

# ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: John Greder, Deryl Hennings, John Thies, Steve Gust

NOVEMBER 2021

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe we're already entering the month of November. It seems like we've hardly had time to enjoy any fall weather and before you know it we're going to be thinking about snow. But before we get there, let's stop and look toward what's to come at the end of the month. This month we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving, and so I'd like you to spend some time thinking about just that: giving thanks.

I can't tell you the number of times I've been asked to lead the so-called "common table prayer" only to find that what I've considered common all my life is uncommon to others. I grew up learning, "come, Lord Jesus!" A phrase taken straight from the book of Revelation towards the very end of the book, the end of the Bible itself, we read,

He who testifies to these things says,  
"Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come,  
Lord Jesus! - Rev. 22:20

This prayer is a faith-filled response to Jesus promise to return in glory and so each time we pray we are asking Christ to come soon.

That all constitutes the "common" part of the Common Table Prayer. What I've discovered is different is what comes after "come, Lord Jesus" Many like to follow up the blessing of the food by giving thanks for the food. Perhaps you're one of those who follows with the hopefully familiar "O give thanks unto the Lord..." As it turns out, this prayer shows up numerous times throughout God's Word. It can be found a couple times in Chronicles, various times in the Psalms, and even in Isaiah and Jeremiah. One psalm stands out above all the rest it is Psalm 136.

Verse 1 begins:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good for  
his steadfast love endures forever. - Ps.  
136:1

But the psalmist then goes on Give thanks to  
the God of gods, Give thanks to the Lord of

lords. And each time the refrain gets repeated,  
"for his steadfast love endures forever."

This psalm recounts many reasons why we know God's steadfast love endures forever. In fact, I encourage you to look the psalm up and read it together. If you choose to read it as a family try treating it as a responsive psalm with one person leading and everyone else replying with the refrain. It serves as a wonderful reminder of the steadfast love God has shown us.

That being said, many have the tradition around thanksgiving time of praying about all the things we are thankful for. In some cases this involves going around the table and everyone listing something off. This is exactly what the psalmist is doing in our reading and each time a new thing gets listed we are reminded, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Each thing we have to be thankful for is another reminder of God's steadfast love. And while there may not always be specific items for us to give thanks for from this past year. We can see God's steadfast love shown to us in other ways. As we gather in His house and He proclaims his forgiveness to us, we are reminded, "His steadfast love endures forever." As He provides us food in His holy supper, we are reminded through the sustenance given, "His steadfast love endures forever." As we look forward to the joys of eternal life the promise of salvation from death itself, we are reminded again, "His steadfast love endures forever."

And so I encourage you this month, have a look at Psalm 136 see the steadfast love of the Lord recounted for the people of Israel. And then take a moment to consider how God has shown you His steadfast love as well. That we may all find reason to "give thanks to the Lord for He is good!" His steadfast love endures forever for He has shown us that love in His Son Jesus who suffered and died for us all. May we continue to

give Him thanks and praise for the steadfast love He has shown us.  
In Christ,  
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.



**ALL SAINTS DAY**

Join us All Saints Sunday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> for recognition of the faithfully departed in this last year: Fred Mohr, Swede Aronson, Barb Mordhorst & Jo Thies



**Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Wednesday, November 24 at 7 p.m.**

**SNOW REMOVAL**

We are looking for someone to remove the snow off the sidewalks and steps this winter. If you are interested, please contact a trustee: Jim Thies, Gary Goslar or Ted Nutt

**DRIVE UP COMMUNION**

On Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be drive-up communion from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the back-parking lot.

**OFFICIAL ACT IN NOVEMBER**

**Funeral**

Memorial Service was held on October 20, 2021 for Jo Ann Thies who was called to her eternal home on October 14, 2021.

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> the Elders Meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting is Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**LCW MEETING**

The LCW meeting is Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School students will be sing during the church service on November 14.

**CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE**

Sunday School will begin earlier at 8:30 a.m. November 28 and during the month of December for Christmas Eve Practice. To help the Board of Education & teachers prepare for the Christmas Eve program we would like you to call the church or call/text Tina Bernholtz at 712-269-3391 if your children will/maybe/will not be in the program.



**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN**

Thank you for the donations for Orphan Grain Train. The next month we will be taking clothes is April.

**2021 SPECIAL MISSION PROJECTS**

This year are special mission project is The Grulkes', Lutheran Bible Translators. If you would like to give to special missions, please write the check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark (Special Missions) on your envelope or on the check memo.

## **OCTOBER 21, 2021-VOTERS MEETING RECAP**

The meeting opened with prayer, and the minutes of the previous July 18, 2021, meeting were on handouts for everyone to read. The treasurer's report was presented, and the General Fund went from \$16,272.07 as of July 1, 2021, to \$12,747.75 as of September 30, 2021. Pastor reported that the new member class has been going well and that there will be a welcoming for them and for transfers at the end of November. Because of the new member class, two new confirmands have been added. The Wednesday and Sunday Bible studies are continuing. Reformation Sunday will be celebrated October 31, and All Saints Day will be celebrated on November 7. Attendance: July-147, average 37. Communion-83, average-42. August-144, average-48. Communion-85, average-43. September-223, average-56. Communion-100, average-50. The numbers are slowly climbing. The steeple and front step projects are completed, and the sealant has been applied to the educational wing. The new doors for the parsonage are here but not yet installed. Sunday School is going well. Christmas program practice will be starting soon, and plans are to have a normal, in-person program this year. When the Highway 141 Yard Sales are held next summer, the Board of Ed is hoping to have a garage sale here at church that our members could donate items towards with the proceeds used for funding the Sunday School and VBS. Over half of the funds for the special missions project have been raised so far, with only just over \$1,000.00 left. The three sets of paraments have been ordered, and the company is confident that the red set that can be used for Reformation will arrive in time. Pastor is talking with Iowa District West on how to donate the old sets. The Budget for 2022 was presented to the voters and approved. The Nominating Committee for this year was put together, following previous procedure of having the heads of the boards plus Pastor serve on the committee. The meeting was adjourned,

and Pastor led the voters in praying the Lord's Prayer.

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## **2022 CHURCH OFFICER VOLUNTEERS**

If anyone has interest in serving as a church officer: Chairman, Elder, Trustee, Board of Education, Secretary, Treasurer, Stewardship Secretary, Auditing, Endowment Fund, Finance Committee, please contact the church or anyone on the Nomination Committee: John Greder, Jim Thies, Rick Knuth, Terri Mohr or pastor.

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## **GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR**

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.

## **MAIN STREET LIVING**

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

## **"THY STRONG WORD"**

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

Nov. 1-6	Rev. Mark Kluzek St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit
Nov. 8-13	Rev. Josh Keinath Zion, Denison
Nov. 15-20	Rev. Merle Mahnken Immanuel, Schleswig
Nov. 22-27	Rev. Chad Trunkhill Our Savior/Bethlehem
Nov. 29-Dec 4	Rev. Richard Merrill Multi-Point, Charter Oak

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## **NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of cancer patients & their families.

Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$37.

## **BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER**

We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit. Those having Baptismal birthdays in November are:

Ethan Winsor	1
Tory Greder	2
Sierra Rains	4
Jenna Hanson	6
Nick Goslar-Jeremy Creese-Gavin Purcell	7
Elyse Schmidt	8
Judi Krohn	10
Todd Teut	11
Michael Sorensen	14
John Dorale	15
Brian Vinke	17
Deanna Sorensen	18
Payton Thies, Preston Thies	23
Dylan Meadows, Katy Krohn	24
Kevin Vogt	25
Bruce Mohr, Ronnie Kroll, Brent Kelm	26
Lauryn Bernholtz	27
Ray Dorale	29
Jospehine Rains, Miles Rains	30



## **PLEASE GIVE US A CALL**

- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion

## **ADVENT DEVOTIONS FROM LHM**

Every year Lutheran Hour Ministries makes available Advent devotions. Copies of this devotion can be picked up at church in mid-November. You can also read the devotion each day at [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent)

### **Child of Promise**

The birth of the Savior is celebrated again this year in *Child of Promise*, a joyful look at the miracle of Jesus' birth. From the beginning, foretold in Genesis and proclaimed throughout the Old Testament, God announced the coming Messiah to a wayward world. In Jesus Christ, that promise was fulfilled.

Each year Christians reflect on the hope God offers the world at Christmas. Born unto us—God's Son, our Savior—Jesus is the fulfillment of the Father's promise to send a Redeemer. Announced beforehand by the prophets, in the Christ Child we have the forgiveness of our sins and the hope of life eternal. This God has given to us in His *Child of Promise*.

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## **SUGGESTIONS FOR A SAFE WINTER**

As we head into the winter months, realize that snow and cold awaits us. At times, services may be held in less than ideal conditions. We encourage those with special concerns for dangerous conditions to use suitable caution. Reasonable effort will be made to have sidewalks clear, and ice melt placed where needed. Be cautious of the north parking lot, especially on mornings after a thaw and refreezing. We understand that for some it may be wiser to listen to services at home and not take chances.

If the weather is so severe that services are cancelled, it will be announced on KDSN radio station, and posted on church facebook and website. We will also use Call Multiplier in the event of a cancellation. Please make sure we have your current phone number.