

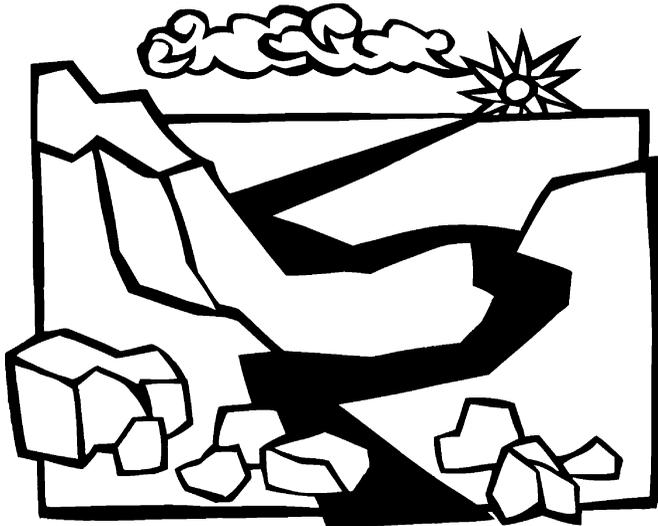
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Crossroads (ELCA)**

PO Box 394, Batesville, IN 47006

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E-mail: [stpauls.crossroads@gmail.com](mailto:stpauls.crossroads@gmail.com)

Pastor Creighton's e-mail: [creighton.leptakjr@gmail.com](mailto:creighton.leptakjr@gmail.com)



**Sunday, December 9, 2018  
Second Sunday in Advent  
Holy Communion**

***Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."***



LET YOUR GUARD DOWN,  
LET GOD IN,  
BE AMONG FRIENDS

## WELCOME . . .

We are privileged to have you as our guest in the Lord's house this morning. We pray that the time you share with us will be meaningful for you and that God will bless you through it. If you have a question that is not answered here, please don't hesitate to ask someone around you.

**Registry:** Please take time to complete the registry/attendance sheet found in the pew in the black folder at the center aisle. It is important to us that we know who is worshipping with us today. Thank you.

**Worship:** This booklet is our order of worship for today. Hymns are found in the "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" hymnals located in the racks on the back of the pew in front of you. Everything else is printed in this booklet.

Our worship includes **Holy Communion**. As Christians in the Lutheran heritage, we believe that our Lord Jesus is physically present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine we receive. However, if you believe that Jesus' body and blood were given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins, you are welcome to commune with us, regardless of your faith background. A white grape juice is available at the center of the tray for those who do not wish to receive wine. Gluten-free wafers are available for those with gluten sensitivity.

If you desire to receive communion but are unable to come forward to the communion rail, inform the usher of such and communion will be brought to you.

**. . . WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

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Ministers: The people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Crossroads

Pastor: Pastor Creighton

Greeters: Bob and Joyce Kessens

Accompanist: Sheryl Harmeyer

Acolytes: Hannah and Haley Barker

Assisting Minister: Larry Siebert

Reader: Quinn Rasnick

Communion Assistant: Ellen Siebert

Sound System: Gena Mack

Offering Counters: Curt Wehr and Gene Krieger

Altar Committee: Alvin and Sheryl Harmeyer

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## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** (*Assisting Minister*)

- The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace.

The second candle, often called the Bethlehem candle,  
Reminds us of the place in which preparations were made to  
receive and cradle the Christ child.

- Peace is a gift that we must be prepared to receive.

God gives us the gift of peace freely through faith.

- We light this candle today to remind us

that our Lord brings peace to all who trust in him.

*Light the Second Candle*

- LET US PRAY - Loving God, thank you for the peace you  
give us through Jesus. Help us prepare our hearts to  
receive Him. Bless our worship. Guide us in all that  
we say and do. We ask it in the name of the one born  
in Bethlehem. **Amen.**

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,  
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,  
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

**Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

To you, O God,

**we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.**

**Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love.**

**Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth,**

**for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus;  
you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve.

Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG:** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

**ELW 249**

## **GREETING**

*The presiding minister and assembly greet one another.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **DIALOGUE**

*The assisting minister leads the assembly in dialogue.*

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**By day and night he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**So that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.*

A reading from the third chapter of Malachi.

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>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 fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

*The psalm is read responsively by verse.*

<sup>68</sup>Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

<sup>69</sup>**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

<sup>70</sup>Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup>from the hands of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup>**to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup>This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:  
<sup>74</sup>to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,  
<sup>75</sup>holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

<sup>76</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

<sup>77</sup>**to give God's people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup>In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>79</sup>**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11**

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

A reading from the first chapter of Philippians.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CHOIR ANTHEM: *Light of Peace***

*The assembly stands to acclaim the gospel.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p. 142

**♪Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6**

*John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Soon and Very Soon***

**ELW 439**

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer.*

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Prepare your church to share the good news, life-giving God. Put your word within us and dwell among us. Send us out to proclaim the mercy and salvation that abides in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Protect the creation, life-giving God. Sustain the mountains and hills. Restore the rivers. Give us wisdom and compassion to care for wilderness areas and urban ecosystems. Move us to care for your creation in all its forms and richness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Purify the hearts of all people, life-giving God. Remove the hate that lives within us and among us. Mold us into peacemakers. Raise up leaders rooted in your love and fed by your word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Comfort all who hurt, life-giving God. Wrap them in your tender care. Remember the forgotten and send us out to share your love with them. Be with the wandering, the worried, and the woeful, especially those listed in the bulletin and prayer book, and those we name aloud or in our hearts at this time. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bless this congregation, life-giving God. Give strength and joy to worship leaders, musicians, and our altar guild as they prepare the way for the celebration of the Christ child's coming among us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We remember the generations who have shown us your faithfulness, life-giving God. Shine your light on those who mourn and prepare us for that day when we will see you face-to-face. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray and all for whom we have forgotten or neglected to pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.*

### OFFERING SONG: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* ELW 247



*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm*  
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.*  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947  
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

## OFFERING PRAYER

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads a prayer.*

Let us pray together.

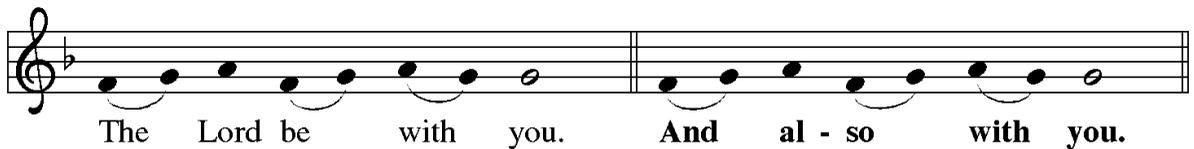
God of abundance,

**we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

ELW p. 144

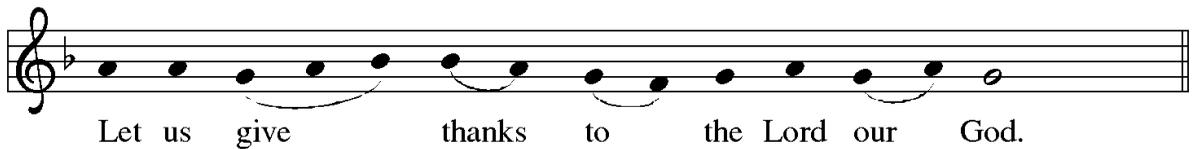
*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...  
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW p. 144

**♪Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**

# LORD'S PRAYER

*Introduction by Pastor*



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



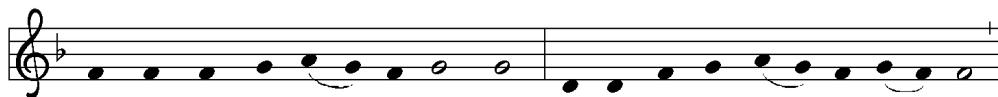
Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly in invitation.*

*The assembly is seated.*

*All are welcome at Christ's table! If you are a visitor and receive communion at your home church, you are invited to do so here. Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing.*

## COMMUNION SONG

ELW p. 146

**♪Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*  
The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond*  
Amen.

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

*After Holy Communion has been distributed, the assembly stands and the presiding minister may say:*

The body and blood of our risen Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION: *Wait for the Lord*

ELW 262

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Wait for the Lord'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are: 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' and 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

*The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessings.*

Go out into the world in peace;  
have courage;  
hold on to what is good;  
return no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak, and help the suffering;  
honor all people;  
love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: *Hark, the Glad Sound!***

**ELW 239**

## **DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **We remember in Prayer:**

Carol Bergman  
Aaron Nicholson  
Art and Karen Salvitti

Chris Meyer  
Todd Siebert  
Marlin and Julia Siebert

Leon Siebert

Ryan Westerfeld (Dennis and Andrea's nephew)  
Patsy Holdsworth (Friend of Dennis and Andrea)  
Michael Gibson (Marilyn Gausman's son)  
Melody Briner (Marilyn Gausman's daughter)  
Kasey Hester (friend of Marilyn Gausman's son Michael)  
Nick and Ivy Gunter and their unborn twins  
Ruth Booster (wife of former pastor)  
Lois Bastien Brown (Tim Salvitti's grandmother-in-law)  
Marie Dierckman (Ginny Low's mother)  
Steve Gookins (Friend of Les & Martha Kessens and Dennis & Andrea Westerfeld)  
Leonard (husband of Lisa Gausman's friend)  
George Lerosé (Art Salvitti's brother-in-law)  
Stella Long (Marilyn Gausman's sister-in-law)  
Tessa Mayer (wife of Wanda Siebert's principal)  
Nate McClintic (Spouse of Debbie Mack's co-worker)  
Bekah Netherton (daughter of Debbie Mack's friend)  
Erin Newcomb (Hauser HS student)  
Ronnie Nicholson (Darrell's brother)  
Barry Norman (Lisa Gausman's former principal)  
Carol Rayve (Karen Salvitti's mother)  
Ted Rayve (Karen Salvitti's brother)  
Beverly Richardson (Laura Nicholson's mother)  
Kristina Salvitti (Art's daughter)  
Gary Schopmeyer (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)  
Charlie Seibert (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)  
John Ward (Eunice Sisson's brother-in-law)  
Jasmine Westerfeld (Sharon Brown's great-granddaughter)  
Melinda Wilson (wife of Ben Wilson)

anyone affected by natural disasters, warfare and violence  
all who serve in the military

**Honored Members:**

Allen and Mary Lou Narwold                      Bill Westerfeld

**Our members at St. Andrew's:**      Julia Siebert                      Ruth Thackery

**Our Partner Churches:** Malagasy Lutheran Church and St. Peter Lutheran Church,  
Milton, KY

## **Today:**

**Welcome to worship** on this second Sunday of Advent! We gather to anticipate the joy of God's coming — at Bethlehem, in our hearts and at the end of days.

**Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God this morning in memory of Kate Krieger by the Bob Krieger family.

**Caroling** to our honored members takes place this afternoon. We will depart at 1 pm, and upon our return will have a time of fellowship. Please plan to attend this enjoyable ministry here at St. Paul; our honored members always appreciate our remembering them at this special time.

## **This Week:**

Office Hours – Monday	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Pr. Creighton's office hours – Monday – Thursday	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
<b>Monday –</b>	
Leisure Ladies	1:00 PM
M'rita Moms at Lil' Charlies	6:30 PM
<b>Tuesday –</b>	
SEIC Clergy meeting	10:00 AM
<b>Wednesday –</b>	
Advent worship service	6:30 PM
Choir Practice	7:30 PM
<b>Sunday -</b>	
Sunday School	9:00 AM
Worship Service with SS Program	10:00 AM

## **Upcoming Events / Announcements:**

The Food Pantry is **collecting items for the holiday baskets**. They are asking us to collect another 300 canned fruits and/or vegetables before Christmas; we have collected 165 at this time. Please consider assisting with this vital community ministry. Your generosity and cooperation are greatly appreciated by our neighbors in need.

**Advent worship services** will be on Wednesdays during December at 6:30 pm. Please consider taking a quiet break from the hustle and bustle of the season to prepare yourself for the Christ Child's coming.

**Plan ahead** for December events:

**Sunday School Program** – December 16<sup>th</sup> during worship

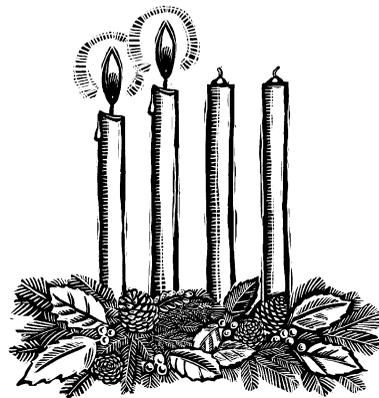
**Christmas Eve Service** – December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

**Service of Lessons and Carols** – December 30<sup>th</sup> – NO COMMUNION

FCN Bank is hosting a **Blood Drive** on Tuesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at their Batesville location. Times are 10am – 12:15pm and 1:30 – 3:30pm. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

Any member interested in filling the soon to be vacant **secretarial position**, pick up a job description in the office. Also give your name and contact information to Pastor Creighton or any member of Council by Sunday, Jan. 13th.

It's time to think about signing up for both **Altar Committee and Flowers** for the new year.



**Second Sunday in Advent**