

**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:**

*"Be faithfully obedient to the living Christ in making disciples of all people."*

Symbols of Salvation: Foretelling Christ's Birth

Ordinarily, when we think of Old Testament prophecies of the birth of Christ, we have in mind specific verses such as, "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son" (Isaiah 7:14); "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6); and "From you [O Bethlehem] shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days" (Micah 5:2). These direct prophecies point clearly to the coming of Jesus as the Savior Messiah.

But in addition to these wonderful verses, Jesus teaches us that, in fact, the entire Old Testament prophesies about Him—"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] interpreted to them *in all the Scriptures* the things concerning *Himself*" (Luke 24:27, emphasis added). "For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, *because only through Christ is it taken away*" (2 Corinthians 3:14, emphasis added). "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; *and it is they that bear witness about Me*" (John 5:39, emphasis added). All of the Bible is about Jesus. From the very beginning of creation, the ways God interacts with His people give us living symbols that foreshadow and foretell Jesus' advent among us in the flesh. As the hymn puts it,

For deep in prophets' sacred page,  
And grand in poets' winged word,  
Slowly in type, from age to age  
The nations saw their coming Lord. (LSB 810:2)

The various "types" in the Old Testament point to a complete fulfillment in Jesus. He is the perfect Israel and the culmination of its divinely given institutions. He is the embodiment of the Scriptures, for "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). The Old Testament is not just a historical record; it was and continues to be the active, Spirit-filled Word of God that proclaims Christ to us.

**Thanks to those who Served Today**

- Elder:** John Greder
- Ushers:** Jim Thies, Denny Mordhorst, Kade Ohlmeier
- Organist:** Lynette Thies
- Screen:** Audrey Gust
- Altar Care:** Teresa Mordhorst, Leanne Thies
- Altar Flowers:** Deanna Sorensen
- Finance:** Denny Mordhorst

**ABOUT THE SERVICE**

**ON THE BACK TABLE:** Reading inserts, Children's bulletins, Portals of Prayer, can be found on the back table. In the back there is a shelf with children's books and crayons that they can use during the service.

**MAGAZINE RACK:** You can find copies of recent bulletin, the Lutheran Witness and more.

**STANDING:** Although it is proper to sit and stand at certain times during the Divine Service, please feel free to sit when needed.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

Sun: 8:30 a.m. – Christmas Eve practice  
 9:00 a.m. – Bible Class & Sunday School  
 10:00 a.m. – Divine Service w/Holy Communion  
 Mon: 1-3 p.m. - Drive-up Communion  
 Tues: 9-5 p.m. – Pastor office hours  
 Wed: 9-5 p.m. – Pastor office hours  
 11:00 a.m. – Bible Class  
 No Catechism Classes  
 7:00 p.m. – Advent Service  
 Thurs: 9-5 p.m. – Pastor office hours  
 Fri: Pastor's Family Day  
 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Program  
 Sat: 10:00 a.m.- Christmas Day Service w/Holy Comm  
 Sun: 9:00 a.m. – Bible Class & Sunday School  
 10:00 a.m. – Divine Service

2021	General Fund	Missions	Special Mission
Projected for the Year	\$143,351.60	\$8,000.00	\$2,500.00
As of 11/30/2021	\$110,679.45	\$3,685.00	\$4,062.00
<b>Still Needed</b>	<b>\$32,672.15</b>	<b>\$4,315.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Vespers—page 229**

(<sup>Δ</sup> indicates worshippers stand)

<sup>Δ</sup>Invocation..... p.229  
<sup>Δ</sup>Psalms..... p.230  
 Hymn..... #389  
 vs. 1-3, 5, 7 "Let All Together Praise Our God"

Readings..... sheet  
**First Reading:** Judges 6:11-24; 7:2-9  
**Second Reading:** Micah 5:1-5A

<sup>Δ</sup>Responsory..... p.230  
**Sermon**

Symbols of Salvation:  
 As One Man

Hymn..... #333  
 "Once He Came in Blessing"

**Offering**

<sup>Δ</sup>Prayers..... p.233  
<sup>Δ</sup>Kyrie..... p.233  
<sup>Δ</sup>Lord's Prayer..... p.233  
<sup>Δ</sup>Collect..... p.233  
<sup>Δ</sup>Benediction ..... p.234  
<sup>Δ</sup>Hymn..... #352  
 "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

### CURRENT BIBLE CLASSES:

- Sunday Adult Bible Class (Meets in the fellowship hall- 9am).
- Wednesday Morning Bible Class (Meets in the LYF Room- 11am).

### ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMMUNITY & OTHER INFORMATION

**JESUS BIRTHDAY PARTY:** Thank you to everyone that helped with the party. There were about 15 kids that attended the party.

**POINSETTIAS:** Congregation members are invited to donate poinsettias to beautify the church during the Christmas season. They may be brought in and left 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.

**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

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

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE:** Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion will be held at 10:00 a.m.

**NEEDING HELP:** The LCW is looking for men and women to help serve at funerals and events. There is a sign-up sheet is on the back table.

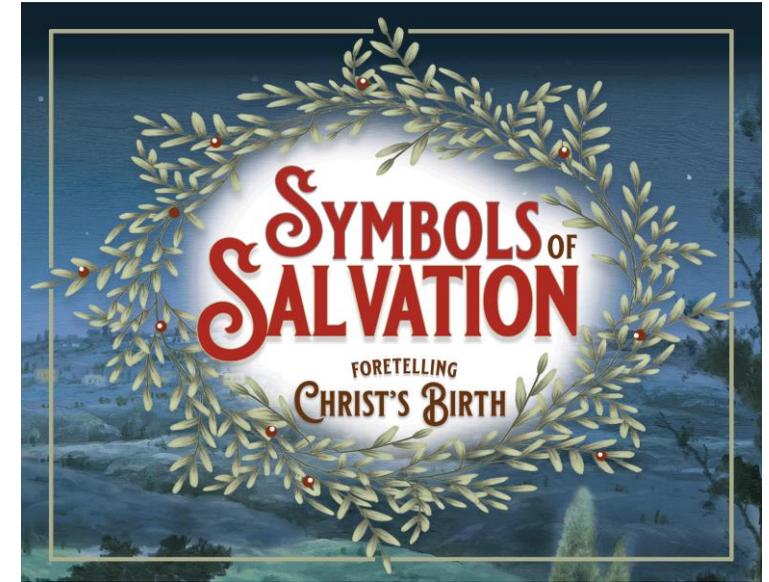
**CHURCH CLEANING:** A big THANK YOU to everyone that helped clean the church this last week. There are a few areas of the church that are still in need of cleaning. You can find a list of areas remaining posted on the secretary's door.

**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 of the Denison area and sponsored by area congregations including St. Paul's. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

## Midweek Advent 4 December 22, 2021



*St. Pauls Lutheran Church—LCMS*

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