



Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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PRELUDE/PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE BLESSING

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

SONG “*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*” (v.3) #240

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God, **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.**

Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God’s timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God’s own righteousness. ✚ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

BAPTISM 10:30 am Sophie Catherine Stoddard see insert

GATHERING SONG “Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn” #242

GREETING

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.**

KYRIE p.138

HYMN OF PRAISE p.140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC 8:30 am Cheryl Warming
10:30 am Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm Psalm 146:5-10

Second Reading James 5:7-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p.142

GOSPEL Matthew 11:2-11

SERMON Pastor Don Glanzer

SERMON SONG *“Prepare the Royal Highway (vs.1-3)”* #264

APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERTORY

OFFERING RESPONSE *“He Came Down”* #253

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 144

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY p. 144

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION SONG *“Lamb of God”* p.146

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION All are welcome!

Receive the wafer and choose the wine (light) or juice (dark) (gluten free wafer available upon request).

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

BENEDICTION

May God who comes among us, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *“People, Look East ”* #248

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE