

**St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
**November 19, 2023**

**Pastor:** David Reim - 549-5250

**Pianist:** Julie Reim

**Ushers:** Guy and Ken

**Read Before the Service:** Psalm 36 Hymnal pg. 132

**Opening Prayer**

Heavenly Father, let us share in the joy of the Psalmist who said, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." May we be eager to hear your word, sing your praise and lift up our hearts to you in prayer. Oh gracious God, show us your steadfast love once again this morning and fill our hearts with joy and praise to your holy name. May our worship be genuine here this morning and may our everyday actions serve to glorify You. In the name of Jesus, our glorious Lord and Savior. Amen.

**Invocation:**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



**Opening Hymn: 742 Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven**

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To his feet your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

2. Praise him for his grace and favor To his people in distress.  
Praise him, still the same as ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

3. Fatherlike he tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame he knows.  
In his hand he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!

4. Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, Blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish God endures unchanging on.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the High Eternal One.

### Confession of Sins:

P: Jesus invites us saying, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

**C: We come to you Lord, with the heavy burden of our sins. We know that You bore our sins in Your own body on the cross. Therefore we are confident to confess our sins trusting in You for forgiveness.**

**C & P: Almighty and most merciful God, I confess that I am a sinner by my very nature, I was born in the sin of Adam. Because of my corrupt nature, I sin against you daily in my thoughts, in my words and actions. I have done the things you forbid, and I fail to do the things you command. Lord, I know I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. Yet, I come before you in repentance, because you are merciful and gracious and have given Your Son to die for me. Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Forgive me, I pray, for Jesus sake.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, is truly merciful and gracious, He has given His own Son into death for our sins, and raised Jesus to life for our justification. By His unfailing word of promise, I assure you that all your sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake.



### Response of Praise: Hymn 244

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!

Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain;  
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign!  
Glory, glory, To the Lamb that once was slain!

### Salutation:

P: As we prepare to hear God’s Holy Word, may the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you!**

### Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16

7 Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. 8 And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. 9 On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

10 “On that day,” declares the Lord, “a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, ‘The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.’ 13 Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.” 14 The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

### **Response of Praise:**

P: Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

**C: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**

P: For He is our God:

**C: And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.**

P: Oh, come, let us sing unto the Lord:

**C: Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.**

P: I love the Lord:

**C: Because He has heard my voice and my supplication. Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!**

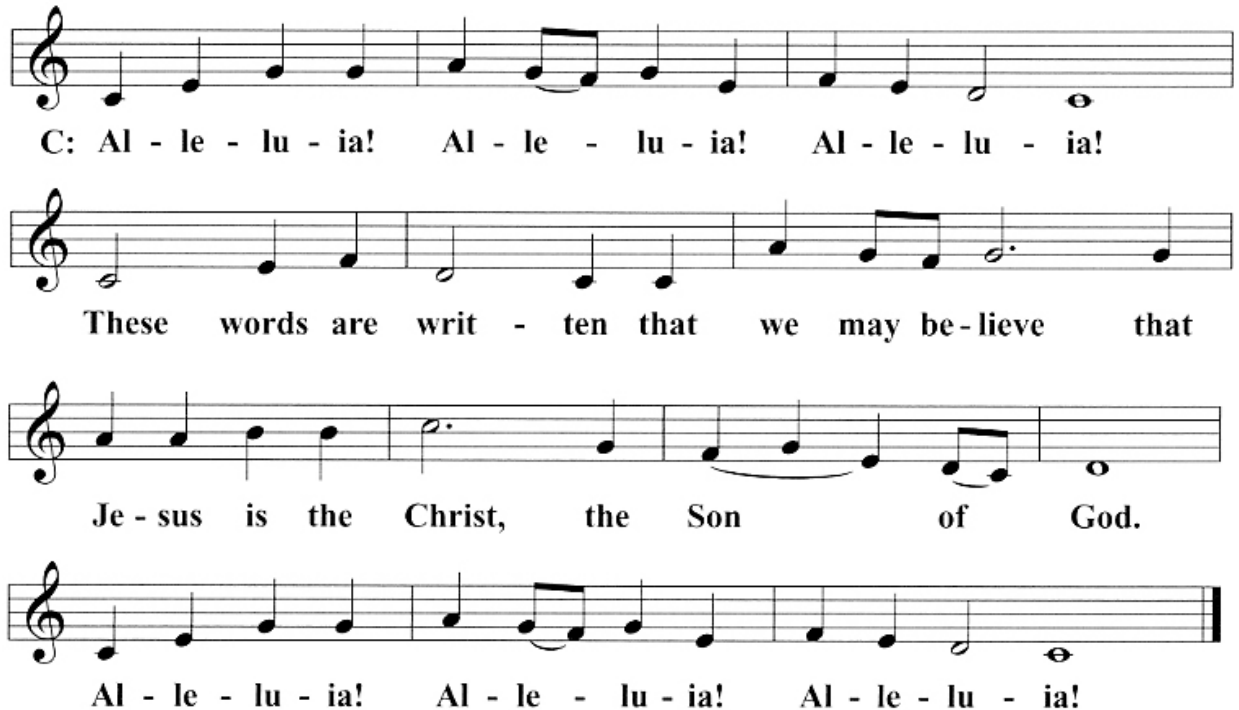
P: With You is the fountain of life:

**C: In Your light shall we see light. Hallelujah!**

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P: Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

### **Confession of Faith:** The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Hymn: 604** Great God, What do I See and Hear?

1. Great God, what do I see and hear? The end of things created;  
The Judge of mankind doth appear On clouds of glory seated.  
The trumpet sounds; the graves restore The dead which they contained before:  
Prepare, my soul, to meet Him.
2. The dead in Christ shall first arise At that last trumpet's sounding,  
Caught up to meet Him in the skies, With joy their Lord surrounding.  
No gloomy fears their souls dismay; His presence sheds eternal day  
On those prepared to meet Him.

3. But sinners, filled with guilty fears, Behold His wrath prevailing,  
For they shall rise and find their tears And sighs are unavailing;  
The day of grace is past and gone; They trembling stand before his throne,  
All unprepared to meet Him.
4. O Christ, who diedst and yet dost live, To me impart Thy merit;  
My pardon seal, my sins forgive, And cleanse me by Thy Spirit.  
Beneath Thy cross I view the day When heav'n and earth shall pass away,  
And thus prepare to meet Thee.

**Sermon Text: Matthew 25:14-30**

*14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' 26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

**Today's Theme:**

*Serve the Lord with Gladness!*

**Hymn: 403** Savior, Thy Dying Love

1. Savior, Thy dying love Thou gavest me;  
Nor should I aught withhold, Dear Lord, from Thee.  
In love my soul would bow, My heart fulfil its vow,  
Some offering bring Thee now, Something for Thee.
2. O'er the blest mercy-seat, Pleading for me,  
My feeble faith looks up, Jesus, to Thee.  
Help me my cross to bear, Thy wondrous love declare,  
Some song to raise or prayer, Something for Thee.
3. Give me a faithful heart, Likeness to Thee,  
That each departing day Henceforth may see  
Some work of love begun, Some deed of kindness done,  
Some wanderer sought and won, Something for Thee.
4. All that I am and have, Thy gifts so free,  
In joy, in grief, through life, Dear Lord, for Thee!  
And when Thy face I see, My ransomed soul shall be  
Through all eternity Something for Thee.

**Offerings for Christ's Church:**

**Sing** - while offering is brought forward Hymn 441 st. 1-2

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!


**Prayers of the Church:**

**The 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.

P: The peace of God which surpasses all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

#### OFFERTORY



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me  
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly  
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

#### Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

#### Closing Hymn: 400 Take My Life and Let it Be

1. Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;

Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.
3. Take my voice and let me sing Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use Every power as Thou shalt choose.
5. Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.
6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure-store;  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all, for Thee.



## **Scripture Treasure to Remember**

### **Matthew 25:31-32**

*“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today-** Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20

**Tuesday** - Shut-in visit with George at 1:30

**Wednesday** - Skype Bible Study at 9:30

Bible Study with Karrie at 2:00

**Thursday** - Catechism Class at 4:00

Choir rehearsal at 6:00 pm.

**Friday** - Instruction Class with the Chan family at 10:30.

Shut-in visit with Rosemarie 1:00 and with Felix after.

**Next Sunday** - Worship Service at 10:00.

Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20.

## **Choir**

We are going to begin working on some songs for the Advent & Christmas Season. We will plan to meet at the parsonage Thursday at 6:00 pm after Catechism class.



## **Christmas Dinner**

Let's discuss what type of meal we want for our Christmas dinner: A full turkey or ham dinner, a pot luck, or something else.

## **Mission Helper Trip 2024**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Apply now so you can be part of this opportunity to spread the Gospel to children in either Kenya/Uganda, Tanzania, or Zambia for about three weeks. The application deadline is January 16th. Find more information and apply online at [www.mht.lutheranmissions.org](http://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org).

## **CLC Mission Prayer List**

**Tanzania (East Africa)** – Three evangelism students graduate today (11/19/23) from the one-year program at the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary. Two of these students will continue their training in the three-year seminary program. There are several prospects for new enrollments in the next academic year, which begins in January. Praise and thank the Lord for these students and their dedication to preparing for the public ministry.

**The Philippines (Southeast Asia)** – Pastor Andrew Schaller (CLC Bd of Doctrine Secretary) continues the colloquy with Pastor Jordan Palangyos and the Lutheran Autonomous Mission in the Philippines (LAMP) via email correspondence. Pray that the Lord will bless the colloquy and that this will lead to a God-pleasing unity of faith and teaching. Ask the Lord to provide opportunities for Pastor Jordan to continue to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ!

## **ILC Christmas Concert**

The choirs of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will be presenting *The King in the Cradle: A Choral Christmas Service*, December 15, 2023, 7:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2015 N Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

The service will include anthems, hymns, and Scripture devotions. Worshipers will be led to celebrate Jesus, the "King in the Cradle," as King Incarnate, King of Glory, King of Love, King Returning, and King of Kings.

## **CLC Call News**

Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen's Lutheran of Mt. View, CA has returned the call from Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN.