

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)



First Sunday of Advent
Readings and Sermon
Evangelical Lutheran Worship
November 29, 2020

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A "Reconciling in Christ"

Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran

Church in America (ELCA).

Phone: 202.966.5489

Fax: 202.362.9165

Website: www.stpaulslutherandc.com

Email: office@stpaulslutherandc.com

The Rev. Dr. Andrea L. Walker

Pastor

awalker@stpaulslutherandc.com

Lisa B. Wackler

Director of Congregational Life

lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com

Sonja Kahler & Matt Larson

Music Directors

skahler@stpaulslutherandc.com

mlarson@stpaulslutherandc.com

Joy C. Belew

Office Administrator

joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com

WELCOME

*GREETING

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

C And also with you.

Today's other readings are:

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (*Ps. 80:7*)

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end

READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,

or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL**

Mark 13:24-37

P The Gospel according to Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with
great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and
gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to
the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch be-
comes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is
near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know
that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation
will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heav-
en and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels
in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert;
for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man
going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in
charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be
on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know
when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at
midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you

asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Andrea Walker

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P Let us pray together the prayer Our Savior taught us:

C **Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

(Please remember to send your offering via mail, online giving or by text. Our Text2Give number is 844-262-6943)

Today, we pray for those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially; For all those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Judy Baumgardner, Aaron, Peggy Maher, Carmen Ortiz, Carol Hollar, the Revana and Mahan families, Maggie, Jane, JJ, Barb Pitts, Carolyn Boston, Michon, Taquina, Levi, John LeSane, Julie Hamlin, Greg McAllister, the Carr family, Pearl Apisson, Gillian Flory, Russell and Stephanie Thomas, Joan Tolbert, Stefanie Skurcenski, Barbara Hostage, Sue Ericsson, Russell Stevens, Glenn Ralph, Betty Mastrobattista, Richard, Dallas Dean, Carolyn Denison, Lois Leland, Bill Jackson, Grace Yin, Ralph Benson, Susan Russo, the Rademacher family, Neal, the Williamson family and for all Christians persecuted for their faith throughout the world.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22714.

