



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2100 16th Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

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

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

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Worship Services streamed on YouTube Channel: St. Paul CLC Austin.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com
www.CLClutheran.org
www.ilc.edu/home.htm

December 27, 2020

Sunday after Christmas

PRESERVICE PRAYER Oh Lord God, our heavenly Father, who of Your great goodness and mercy has caused Your only begotten Son to become incarnate, that we through Him might be redeemed from sin and everlasting death; O Lord, we pray, enlighten our hearts that we may be truly thankful for His gracious incarnation and birth, that we may be comforted by His birth in all times of tribulation and temptation, and in the end receive everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, and our precious Savior. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

HYMN 92: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

¹Now sing we, now rejoice. Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies,
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

²Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Thro' Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!

³Now thro' His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reign-ed Thro' sin and vanity;
He for us obtain-ed Eternal joy on high.
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

⁴Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Together let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.

Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 45:20-25

“Assemble yourselves and come;

Draw near together,

You *who have* escaped from the nations.

They have no knowledge,

Who carry the wood of their carved image,

And pray to a god *that* cannot save.

²¹ Tell and bring forth *your case*;

Yes, let them take counsel together.

Who has declared this from ancient time?

Who has told it from that time?

Have not I, the LORD?

And *there is* no other God besides Me,

A just God and a Savior;

There is none besides Me.

²² “Look to Me, and be saved,

All you ends of the earth!

For I *am* God, and *there is* no other.

²³ I have sworn by Myself;

The word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness,

And shall not return,

That to Me every knee shall bow,

Every tongue shall take an oath.

²⁴ He shall say,

‘Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength.

To Him *men* shall come,

And all shall be ashamed

Who are incensed against Him.

²⁵ In the LORD all the descendants of Israel

Shall be justified, and shall glory.’ ” (NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:25-40

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s

Christ. ²⁷ So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸ he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

²⁹ “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word;

³⁰ For my eyes have seen Your salvation

³¹ Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

³² A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles,

And the glory of Your people Israel.”

³³ And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His

mother, “Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against ³⁵ (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶ Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day. ³⁸ And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

³⁹ So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. (NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 85:1,3,4,14,15 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

¹From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:

³This is the Christ, our God and Lord, Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.

⁴He will on you the gifts bestow Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair, You may with us His glory share.

¹⁴My heart for very joy doth leap, My lips no more can silence keep;
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradle-song:

¹⁵Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

THE SERMON: Colossians 3:12-17

Theme: Living in the Spirit of Christmas

I. Putting on Your Christmas Attire

II. Possessing Christmas Spirituality

SERMON TEXT: Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴ But above all these

things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 108:1,5,6,8 We Sing, Immanuel, Thy Praise

¹We sing, Immanuel, Thy praise,
Thou Prince of Life and Fount of grace,
Thou Flow'r of heav'n and Star of morn,
Thou Lord of lords, Thou Virgin-born, Hal-le-lu-jah!

⁵But I, Thy servant, Lord, today
Confess my love and freely say,
I love Thee truly, but I would
That I might love Thee as I should. Hal-le-lu-jah!

⁶I have the will, the power is weak;
Yet, Lord, my humble offering take
And graciously the love receive
Which my poor heart to Thee can give. Hal-le-lu-jah!

⁸Thus will I sing Thy praises here
With joyful spirit year by year;
And when we reckon years no more,
May I in heaven Thy name adore! Hal-le-lu-jah!

BENEDICTION;

C: Amen.

Hymn 97:1, 4 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

¹ Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.

⁴ O Lord Christ, our Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us!

CALENDAR

TODAY: Thank you for coming to hear the Word.

Used bulletins should either be taken home or deposited in the wastepaper basket at the narthex door. Your offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the nave. (Bible class is in holiday recess.)

WEDNESDAY: Catechism is in holiday recess until January 6, 2021.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Bible class is scheduled to follow the service. Next Sunday's sermon text: John 1:1-5, 14.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: Dec. 20 worship – 15 Dec. 25 Christmas worship - 15

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,250.00	Other offerings	
Offerings Received	\$ 1,665.00	Missions	\$90.00
Needed for Year:	\$62,500.00	Property Imprv. Fund	\$100.00
Received for Year:	\$57,329.00		

January 2021 Church Cleaning – Ubl

Donations for Christmas bags: We have prepared Christmas bags of peanuts fruits and candies, even though we did not have a children's program this year. We are distributing the bags to the homes of some of the members who presently are not attending church due to Covid 19 concerns. Your donation toward this is appreciated. Please place your gift in the marked basket in the narthex.

NEW ILC TOUR CHOIR CD: The CD "Worthy Is the Lamb" is \$12.00 for one, or \$20 for two. Payment should be placed in the envelope pinned to the bulletin board.

CLC NEWS: Pastor Michael Eichstadt, Messiah, Hales Corners, WI has been called by Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN. <> Pastor David Ude, Living Hope, Appleton, WI has been called by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY.

Nominations for ILC Professor: The following nominations have been received to fill the professorship vacated by the impending retirement of Professor John Reim at the end of the 2020-21 academic year: Pastors Paul Krause, Neal Radichel, Rob Sauers, and David Schaller. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight **December 29, 2020** (letters postmarked December 24, 2020) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

Online Now! Mt. Zion Virtual Christmas Eve Mini-Program 2020:

Thank you to all those who submitted footage to participate in the virtual Christmas Eve mini-program of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church (Detroit, MI). We are excited to share the final product with you. We encourage anyone to pass along this video to family and friends to help share the Christmas message of the newborn Savior. Just note that because the video is "unlisted", it will not appear in public search results if others try to search for it. Make sure to send them a link to the video! Here is a direct link to the video: https://youtu.be/X362Am_xEv4. You can also find the video by hovering your smartphone's camera over the following QR code:

