de - | sire my hurt!**

<sup>3</sup>Let them turn back because | of their shame\*  
**who say, “A - | ha, Aha!”**

<sup>4</sup>May all who seek you  
rejoice and be | glad in you!\*

**May those who love your salvation  
say evermore, | “God is great!”**

<sup>5</sup>But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, | O God!\*

**You are my help and my deliverer;  
O LORD, do | not delay!**

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is  
now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Hymn:

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare  
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

## Readings

### Old Testament Reading

*Amos 5:18–24*

**L** A reading from Amos, chapter 5.

<sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,

<sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion,

and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against  
the wall,

and a serpent bit him.

<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings  
and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,

I will not look upon them.

<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle Reading

*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

**L** A reading from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4.

<sup>13</sup>But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to honor The Holy Gospel*

**Holy Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 25:1–13*

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

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your



oil, for our lamps are going out.’<sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’<sup>10</sup> And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.<sup>11</sup> Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’<sup>12</sup> But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’<sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

- L** This is the Gospel of The Lord  
**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Responsory**

*LSB 221*  
*To Refrain*

*Verse*



- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

*Refrain*



- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

*Sit*

*Children's Message*

Goal: That the hearers would be comforted in our grief by the coming of the Lord.

## I. Introduction

- 

## II. Context

- Why are the Thessalonians worried?
- What questions might we have when confronted by death?

## III. Text

- What happens to those who die in the faith?

## IV. Application

- How do Christians grieve?
- What does Christ’s coming mean for us?

## V. Conclusion

-

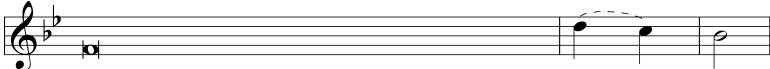
# Canticle

Stand

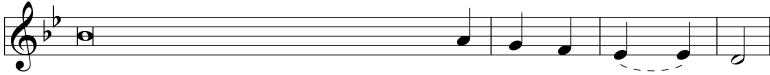
## Te Deum

### “We Praise You, O God”

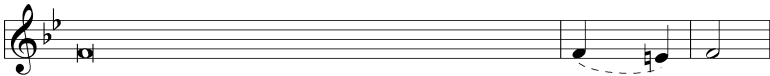
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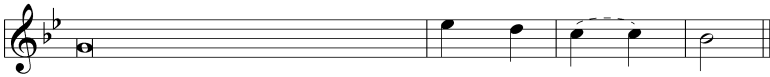
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.  
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of . . . . . Sab - a - oth;  
3 The noble army of martyrs . . . . . praise — You.



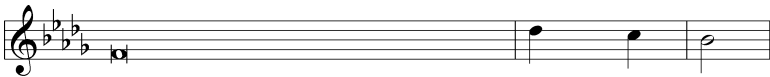
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.  
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.  
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



- 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;



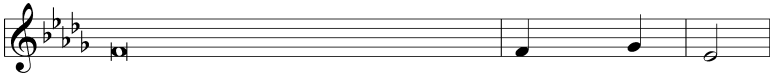
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
2 The goodly fellowship of the . . . . . proph-ets praise — You.  
3 also the Holy . . . . . Ghost, the Com-fort - er.  
4 You are the everlasting Son . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



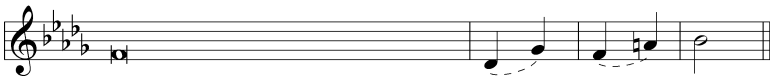
- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,  
6 You sit at the right . . . . . hand of God



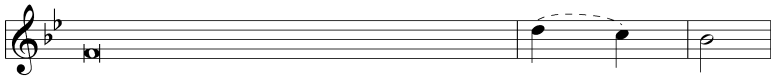
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



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



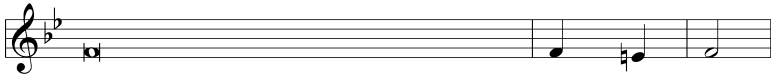
- 5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to . . . . . be — our — judge.



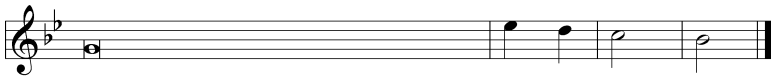
7 We therefore pray You to help Your . . . . . ser - vants,  
 8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.  
 9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out \_\_\_\_\_ sin.



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**

**Prayer**

*Stand*

**Kyrie**

*LSB 227*



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

**Lord's Prayer**

**C** **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** Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same 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:

490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -  
 2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is  
 3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus  
 4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall  
 5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!  
 giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,  
 liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,  
 sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell  
 mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er  
 Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is  
 Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I  
 Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will  
 When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
 faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
 need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
 be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
 cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

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](mailto:stpaul Lutheran@tds.net) | [www.stpaulsanford.org](http://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:** *Worship Service 9:30am/10:30am/  
Fellowship/Voter's Meeting 11am/Youth Arcade Trip  
leaves church at 1pm*

**MONDAY:**

**TUESDAY:** *Peanut Brittle Season 9-1pm/Confirmation  
Class 5pm/Lifelight Bible Study 7pm*

**WEDNESDAY:** *Quilting 9:30am / Lifelight Bible Study  
1pm/ Stephen Ministry Class 5:30pm/Choir Practice  
7pm*

**THURSDAY:** *Pastor Hoogerhyde's Bible Study  
2:30pm-105 E. Youngs Ct. Midland/Trustee meeting  
6pm*

**FRIDAY:** *Stephen Ministry Training 10am*

**SATURDAY:** *Peanut Brittle 9am/Euchre Night 7pm*

**SUNDAY :** *Worship Service with Communion  
9:30am/10:30am/ Fellowship/Sunday School/ 11am  
Bible Study*

**OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 11/05**

<b>OFFERINGS</b>	<b>mom</b>	<b>Memorials</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
<b>Env / Plate</b>				
\$4187/414	70	-	\$4671	71

**Voter's Meeting today** following fellowship



Tutorial on website navigation during voter's meeting today by PR committee.



This week's flowers are sponsored by **Donna Piper** in honor of family 😊

**Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Please join us at 7pm for **Thanksgiving Eve Service**. Guest proclaimer will be Pastor Emeritus Richard Hoogerhyde 😊

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 :)

Looking for a great ending for your Thanksgiving meal?? The Ladies are now taking orders for **take and bake frozen apple pies. \$15 per pie.**

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

**2023 United Way Sharing Trees:** The tree is up, and you can take a tag from the tree. **Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023, at 10:30am** is the deadline to

bring gifts to St. Paul. This year there is only one tree located in the downstairs. 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 Arcade trip to Valley Plaza- Today-  
Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1pm leaving the  
church for Midland. Pizza Lunch during  
Arcade visit. 😊*



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 / hughroottiers@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.



**Pictorial directory-** Please check with Linda, Margie, Ruth or Kathy to help retrieve yours from the office. 😊

**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](mailto:stpaulrev@tds.net). The Church Office (989-687-2824) / cell (989 859-9300) email [stpaul Lutheran@tds.net](mailto:stpaul Lutheran@tds.net), or Deacon Don Barnard (989-751-7726) email: [stpauldeacon@tds.net](mailto:stpauldeacon@tds.net) or [esocidnator01@gmail.com](mailto: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!

### **#Up Coming Events#**

**-Peanut Brittle making...**Continues every Tuesday through December 5<sup>th</sup> , 9-1pm and Saturday Nov 18<sup>th</sup> , 9-1pm.

*Youth Arcade trip to Valley Plaza- Today, Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1pm*

## **Thanksgiving Eve Service- November 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7pm**

Advent Services begin December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.  
Advent dinner before service at 6pm-free will offering

Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> Cookie Decorating

Children's Christmas Concert-December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm

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

We are currently forming a **Youth Ministry Board**. 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.

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

<b>SERVING</b>	This Week 11/12	Next Week 11/19
<b>Flowers:</b>	Donna Piper	Altar Guild
<b>Music:</b>	Heidi Stecker	Sara Glynn-Dishaw
<b>Proclaimer:</b>	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler	Pastor Christopher P. Vossler
<b>Fellowship Host</b>	Madeline Sasse Birthday	Kathy E. /Julie V./Jan O.
<b>Ushers</b>	Gerianne Barnard & Bill Draves	Jack Moeller & Duane Grubaugh
<b>Acolytes</b>	Sam & Garrett	Jackson & Bradyn
<b>Greeters</b>	Mark Burns/Madison Giddings	Lynn & Mark Burns/Natalee Giddings

**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 500<sup>th</sup> 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 15-21	Reading	Catechism
Monday	John 7:32-53, John 8:1-11, Genesis 27,28,29,30	The Second Article (part 1)
Tuesday	John 8: 12-47, Genesis 31	The Second Article (part 2).
Wednesday	John 8:48-59, Genesis 32,33	The Second Article (part 3)
Thursday	John 9, Genesis 34,35	The Third Article (part 1)
Friday	John 10, Genesis 36,37,38	The Third Article (part 2)
Saturday	Proverbs 2:1-11, Psalm 10,11,12,13,14	The Third Article (part 3)
Sunday	Malachi 4: 1-6, Psalm 98, 2 Thessalonians 3: 1-13, Luke 21: 5-38	The Lord's Prayer (introduction)

## 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