

St. Paul Lutheran Church
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road

PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Parish Administrator’s Email: parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month & Festivals

Christian Education: Sunday’s at 10:15 A.M.

Air Conditioned & Handicapped Accessible

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Grounded in faith and growing in grace, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed in our local community and throughout the world.



Are you visiting St. Paul? Are you interested in membership or just looking to see if St. Paul is a good fit for you and/or your family?

Please call (570-629-1992) or stop by our office during regular business hours (Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm) and speak to our Parish Administrator, Leanna Wickline, who will be happy to guide you

through the membership process and help you find information on all of the great programs at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

SILENT MEDITATION. . . Please note – the silent meditation is a part of the morning worship service. This is a time for individual reflection; a time for communicating with God, as well as a time of preparation for the service of worship. We encourage you to use it in a meaningful way.

Please respect the prayerful atmosphere of this holy place. We ask that you turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

Our Church Staff

Pastor: Reverend Rashion “Woody” Santiago

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline

Choir Director/Organist: Mr. Robert Jones

2022-23 Council Members

Grant Allen

Dawn Bartron

Bill Below

Chris Kinsley Sr.

Nicole Kresge

Carl Reindl

Deb Storman

Beth Werkheiser

Leanna Wickline

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsvvR6FI09zcaiDPY174k5A>

Worship Service

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 27, 2022

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

**Please stand, if able.*

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Announcements

Chimes (Call to Worship)

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

We gather in preparation

For good news is about to be proclaimed.

We gather in expectation

For joy is about to explode in our midst.

We gather in celebration

**For we are those people who have said yes to the manger, yes to love enfleshed,
yes to the one incarnate for others, yes to the wholeness of God.**

With preparation and in expectation, let us celebrate!

***Confession**

It is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

God of peace, hear our prayer.

The rushing and scurrying to get things done,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The worry about the little details,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The financial burdens we put on ourselves,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another,

We confess to you, O God of peace.

The bickering and quarreling Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your peace is always there for us.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we feel overwhelmed,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we are filled with worry,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When we become irritable,

Instill within us your peace, O God.

When the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember that we are forgiven in Christ.

Instill within us your peace, O God.

Instill within us your peace, O God. Instill within us your peace and help us to make choices that bring us closer to you. Help us to be more peaceful so that we may spread Christ's peace and love to others.

Amen.

***Absolution**

Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps. In Christ, God's salvation is at hand, and righteousness has come.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Sharing of Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with one another. *Please stay in your pew area and share a sign of peace and greeting with one another.*

***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**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord,

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Christ, Be Our Light

Verse 1 only



1	Long - ing	for	light,	we	wait	in	dark - ness.	Long - ing	for
2	Long - ing	for	peace,	our	world	is	trou - bled.	Long - ing	for
3	Long - ing	for	food,	man - y	are	hun - gry.	Long - ing	for	
4	Long - ing	for	shel - ter,	man - y	are	home - less.	Long - ing	for	
5	Man - y	the	gifts,	man - y	the	peo - ple,	man - y	the	



truth,	we	turn	to	you.	Make	us	your	own,
hope,	man - y	de -	spair.	Your	word	a -	lone	
wa - ter,	man - y	still	thirst.	Make	us	your	bread,	
warmth,	man - y	are	cold.	Make	us	your	build - ing,	
hearts that	yearn	to	be - long.	Let	us	be	ser - vants	



your ho - ly	peo - ple,	light	for	the	world	to	see.
has pow'r	to save us.	Make	us	your	liv - ing	voice.	
bro - ken	for oth - ers,	shared	un - til	all	are	fed.	
shel - ter - ing	oth - ers,	walls	made	of	liv - ing	stone.	
to one	an - oth - er,	signs	of	your	king - dom	come.	



Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

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. (*Isaiah 9:2*)

Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

(*Sing chorus of "Christ be Our Light"*)

***Prayer of the Day** (Lector)

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

²**Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good.”

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel. (Lector)

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is

coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The word of the Lord.

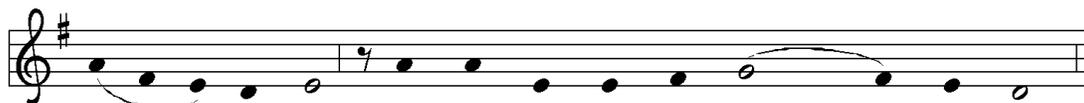
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

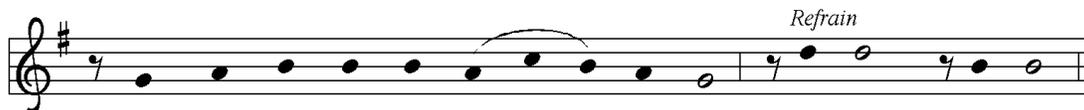
***Hymn of the Day** **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** **Verses 1-4**



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

* The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the People (Lector)**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. At this time, you are invited to share your prayers of thankfulness, joys and concerns. *Pause.* By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

*** Offering Prayer**

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

***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.

***Blessing**

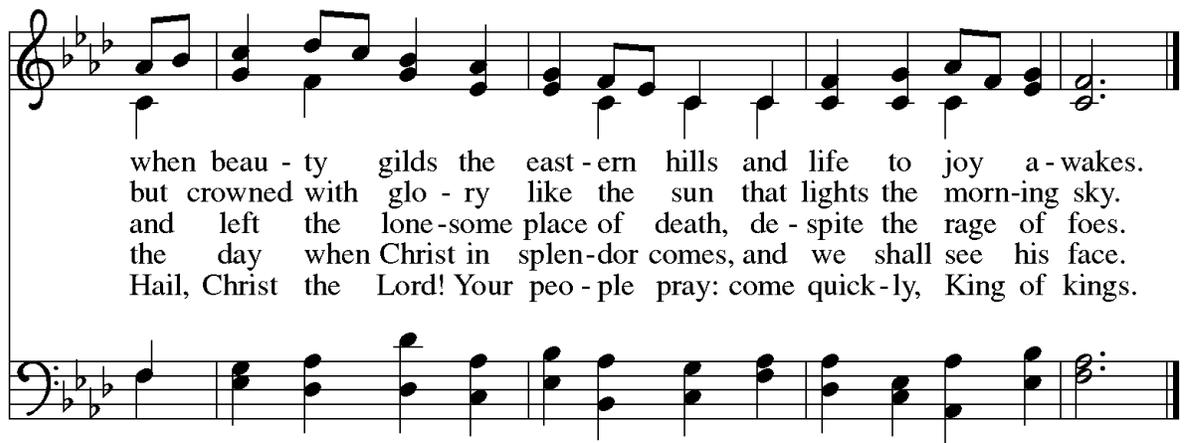
Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles: in him, the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (*Romans 15:12-13*)
Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

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***Choral Benediction**

"Go Now and Pass It On"

May the Lord _____ walk be - side us _____ as we

6
leave _____ this qui - et place, _____ for the Lord _____ will al - ways

12
guide us _____ if we walk in the light of His grace. _____

17
_____ May we feel God's love a - round us _____ as it

22
keeps us faith - ful and strong, _____ for the peace _____

27
_____ of God sur rounds us, _____ and now we must pass it

32
on. _____ Go now and pass it on. _____

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"The worship ends. . .the service begins."

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Prayer Requests

Prayers have been requested for the following brothers and sisters in Christ who have concerns needing God's help...

Sharen Ace; Sr. Msgt. William F. Allen; Specialist William "Blake" Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Diane Berner; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; David Brong; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; Sue Felker; Jamie Fisher; Paul Frantz; Todd & Anna Geil; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Louis Genset; Lynn Gerber; Tim Grover; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; Rick Hamlet & family; Harrison Herzberg; Matt Herzberg; Charlie Hemple; T. J. Imhof; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Kris Kent; Robbie Kinsley; Nikolaos Kotretsos; Eleanor Kreuger; Joann Lance; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Steven Moore; Ada Morales; Nelson Morales; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Anna Rivera; the family of Pat Rodenbach; Jean Ross; Gina Santiago; Claudette Segear; Vaughn Sensinger; Phyllis Sensinger; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Kamia Taylor; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; Brenda Van Why; Steve Widgett; Alice Weaver; Harry Weaver; Jacob Wilson; John Woodling; Carolyn Zacharias; for the people affected by Hurricane Ian, for the people of Ukraine; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the families and victims of the mass shootings, for all those around the world and here at home suffering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Have your prayers been answered? Or do you still need God's help? Please let us know. Please give written requests and/or updates the church office or leave in the offering plate. Please renew your request monthly if you or your loved one is still in need of our prayers. Thank you to everyone who prays with us for those in need.



Thank you to all who have helped to support St. Paul Strunk Food Pantry! Your commitment to help is a true blessing to those who are struggling to feed their families. The pantry is always in need of basic food supplies, and we need your continued support to keep this program going strong. **We provided Thanksgiving baskets, including a turkey and all the fixings, to 26 families this past week! Thanks to you and to Kinsley's ShopRite for the donation of the turkeys for the baskets.**

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

As you shop for the holidays, don't forget to put St. Paul Lutheran Church Tannersville as your charity before checking out on Amazon. They will send us 1% of your purchase.

Bach & Handel Chorale Christmas Concert December 10th 3:00pm

Join us for an uplifting Christmas Concert. It is a free concert, but we will accept donations. Invite your friends and neighbors! It is sure to put you in the holiday spirit!

Inside Out Church – Wednesday at 6:30pm dinner included!

Join us each Wednesday evening for a delicious meal full of fellowship and then an in-depth discussion of a scripture passage led by Pastor Woody. The discussion reveals a deeper understanding of the scriptures and how it can guide us through our lives and grow our spiritual being.

Pantry Sunday

December 11th we will celebrate Pantry Sunday. Items collected will be used for our client's regular needs and to prepare Christmas dinner baskets for our food pantry clients.

Children & Youth Christmas Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is up for the Monroe County Children & Youth Foster Children is up! Select a tag (or several) shop for the children on the back and return the unwrapped gifts with the tag by December 11th. The gifts will be taken to Children & Youth on the 12th for distribution to the children by their caseworkers.

Faith Awards Program

Any child from kindergarten through high school is welcome to join the Faith Awards Program. Originally a program of the Boy Scouts, this program has been revamped and all children are welcome, both boys and girls, scouts and non-scouts. Pastor will be leading this program along with Faith Award Mentor Margaret Kinsley, beginning Sundays, from December 4th through January 22nd (excluding December 25th, makeup day January 29th if needed) culminating in an award celebration on February 12th.

Mitten Tree

It is that time of year when we are all once again getting ready for the special night that our Savior was born. While you are doing whatever special holiday traditions you and your family do, take some time to think of those less fortunate. Once again, we will be collecting hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to keep both children and adults warm this winter. Please consider donating any or all of the items above to decorate our Mitten Tree. The tree will be up from November 27th to January 8th. If you have any questions please contact Dawn Weiss. Thank you in advance.

Christmas Tree

December 4th after Worship, we will be decorating the Christmas Tree. Afterward, there will be a Christ's Café meeting.

Advent and Christmas Schedule

- December 4th The Second Sunday of Advent 9:00am Worship Service**
- December 10th 3:00pm Bach & Handel Chorale Christmas Concert**
- December 11th The Third Sunday of Advent 9:00am Worship Service**
- December 18th The Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:00am Worship Service**
- December 24th Christmas Eve 7:00pm Candlelight Worship Service**
- December 25th Christmas Day 9:00am Service of Lessons and Carols**



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

The sanctuary will once again be decorated with beautiful poinsettia plants this Christmas. Pastor feels safe doing this, with an artificial tree. If you would like to donate a plant in memory of or in honor of someone special or just simply to the Glory of God, please complete the form below and return it to the office no later than Sunday, December 18, 2022. Each poinsettia will be \$4.00

Your Name: _____

Phone# _____

Number of Plants: _____

Amount Attached: _____

In memory of...	In honor of....	To the Glory of God	Name(s) of those being honored