



**St.**

**Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2100 16<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

Phone: 507-433-1957

Cell: 507-219-2517

Church Office:

Phone: 507-433-8191

Worship Services broadcast on Austin Cable Channel 181, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

*Affiliated with*  
**CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION**  
[stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com](http://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com)  
[www.CLClutheran.org](http://www.CLClutheran.org)  
[www.ilc.edu/home.htm](http://www.ilc.edu/home.htm)

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, in this Advent season it is time once again to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Grant us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that as we hear Your Word the Spirit may work in our hearts that we may come before You in true repentance, confessing our sin, and trusting in Jesus for full and free forgiveness. As we prepare to celebrate His birth, ready our hearts for His return that we may live before you for all eternity, in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 5 (73:1-3)

HYMNS: 66; 63; 65; 95:7

THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT: (Psalm 105:4,5,7,8; Is. 40:3 NKJV)  
Isaiah 40:3b "Prepare the way of the Lord;

**Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.**

Ps. 105:4. Seek the Lord and His strength;

**Seek His face evermore!**

<sup>5</sup> Remember His marvelous works which He has done,

**His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,**

<sup>7</sup> He is the LORD our God;

**His judgments are in all the earth.**

<sup>8</sup> He remembers His covenant forever,

**The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations,**

*Glory be to the Father...*

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah prophesied "A Rod from the stem of Jesse" would come forth. The Spirit of the Lord would rest upon Him. He would bring righteousness, judgment, and peace upon the earth. It was to be the most amazing peace in which natural enemies would live in harmony. The knowledge of the LORD would cover the earth, so even the Gentiles shall seek the Him!

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist was the voice crying in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord." We need to heed John's call to

December 8, 2019

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

yet today with daily repentance. We also dare not take our salvation for granted, thinking we are saved because others before us believed. Let us bring forth fruits that go along with repentance. Let us shun sin and live with love toward our neighbor and in peace and harmony with one another.

THE SERMON: Romans 15:4-13

Theme: Advent Blessing: the Joy and Peace of Believing

I. The Essential Role of the Scriptures

II. Jesus Unifies Us in the Joy and Peace only He Brings

## CALENDAR

TODAY: CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP follows the service! Program practice and church decorating will follow immediately after the service, then our Christmas pot-luck and some additional fellowship with carol singing.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism from 4:30-6:00. **Soup and Sandwich Supper** begins serving at 6:00.p.m. **Midweek Advent meditation** at 7:00 p.m. Text: Luke 2:11-12, Theme: "God in a Manger."

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship with Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school program practice and Church council follow the service. Sermon text: James 5:7-11.

## FUTURES DATES TO REMEMBER

December 18: **Midweek Advent meditations.** Soup and sandwich suppers begin at 6:00p.m. Advent meditation begins at 7:00 p.m. The theme for this year's Advent meditations is "**Away in a Manger.**"

December 22: Sunday morning at 9:30 Sunday school children present their **Christmas program.**

December 24: Christmas Eve service **6:00 p.m.**

December 25: CHRISTMAS Festival worship at 9:30 a.m.

## SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

Ushers: Kwentin Stearns, Andy Ball, Joe Ubl, Ken Nickson

December Cleaning: Ubl

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: Nov. 24 worship - 29 Sunday school - 8 Bible class - 10  
 December 4 - Advent worship - 14

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,252.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	\$ 1247.00	Missions \$160.00
Needed for Year:	\$60,096.00	Prop Imprv. Fund \$ 50.00
Received for Year:	\$49,028.00	

**CLCNEWS:** Pastor Paul Tiefel of Eau Claire, WI has received the call to Bethel Lutheran Church in Morris, MN.  
 Pastor John Hein of Fridley, MN has received the all to serve as Professor at Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI.