

The Divine Service

The First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020



AS WE GATHER

The Church Year begins by taking us to the scene of our Lord's final entry into Jerusalem that great and holy week. Yes, Christmas is at hand. Surely the preparations for the celebration of His incarnation, His earthly birth of the Virgin Mary, are already well under way. But wait a moment. We enter this new year already knowing why He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit for us and for our salvation, which is only by way of His passion, death, and resurrection. We begin by continuing to "wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ" on the Last Day (1 Corinthians 1:7), sustained by Him now in the forgiveness of our sins, guiltless and ready. In readiness, we boldly pray that our Lord comes to rescue and save us.

Call to Worship / Check In

Words of Welcome / Theme of the Day

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:8; John 3:16; Matthew 5:16*

Pastor: As we begin a new Church Year, let us put behind us everything in the past that would disqualify us from a new life, and remembering our Baptism, we boldly petition our Savior Jesus Christ, seeking for our entry into His presence and His plan and future for us, saying, stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,

People: **that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance.**

Pastor: What are those threatening perils? I now ask you before God, who searches the heart, do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?

People: **I do confess.**

Pastor: So you should confess as Holy Scripture says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." Do you also repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?

People: I do repent.

Pastor: So you should repent as did King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others. Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?

People: I do believe.

Pastor: So you should believe as Holy Scripture declares, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." Do you promise that with the aid of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?

People: I do promise.

Pastor: So you should promise for Christ the Lord says, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

People: I do believe.

Pastor: As you believe, even so may it be to you. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,

People: that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance. Amen.

Processional Hymn "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" *LSB 350 verses 1 & 2*



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!

Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from You, and You provide us with everything we need for the support and needs of the body. Grant us repentance for misusing Your gift of money in self-serving and wasteful ways and grant us gratitude for the income You provide for our needs. Lead us to manage Your gift of money to Your glory and to be cheerful givers in serving our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

The Old Testament

Isaiah 64:1-9

Reader: ¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. ⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Reader: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath & Children's Message

Jeremy Becker

"The Candle Carol"

**Light a candle for the bright Son
God sent down from above.
Advent news with joy we share
In the Spirit we love. Chorus.**

**Chorus:
Christ is in our family
Alleluia Sing!
Aren't you glad
He came to be
Our Brother and our King.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that tribulation, 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. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then 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 becomes tender and puts out 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 say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. 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 servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day "Savior of the Nations, Come"

LSB 332, verses 1,7,8



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
7 From the man - ger new - born light Shines in glo - ry
△ 8 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther sing, Glo - ry to the



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
through the night. Dark - ness there no more re - sides;
Son, our king, Glo - ry to the Spir - it be



That the Lord chose such a birth.
In this light faith now a - bides.
Now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Sermon "Who is really in control?"

Pastor Wally Becker

Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "**Hear Our Prayer**"

Gathering of Gifts

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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.**

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Verse "The Advent of Our King" *LSB 331 verses 1,2, 6*



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
△ 6 All glo - ry to the Son, Who comes to set us free,



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
With Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one Through all e - ter - ni - ty.



Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

Middle School Teen Night Christmas Party

Friday, December 4

7:00 PM -9:00 PM

Drive Thru Live Nativity

Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6

Come see the Christmas story come to life! Camels, sheep, donkey and more!

Invite your friends and neighbors!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for children and Youth at 9:45 AM—Via Zoom

Adult Bible Study in person or livestreamed at 10:00 AM