



For Your Information—For Your Inspiration
News & Notes
for St. Paul's Community
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025

Visitors and members—Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church! We're glad you're here and pray that you have a blessed Christmas season.

Communion Procedure: At St. Paul's, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, all baptized persons are welcome at Holy Communion—the Altar is God's table. The ushers will direct you down the center aisle. Please pick up a communion cup and proceed to the altar rail. Glasses of grape juice are available in the center of the tray. Gluten free wafers are available upon request from those distributing the bread. If you prefer, you can pick up an individual communion kit in the narthex, and Pastor will lead you in communion following the distribution.

Introduction to the Day: In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.



Summary of Today's Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7 - This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Titus 2:11-14 - The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

Luke 2:1-20 - God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

St. Paul's Mission Statement

Celebrating God's love through service.

Weekly Opportunities at St. Paul's

Mondays

9:00 AM FunFit Exercise Class

Tuesdays

6:00 PM Bell Choir

6:00 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Worship Band (Bi-weekly)

7:00 PM Grace Notes (Bi-weekly)

Wednesdays

9:00 AM FunFit Exercise Class

9:00 AM Needle & Thread Sewing Group

Thursdays

7:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 AM Bible Study

Saturdays

5:00 PM Worship (through Dec. 28)

Sundays

Worship Schedule:

(Beginning January 4)

Sunday, 9:30 AM

Saturday, 5:00 PM

(September—May)

Sunday School,

10:30—11:30 AM

4:00 PM Confirmation Class

5:30 PM Youth Dinner

6:00 PM Youth Group

Many events will take a week off between Christmas and New Years. For information concerning any of these activities, please contact the church office.

The facility is also used by many outside groups, such as AA, NA, West NJ Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild, NJ School of Music, Burlington Guitar Studio, etc.

Thank you to those who have donated the poinsettias that decorate the sanctuary.

Copies of the Poinsettia donation list are available in the narthex for those who would like one to keep.

Throughout the year, we list the names of people for whom prayers are requested. This night, we ask you to pray for all those who are: hospitalized or ill, suffering from long-term illness, shut-in, in mourning, serving in our Armed Forces. Please pray for peace abroad and unity in our own country. Thank You!

Sign up for our electronic newsletter that arrives in your e-mail inbox every Thursday.

Call or email the church office or go to www.stpaulsh.org.



This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported St. Paul's Lutheran Church this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving option. Looking into 2026, you may find electronic giving (for automatic withdrawal) a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit www.stpaulsh.org to make an electronic donation or contact our business manager for more information: (609) 267-0740, Ext 27. Contact the office for an electronic giving form or use the QR code shown.

Give Online





Sunday School

Ages PreK – Grade 5—Sunday School

Grade 6—12 Sunday School 2.0

All children are welcome to attend!

10:30—11:30 AM

(No Sunday School December 28)

We are Jesus and Child-centered!
God is Our COMPASS (Creator Opens
Minds, Provides Assistance, Shares
Salvation)

1. Loving God
2. Knowing Jesus is our friend
3. The Holy Spirit Inspires us
4. Engaging in Bible Stories
5. Enjoying Activities
6. Talking to God through Prayer

Come join our positive energy on Sunday morning!

Please contact Bev Grazioli with your interest, comments, suggestions, or questions:
beverly.j@outlook.com; (C) 856-912-2408



Vacation Bible Camp
July 27-31, 2026
Watch for more details

Youth & Family Ministries

(Twice a Month)

7th & 8th Grade

Confirmation Class

4:00 - 5:30 PM

7th-12th Grade

5:30 PM—Youth Dinner

Youth Group—6:00 - 7:30 PM

Our Community Outreach:



- Desserts made for Mt. Nebo Holy Church to support weekly luncheons for the homeless in our community
- Ongoing food collection for Extended Hand Ministries
- Winter Coat & Sock Drive
- Mitten Tree
- School Backpack Drive
- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Christmas Giving Tree



Visit us at
www.stpaulsh.org

Join Us On Facebook & Instagram

Facebook

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
facebook.com/stpaulshainesport

Instagram

[@st.pauls.hainesport](https://www.instagram.com/st.pauls.hainesport)

Our Worship Ministers

4:00 PM

Lector: Doug Hikade
Communion Assistant: Doug Hikade
Projection Assistant: Nancy Prickett
Tech: Trish Colbridge
Greeter: Louise Hikade
Acolyte: _____
Ushers: Andy Opperman, Jeff Alexander

7:00 PM

Lector: Sharon Layman
Communion Assistant: Sharon Layman, Carol Ritter, Krissy Soltesz
Projection Assistant: _____
Tech: Trish Colbridge
Greeter: Mary Lou Layman
Acolyte: Anthony Maccrri
Ushers: Mike Munko, Al Sloan

10:00 PM

Lector: Sharon Layman
Communion Assistant: Sharon Layman
Projection Assistant: _____
Tech: Trish Colbridge
Greeter: Sharon Layman
Acolyte: _____
Ushers: Mike Munko

Altar Guild: Peg Biringer

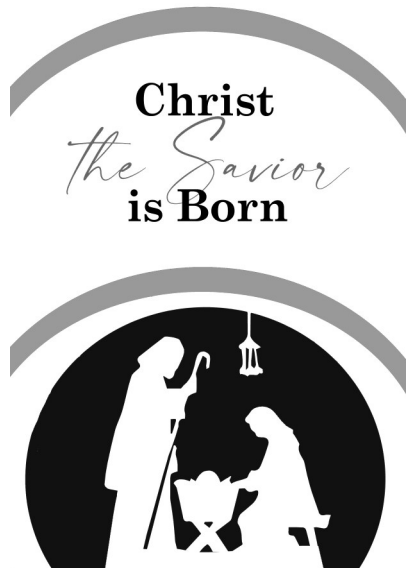
Thank you to others who filled in and are not named!!

*A blessed Christmas
to you all!*



*In Peace,
Pastor Hahn*

*Thank you to the Needle & Thread Group
whose beautiful handiwork adorns the altar.*



December 24, 2025
Christmas Eve

Prelude
Welcome
*Hymn, ELW 283, *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
*Greeting
*Prayer of the Day
First Reading—*Isaiah 9:2-7*
Second Reading—*Titus 2:11-14*
*Gospel Processional, ELW 279, v. 1-3,
O Little Town of Bethlehem
*Holy Gospel—*Luke 2:1-20*
*Gospel Recessional, ELW 279, v. 4,
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Sermon, Pastor Jessica Hahn
*Hymn, ELW 274, *On Christmas Night*
*Nicene Creed
*Prayers of Intercession
*Passing of the Peace
Offertory
*Offering Prayer
*Great Thanksgiving, ELW Page 107
*The Proper Preface
*Hymn, ELW 266, v. 1 & 4, *All Earth is Hopeful*
*Eucharistic Prayer
*The Lord's Prayer
*Invitation to Communion
Communion Hymns
ELW 270, *Hark The Herald Angels Sing*
ELW 277, *Away in a Manger*
ELW 296, *What Child is This*
*Table Blessing
*Prayer After Communion
*Candle Lighting Music
*ELW 281, *Silent Night*
*Blessing
*Hymn, ELW 267, *Joy to the World*
*Dismissal
*Postlude

Special Music

4:00 PM

Prelude, *Still, Still, Still; How Great Our Joy!* - Handbell Choir
Gathering Hymn, *O Come All Ye Faithful*,
Handbells and Organ
Offering, *On a Starlit Night*, Grace Notes
Communion Hymns, *The First Nowell*,
Janet Robertson, violin
Candle Lighting Music, *O Come to the Manger*, Casey Colbridge, flute
Postlude, *For Unto Us*, Ed and Ro Robertson

7:00 PM

Prelude, *Infant Holy; Carol of the Bells*,
Handbell Choir
Gathering Hymn, *O Come All Ye Faithful*,
Handbells and Organ
Offering, *What Sweeter Music*, Tutti Voce Choir
Communion Hymns, *The Rocking Carol*,
Janet Robertson, violin
Candle Lighting Music, *O Come to the Manger*, Casey Colbridge, flute
Postlude, *Sing We Now/He is Born*, Casey Colbridge

10:00 PM

Prelude, *Canon in D Major*, Ro & Janet Robertson, violin duet
Offering, *The First Nowell*, Ella Soles
Communion Hymns, *Mary Did You Know?*, Ella and Ericka Soles
Candle Lighting Music, *O Come to the Manger*, Casey Colbridge, flute
Postlude, *Sing We Now/He is Born*, Casey Colbridge

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Beverly Grazioli, Sunday School Director
Rosanne Scassero, Office Manager
Ken Hibbert, Business Manager
Ed Robertson, Music Director
The Rev. Jessica Hahn, Pastor



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

A service of Lessons and Carols

**Saturday,
December 27
5:00 PM
and Sunday,
December 28
10:00 AM**

Worship Services:

**Beginning January 4:
Sunday, 9:30 AM
and 5:00 PM
10:30—11:30 AM
(September—May)**



For Children Ages 2—6:

Busy Bags are available near the Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Table in the back of the sanctuary. One bag per child, please, and return bags to the bin following worship.



Please pick up your poinsettia(s) after Christmas and enjoy them yourself or gift them to someone else.

**December 24, 2025
Christmas Eve**

**4:00, 7:00 & 10:00 PM
ELW Setting 1**

Prelude	(4) <i>Still, Still, Still; How Great Our Joy!</i>	Handbell Choir
	(7) <i>Infant Holy, Carol of the Bells</i>	Handbell Choir
	(10) <i>Canon in D Major, violin duet</i>	Ro & Janet Robertson

Welcome

*Gathering Hymn	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	ELW 283
	(4&7) Organ and Handbells	

***Greeting**

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

C: And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

First Reading	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>
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Second Reading	<i>Titus 2:11-14</i>
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*Gospel Processional	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 1-3</i>	ELW 279
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*Holy Gospel	<i>Luke 2:1-20</i>
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*Gospel Recessional	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 4</i>	ELW 279
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Sermon	Pastor Jessica Hahn
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*Hymn of the Day	<i>On Christmas Night</i>	ELW 274
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***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; he 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 (see insert)**

P: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

After each prayer petition

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always!

C: And also with you.

Offering

(4) On a Starlit Night

(7) What Sweeter Music

(10) The First Nowell

Grace Notes

Tutti Voce Choir

Ella Soles

***Offering Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

C: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving (spoken)**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Christmas Hymn** *All Earth is Hopeful (Verse 1 & 4)* **ELW 266**

***Eucharistic Prayer**

P: 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.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

P: And Jesus taught us to pray:

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.

***Invitation to Communion**

P: The table is set. Come to the feast of joy!

C: Thanks be to God.

Communion Hymns

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

Away in a Manger

ELW 277

(4) The First Nowell, violin solo

Janet Robertson

(7) The Rocking Carol, violin solo

Janet Robertson

(10) Mary Did You Know?

Ella and Ericka Soles

Communion for those remaining in pews

***Table Blessing**

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Let us pray.

C: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.

***Candle Lighting Music**

O Come to the Manger Casey Colbridge, Flute Solo

***Hymn**

Silent Night

ELW 281

***Blessing**

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

Joy to the World

ELW 267

***Dismissal**

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to God's people on earth!

P: Go in Peace. Share the joy of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God!

***Postlude**

(4) For Unto Us

Ed & Ro Robertson

(7 & 10) Sing We Now / He is Born

Casey Colbridge

December 24, 20245 Christmas Eve

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The First Reading is from the 9th Chapter of Isaiah (*pause*)

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

(Pause) Say: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

The Second Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Titus *(pause)*

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

(Pause) Say: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2nd Chapter **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers of Intercession

L: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

L: Please **sit** or kneel to prepare for prayer. *A brief silence.*

L: Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.