

***The Mission and Ministry Statement for St. Paul's:*** We, the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, in gratitude to The Triune God for His love for us in Jesus Christ, dedicate ourselves as individuals and as a congregation to learning, teaching and sharing God's Word, caring for others, and living in God's grace through Word and Sacrament.

***To our visitors:*** In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you to our church with God's richest blessings. Please sign our guest register in the narthex today. We invite you to make St. Paul's your new church home. If you are interested in church membership, or have questions, please contact Pastor Burns.

***Friendship Pads:*** Please take a moment to fill in the Friendship Pad, listing **each family member separately**. Please indicate on the Friendship Pad if you are receiving Holy Communion. Children that are receiving the blessing should not be marked as such or as receiving Holy Communion. **Visitors** please complete the form in its entirety.

***Children and the Divine Service:*** Thank you for bringing your children with you to church. The Scriptures tenderly tell of Jesus' love for little children. Jesus wants your children in His Company, to hear His Word and receive His gifts given to all in the Divine Liturgy. If you feel your child would benefit by leaving the worship service for a short period of time, you are welcome to use the Narthex. There is a speaker and chairs so you may continue to hear and participate in the worship service. If you need any assistance, please let us know how we can help.

***The Holy Communion:*** The Lord's Supper reflects our unity of faith and doctrine. Therefore, we assume that all those attending Holy Communion with us are members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. In love and concern, we ask that all others speak with the pastor before communing.

***Staff:*** Pastor: Daniel Burns 763.234.1828 (Cell)

Email: [pastor@stpaulsosseo.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsosseo.org)

Music Director: Thomas Hanna 612.202.4171 (Cell)

Email: [music@stpaulsosseo.org](mailto:music@stpaulsosseo.org)

Administrative Assistant: Judy Erickson 763.425.2238 (Office)

Email: [office@stpaulsosseo.org](mailto:office@stpaulsosseo.org)

St. Paul's Website: [www.stpaulsosseo.org](http://www.stpaulsosseo.org)

Office Hours: 9:00a-1:00p Mon.-Thur.

**4th Sunday in Advent  
Sunday, December 23, 2018**



***The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
710 East Broadway Street, Osseo, MN 55369***

**Pastor: Daniel Burns 763.234.1828**

**[pastor@stpaulsosseo.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsosseo.org)**

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*As We Gather:* Please be respectful of those who are in the pews preparing their hearts and minds for worship.

*As you prepare for worship, you may pray the following prayer:* O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter; as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

### *The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace*

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “*shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.*” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.

Luke 1:45 – “**And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.**” The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord’s own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord’s commands in the face of the world’s anger and resistance. The same faithfulness in God gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

Super Sunday 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration dvd from Channel 12 is now available in the library.

## **Those serving this week. Sunday December 23rd**

<b>Elders</b>	8:00a	Jason Voss
	10:30a	Rick Scheevel
<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	8:00a	Earl & Sandy Slack
	10:30a	Erik & Kim Glauvitz
<b>Acolytes</b>	8:00a	Max Olson/Grace Voss
	10:30a	Austin Kolden/Kyle Glauvitz

### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

#### **Members who are sick and in need of healing and comfort-**

Cyndie Zeman, John Hansen, Judy Erickson, Janie Hall (Aunt of Esther Burns), Rose LaValle, Barney Olson (Jeff Olson's father), Blake Iverson, Doris Krause, Rose Ebert, Ken & Val Craven, Melissa Lee, Marian Bothe and Terry Benson. Our Lord Jesus, who reached out to heal and comfort the sick and dying, continues to reach out with His healing Word through us. Cards, phone calls and prayers are always appreciated. If you know of someone who is sick or hospitalized, please inform Pastor Burns.

**Our homebound members** are Wilbur Boettcher, Rose Ebert, Terry Benson, Ken & Val Craven, Melissa Lee, Mae House and Marian Bothe.

#### **All those serving in our Armed Forces**

**This Week:** The Congregations in our circuit are praying for Rev. John Fehrmann and his work with Confessional Lutheran Educational Foundation (CLEF) in other nations.

**For those serving in the mission field:** Elliot and Serena Derricks, Johanna Heidorn, Kayla Hoem and Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

- Sun. 23 4th Sunday of the Advent  
**Worship Service 8:00a**  
Bible Class 9:15a  
**Communion Service 10:30a**
- Mon. 24 **Christmas Eve Worship 4:00p**  
Office Closed
- Tue. 25 **Christmas Day Worship 10:00a**  
Office Closed
- Thu. 27 Newsletter Mailing 9:00a
- Fri. 28 **Family Day for Staff**
- Sun. 30 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas  
**Communion Service 8:00a**  
Bible Class 9:15a  
**Communion Service 10:30a**

*Lutheran Humor-* You might be a Lutheran if.... in response to someone jumping up and shouting "Praise the Lord!" you politely remind him or her that we don't do that around here.

### Attendance and Offering

Sunday Dec. 16 10:30a-212

Tues. Dec. 18 Morning Prayer Service 13

Advent Offering Dec. 12 \$422.00

General Offering Both Services \$4,690.00

General Offering Weekly Budget \$5,000.00

Electronic Giving November \$1,150.00



**Stewardship Opportunity:** Please consider helping Saint Paul's with one, or more, of our fundraising needs.

There are three items that we would like to bring to your attention. 1) Our Annual Insurance Premium, 2) Our Assessment from the City of Osseo for Road Construction, and 3) Tuckpointing of the Church.

Please use the enclosed "Building Fund" Envelope to give. All donations for one or more of these projects would be greatly appreciated. Please have your offering envelope number written on your check and write in the Memo what you would like your gift to assist with (please do not write on the envelope, so they can be reused). For example: write **Insurance** if you would like to help with the Insurance Premium; write **Road Work** if you would like to help with our assessment; or, write **Tuckpointing** if you would like to help with the Tuckpointing. *All donations for these projects should be above and beyond our normal weekly giving.*



In GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays, we learn that Christmas is a holiday of suffering. If there was no suffering in this world, then there would be no need for Christ. As we celebrated our remembrance of the first coming of Christ, we remembered why He came: to go to the cross to pay the price for our sins. It is through His death and resurrection that we have the forgiveness of our sins and the free gift of eternal life. But even while we know this truth, we still mourn those who have gone before us. The journey from mourning to joy shouldn't be walked alone. That's why there's Grief Share.

Starting in January, I will be leading GriefShare classes every Thursday evening at 6p in the Youth Room. Classes will begin on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and run through March 28<sup>th</sup>. There are 13 classes. Please contact Pastor Burns to register 763.425.2238 or [pastor@stpaulsosseo.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsosseo.org)

These classes are open to all. I pray that many who are mourning will be able to find healing through Christ.