

*The Christmas Season is here. Food Bank shelves tend to get bare and the need for help grows. Glade Valley numbers are through the roof right now.*

Donations for *Glade Valley Food Bank* are always accepted!

**\*\*UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:\*\***

***Cereal, Hamburger Helper, Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Fruit and Peanut butter***

*Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you!*



## SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Phil Beck  
 Lector.....Trish Valcarcel  
 Organist.....Jeff Gentry  
 Ushers.....Sunday School  
 Acolyte.....Camden Plog & Annabelle Bush

## Staff

Minister:202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Pastor Phil Beck  
 Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Joann Valainis  
 Music Coordinator .....Jeff Gentry  
 Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel  
 Administration/Purchasing .....Ed Chaney  
 Sexton .....Larry Beard  
 Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp  
 Property Coordinator.....Tom Waters  
 Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney

### Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry. From sundaysandseasons.com | Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved | License # SAS103410, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #736745-A. All rights reserved. CCLI Copyright © 2024 License 21412874, Streaming 21412867 All rights reserved



**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 December 22, 2024**

## **ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

**Worship Service—9:00 a.m.**

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org>



*Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.*

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Patty Rimel  
 Vice-President—Sheila Kahler  
 Treasurer—Bill Cartwright  
 Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

*\*Stand as you are able*

This is the time we QUIET our HEARTS for WORSHIP.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

“Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary’s magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ’s advent is for “the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—“we proclaim the Lord’s death.””

**CHURCH BELL RUNG**

**CANDLES LIT**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.


C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



*End of the Year Giving Challenge*

We are again blessed that an anonymous donor has offered a matching challenge of \$2,000 to assist where most needed by the end of the year. If members of the congregation can contribute \$2,000 over and above their normal giving the anonymous member will match the contribution.

If you are writing a check, please include “Challenge” on the memo line. If you prefer to give on-line, please use the “GIVE NOW” button and choose the undesignated selection in the Fund dropdown and add “Challenge” in the “Note” section.

*The deadline for the challenge is Sunday, December 29th.*



**REMINDER**




**TOWN HALL MEETING**

**JANUARY 19TH, 10:00AM**



**ANNUAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 26TH, 10:00AM**




**LEADERSHIP**

**‘Calling all the helpers!’**

We are at that time of year when the outgoing council members are seeking new hands to continue our work as the leadership of St Paul’s. If you have ever felt a calling or curiosity about council leadership and what we do, please seek out Pastor, Patty, Sheila or any council member for answers!

*Would you like to schedule a date to sponsor Altar flowers?*

*Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to offer flowers.*



*Altar Flowers*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\***


For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. Video link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6duei5WFP9E&t=2186s>, December 15, 2024.

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at

St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7\\_-Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7_-Q)

\*\*\*\*\*

*The altar flowers are given  
to the glory of God and in honor  
of John-Paul Kadoura birthday  
by his mom, Kate Stottlemyer.*



\*\*\*\*\*



***St. Paul's will have our traditional 7:00pm  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.  
Please consider joining us in person  
to celebrate the birth of our Lord.***

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN.....*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*.....ELW 265  
V. 1-4

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

**\*GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

**\*KYRIE (p. 147)**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**\*\*FAMILY LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*The Rimel Family*

***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***.....ELW 257

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.*

Text: *Psalterium Cationum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. Composite, Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**\* STORY OF THE CANDLES**

***Anthem***.....*Come, Messiah* by Lloyd Larson.....Choir  
(Copyright MCMXXXIV by Carl Fischer, Inc.)

**FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a**

**P:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm Luke 1:46b-55**

<sup>46b</sup> My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup> **my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,**  
<sup>48</sup> for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
**From this day all generations will call me blessed:**  
<sup>49</sup> you, the Almighty, have done great things for me  
**and holy is your name.**  
<sup>50</sup> You have mercy on those who fear you,  
**from generation to generation.**

<sup>51</sup> You have shown strength with your arm  
**and scattered the proud in their conceit,**  
<sup>52</sup> casting down the mighty from their thrones  
**and lifting up the lowly.**  
<sup>53</sup> You have filled the hungry with good things  
**and sent the rich away empty.**  
<sup>54</sup> You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
**to remember the promise of mercy,**  
<sup>55</sup> the promise made to our forebears,  
**to Abraham and his children forever.**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10**

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 151)**

**GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon.....**LOVE**.....Pastor Phil Beck

*Silence for Reflection*

**OFFERINGS**

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community. Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.

<https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/>

**This Week at St Paul's**

<b><u>December 22nd</u></b>	
Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	
Faith Formation	10:00am
<b><u>December 23rd</u></b>	
Girl Scouts	6:00pm
<b><u>December 24th</u></b>	
Christmas Eve Service	7:00pm
<b><u>December 25th</u></b>	
Christmas Day	
<b><u>December 29th</u></b>	
Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
<i>Lessons and Carols</i>	

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:**

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,145.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:  
\$360.00

**Electronic/Mail-ins Income**  
**December 15, 2024**

Weekly Contributions: \$1,023.30  
Property Loan Fund: \$ 195.00  
Total: \$1,218.30

**In Worship Offerings**

Weekly Contributions: \$2,395.00  
Property Loan Fund: \$ 300.00  
Total: \$2,695.00

**ATTENDANCE:**  
**December 15, 2024**

In person: 50  
Virtual: 16

**Prayer List**

Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*  
Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemeyer*  
Marion Lawrence, *Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer*  
The Jones Family, *Close family friends of Joann Valainis*  
Gil Eiker, *Husband of Rebecca Eiker*  
Doug Ashbrook, *Family Friend of Pastor Phil*  
Roger Stottlemeyer, *Uncle of Kate Stottlemeyer*  
Sue Snyder, *Member*  
Shannon Smith, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*  
Bob Schmidt, *brother of Dottie Titmas*  
Marea Palmer, *Niece of Marcia Gupta*  
Parker Bazarewski, *extended family of Ed Chaney*  
**Joseph M. Moschella**, *friends of the Plowman Family*  
**Gary Wachter**, *Member*  
Bert Fiske, *Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider*  
Dottie Titmas, *Member*  
Florence Schell, *Member*  
Bonnie Kay Cartwright, *Daughter of Bill & Barbara Cartwright*  
Dixie Lynch, *Sister of Connie Chesnik*  
Mark Spaseff, *Son in law of Nancy & Graham McIntyre*  
**Dakota Monn**, *friend of Joann Valainis*  
Jack Lotwick, *friend of Dianne and Robb Port*  
Ken Martz, *Member*  
Betsy Galliher, *Member*  
Joanne and Dudley Cate, *Friends of Ed Chaney*  
Sara Reitz, *Sister of Patty Rimel*  
Charlie Knapp, *Friend of Pastor Phil*  
Joi Decker, *Friend of Pastor Phil*  
Tom Waters, *Member*  
Family of Lillian Foucart, *Member*  
Cliff Kilmon, *Friend of Betsy Galliher*  
Family of Bruce Wertz, *Family of Betsy Galliher*  
Debbie O'Brien & Matt Lukos,  
*family of Dennis & Regina Cavell*  
Dorothy and Benjamin Cavell  
*family of Dennis & Regina Cavell*  
**Gail Mays**, *cousin of Marcia Gupta*  
**Billy Welty**, *Friend of Betsy Galliher*

**PRAYERS  
FOR OUR MILITARY  
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

†Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy,  
niece to Linwood Snider  
†Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce,  
grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas  
†U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik,  
grandson of Sam Purswell  
†Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of  
Pastor Phil & Susan Beck  
†Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of  
Marcia & Raj Gupta  
†Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of  
Mary Ann Ferguson  
†Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of  
Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in  
law

*Do you or someone you know  
have need for prayer?  
If so, please know that we have a prayer  
team at St. Paul's that is ready to help.  
Simply contact Merle Anderson at  
301-845-2317.  
All requests are confidential.*

*\*\*Please remember all the names on our  
prayer list, and especially those that are bold.  
They have specific current need for Christian  
love and support.*

\*HYMN OF THE DAY.....**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**.....ELW 254

V. 1-2

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: ... God of grace, C: **Hear our prayer.**

**\*The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

**OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.**

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN LET THE VINYARDS BE FRUITFUL (ELW 184)**

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923, Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING, MEAL (sung, p. 152)**

**P:** The Lord be with you.  
**C:** **And also with you.**  
**P:** Lift up your hearts.  
**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**  
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*THE PREFACE:**

**P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (p. 153)**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P:** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**\*THE LORD’S PRAYER:**

**P:** Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught...  
**C:** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

**P:** Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**COMMUNION HYMN (P.154)**

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**P:** May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Let us pray,  
God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN..... Joy to the World.....ELW 267**  
V. 1-4, Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

**\*DISMISSAL**

**GO IN PEACE, CHRIST IS WITH YOU.  
THANKS BE TO GOD.**