


St. Paul's- Weekly Bulletin

November 24 – December 1, 2024

Sun., Nov. 24th	9:00am	Worship Service
	10:00am	Fellowship Time
	10:15am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30am	Adult Sunday School
	12:00pm	Service on YouTube
	2:00 – 5:00pm	Parish Hall Reserved
Tues., Nov. 26th	9:00am – Noon	G.O.D.S. Food Pantry Open
	4:00 – 6:30pm	G.O.D.S. Food Pantry Open
	7:00pm	Women of Hope
Wed., Nov. 27th	7:00pm	Worship Service
Sat., Nov. 30th	3:00pm	Parish Hall Reserved
Sun., Dec. 1st  <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	9:00am	Worship Service
	10:00am	Fellowship Time & Church Decorating
	10:00am	Property Committee
	10:15am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30am	Adult Sunday School
	12:00pm	Service on YouTube

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

- Jim Schoon, Sherrie Ritchie, Barb Uehle, Amy Voigt, Duane Bohner, and Mike Flamini.
- Those residing in skilled care facilities- Charleen Blair, and Karla Dubree.
- Members currently serving in the military- Jacob Kuipers, Justin Kuipers, Scott Mayer, and Auston Miller.



Poinsettias will be ordered this year from Clifton Central FFA Co-op. Red, White, and Jingle Bell poinsettias may be ordered for \$12.00 each. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Information Center counter along with envelopes that can be given to Nina Hubert or placed in the basket by the sign-up sheet. Please place your order by Sunday, December 1st. The flowers may be taken home to enjoy after Christmas Eve services.

Special Thankoffering Will Be Received

On Sunday, November 24th and Wednesday, November 27th a special "Thankoffering" will be received at St. Paul for those who would like to offer their support for the ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and WELCA (Women of the ELCA) around the world. St. Paul Women, as well as any others who wish to contribute, are invited to place their Thankoffering in a special basket by the door. Thankofferings help Women of the ELCA address the concerns of women and children in crisis – especially the crises related to hunger and poverty, domestic violence, imprisonment, and unmet health care needs. Thankofferings, which make up part of an annual gift to the ELCA, also help the church reach out in ministry worldwide. Envelopes for the offering are available on the Information Center counter.



Come Help Us Decorate for Advent & Christmas

The congregation is invited to join us Sunday, December 1st following Worship to decorate the Narthax, Outdoor Nativity and Fellowship Hall. Come join us for some fun and fellowship!



St. Paul Women of the ELCA General Meeting



The St. Paul WELCA General Mtg will be held December 3, 2024 at 7:00pm. All ladies are invited to attend a program of Memories and Readings of Christmas. Hope you can join us!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

St. Paul's will be ringing the Salvation Army Bell on Saturday, December 7th at Prospect Bank in Gilman from 9:00am – noon. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Information Center counter to help fill a shift!



Children's Christmas Program and Brunch



The Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 15th during worship. Following the service, please join us for a delicious brunch. Your help providing food for the brunch is greatly appreciated. A sign-up sheet is available on the Information Center counter. We look forward to this special service and time of fellowship!

Fun Facts About Thanksgiving

- ❖ The very first Thanksgiving feast was celebrated in 1621 and lasted for 3 days. The feast consisted of lobster, onions, leeks, dried fruit, chestnuts, carrots, cabbage, rabbit and chicken. There were no forks used at the first Thanksgiving feast. The participants only used spoons and knives.
- ❖ 280 million turkeys are eaten each year on Thanksgiving in the United States.
- ❖ President Harry Truman in 1947 was the first to pardon a turkey and start this annual tradition.



- ❖ Today, our Thanksgiving is the fourth Thursday of November because the date was set by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939 and approved by Congress in 1941.
- ❖ A full grown turkey has about 3,500 feathers.
- ❖ Minnesota raises the highest Number of Turkeys.
- ❖ Seafood was ever-present at the first Thanksgiving but is seldom eaten at Thanksgiving.
- ❖ How many calories, on average, does an average person consume during Thanksgiving dinner? 4,500
- ❖ 5 women attended the first Thanksgiving party.
- ❖ Thomas Jefferson did not agree to the celebration of Thanksgiving as a national holiday.
- ❖ Only male turkeys gobble. They do so to attract female turkeys.
- ❖ More than half of the people in the Plymouth colony died that winter of 1621.
- ❖ In 1863, Hale was able to convince President Lincoln that a national Thanksgiving might unite the country after the Civil War. Lincoln declared two national Thanksgivings that year, August 6 celebrating the victory at Gettysburg, and the last Thursday in November.
- ❖ Cranberries were probably not eaten at the first Thanksgiving as they were too bitter. Native Americans used the berries as a dye and to heal wounds.

Wishing each of you a very Blessed Thanksgiving!



----from our Parish Nurse, Mary Ann Schuler

Worship Readings

Worship Plan for Sunday, November 24, 2024

27th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth

to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Grace-Filled Reign

Popular images of monarchs through the centuries have often emphasized their material wealth, excess riches, crushing power, and military might. Their opulent headwear, jewelry, and beautiful clothing are enough to impress even the wealthiest members of society.

We call Christ a “king” on this festival day of the year, but Christ’s reign is expressed very differently than those of the human rulers around the globe. Compassion, inclusive love, and restoration of justice are markers of God’s kin-dom here on earth. Jesus worked to make things right between God and people, and among us human beings. Today our worship recognizes his unique reign as providing the type of powerful mercy we truly need in our king.

Jesus often used metaphors to illustrate what God’s love and faithfulness look like in our lives: as sheep trust the guidance of their shepherd, we, too, pay attention to the care Jesus provides for us. As Christ the Monarch draws near to us, loves us, cares for us, and accompanies us through all of life’s hard times, we bow before divine mercy and splendor.

Christ may not be a “king” or “queen” according to the usual imperial standards, and perhaps that is for the best. Yet in Jesus God brings that wide-reaching, world-covering love that transforms us. Christ washes us in grace, forgives us generously, and is as close to us as water on our foreheads and bread and wine on our lips. Even when it feels like this kin-dom of God is still too far away, God reminds us of its presence among us already at the baptismal font and around the communion table. These gifts have been here for generations and will continue to comfort us in our struggles: Water! Bread! Wine! Our king providing grace and love for us along life’s way, today and always.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

A reading from Daniel.

⁹ As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

¹³ As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴ To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 93

¹ The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

² **Ever since the world began, your throne has been established;
you are from everlasting.**

³ The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice;
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴ **Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea,
mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are very sure,
and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4b-8

A reading from Revelation.

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him,

and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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