***ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT*:**
"*Be faithfully obedient to the living Christ in making disciples of all people."*

The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see *"the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful"* (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, *"be patient"* and *"establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand"* (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as *"the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up,"* so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that *"sorrow and sighing shall flee away"* (Is. 35:10).

Thanks to those who Served Today

Elder: Gary McCall
Ushers: Jim Thies, Denny Mordhorst
Organist: Lynette Thies
Screen: Audrey Gust
Altar Care: Teresa Mordhorst
Flowers: Deanna Sorensen
Finance: Terri Mohr, Bruce Mohr, Gary Pohlman, Judy Pohlman
Acolytes: Morgan Teut, Wyatt Teut

Wednesday Acolytes:
Next Sunday Acolytes:

Those Serving in January

Elder: (*Not Scheduled*)
Ushers: Gary Goslar, John Thies, Landon Meseck
Organist: Lynette Thies
Screen: Audrey Gust
Altar Care: Elaine Vogt
Flowers: Terri Mohr
Finance: Marc Clemon, Gwen Clemon

WELCOME: We welcome you to St Paul's! It is a joy to have you here to worship with us. In Jesus Christ our Risen Savior we have reason for hope and joy and so we gather together to receive His good gifts and offer Him our prayers and praises. May God bless us all as we worship together in His house and grow as His children!

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Sun:	9:30 a.m. – Sunday School Christmas practice
	10:30 a.m. – Divine Service
Tues:	Pastor in Mapleton
Wed:	11:00 a.m. – Bible Class
	4:30 p.m. – 5 & 6 grade Catechism
	5:30 p.m. – 7 & 8 grade Catechism
	5:30 p.m. – Advent supper
	6:30 p.m. – Memory work
	7:00 p.m. – Midweek Advent Service
Fri:	Pastor Family Day
Sat:	10:00 a.m. – LYF Church Cleaning
Sun:	9:30 a.m. – Sunday School Christmas practice
	10:30 a.m. – Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	6:30 p.m. – LYF Bible Study

Updates will be done the second Sunday of each month
Next update will be January 11, 2026
2 Corinthians 9:7 For God loves a cheerful giver".

	General Fund	Missions	Special Mission
Projected for the Year	$165,744.84	$4,000.00	$3,000.00
As of 11/30/2025	$104,125.86	$ 3,100.00	$2,997.10
Still Needed	$61,618.98	$900.00	$2.90

Divine Service 1—page 151
(Δ indicates worshipers stand)

Hymn..... #349
"Hark the Glad Sound"
Δ**Confession & Absolution.... p.151**
Δ**Introit.....** Sheet
Δ**Kyrie..... p.152**
Hymn..... #357
vs. 1, 6-7 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Δ**Salutation and Collect..... p.156**
Readings..... Sheet
Old: Isaiah 35:1-10
Epistle: James 5:7-11
Δ**Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-15
Children's Message
Hymn..... #341
"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"
Sermon "Like the Crocus"
Isaiah 35:1-10
Δ**Apostles' Creed**
Offering
Offertory..... p.159
Δ**Prayer of the Church..... p.159**
Δ**Lord's Prayer..... p.162**
Δ**Benediction..... p.166**
Δ**Hymn..... #338**
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

CURRENT BIBLE CLASSES:

- Wednesday Morning Bible Class (Meets in the LYF Room- 11am) topic "Genesis"
- Sunday Bible Class (Meet in the LYF Room – 9:30 am on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays) topic "The Minor Prophets"

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIAS: Congregation members are invited to donate poinsettias to beautify the church during the Christmas season. Starting December 1st, you may bring them in and leave them on the table in the overflow room. Put your name on a label and attach it to the container. Fill out the sheet with your name and who is being remembered.

ADVENT SERVICE: We will be having Midweek Advent services on Wednesday night December 17 at 7:00 p.m. with supper starting at 5:30 p.m. The theme for this Advent is "The Jesse Tree"

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE: Sunday School will begin at 9:30 a.m. with Christmas Eve practice first on Sunday, December 21st. All children who plan to be in the Christmas Eve Program must come to practice.

LYF: LYF will be cleaning the church on Dec. 20th at 10am
LYF Bible Study is Sunday, December 21st from 6:30 – 8 pm in the LYF room.

CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM: The Sunday School Christmas program will be presented December 24th Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE: Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion will be held at 10:30 a.m. on December 25th

COMMUNITY & OTHER INFORMATION

2025 CHURCH OFFICER VOLUNTEERS: If anyone has interest in serving as a church officer: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Stewardship Secretary, Elder, Trustee, Board of Education, Auditing, Endowment Fund, Finance Committee, please contact the church or anyone on the Nomination Committee: Bruce Mohr, Andy Kuhlmann, Tammy Bramley, Angie Kroll or pastor.

GIVING TREE: During the month of December, help us decorate our Christmas Giving Tree in the back of church with hats, mitten & socks this Christmas season. The tree will be in the back from December 1 thru 31st. All items collected will be donated to the local schools.

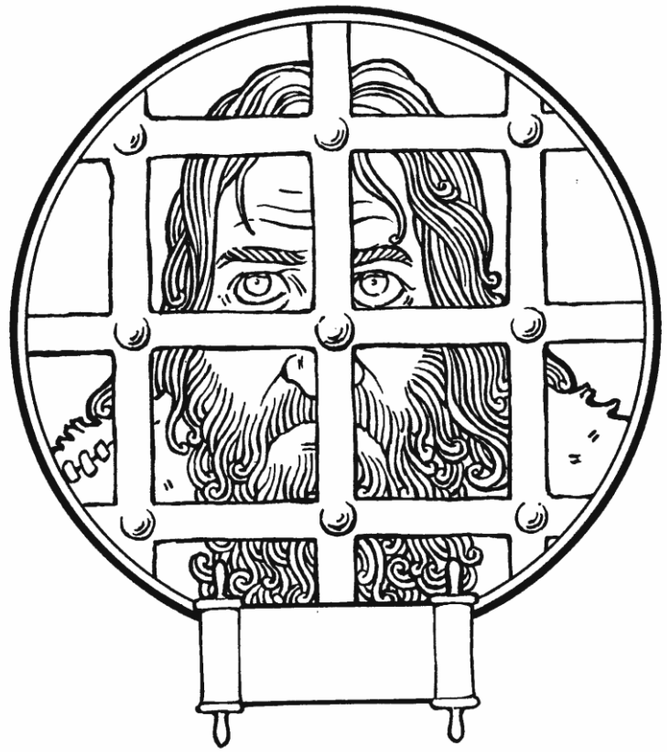
WEATHER CANCELLATIONS: If the weather is so severe that services are cancelled, it will be posted on our church facebook and website. We will also use Call Multiplier in the event of a cancellation. Please make sure we have your current phone number.

NORTH PARKING LOT: Be cautious of the north parking lot for ice, especially on mornings after a thaw and refreezing.

St. Pauls Lutheran Church—LCMS

Rev. Nathan Peitsch, 303 East 4th Street, PO Box 139, Ute, IA 51060

Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025



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Secretary cell #: 712-208-0224
Church Email address: stpaulute@gmail.com
Church Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsute
Church Website: stpaulsute.org
Pastor Email address: pastornpeitsch@gmail.com
Elders: Head Elder: Bruce Mohr: 269-8771;
Steve Gust: 840-1598; Gary McCall: 269-9021
Jim Thies: 882-4351