

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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The First Sunday in Advent

30 November 2025

Welcome! *The Lord Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us Now.*

The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem “humble, and mounted on a donkey,” riding on “a beast of burden” (Matt. 21:5), as He Himself bears the sins of the world in His body. Now He comes by the ministry of the Gospel to save us from sin, death, the devil and hell. Therefore, we sing, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Matt. 21:9). For we are called “to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob,” His Holy Church, “that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths” (Is. 2:3). By His Word, we “walk in the light of the LORD” (Is. 2:5). That is to live in love, which “does no wrong to a neighbor” (Rom. 13:10). We “cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light,” for “salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed” (Rom. 13:11, 12). Hence, the entire Christian life is a time to wake and watch, “for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming” (Matt. 24:42).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Chris Birnbaum-medical procedure

MaKayla Blackman-recovering (granddaughter of Billy Krause)

Monroe Brade (uncle of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy Kalbas)

Anna Boriack-recovering (daughter-in-of Delvin & Judy Boriack)

Rebecca Burgdorf-medical testing

Ginger Clifford-recovering (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Carl Dittmar-recovering (father of Jennifer Smith)

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

Cindy Hardy-hospitalized (cousin of Harold Krause)

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Billy Krause-recovering

Hildegard Krause-hospitalized

Mary Ann McCombs-recovering

Ruben Melcher-recovering (uncle of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy Kalbas)

Stephen Mersiovsky-recovering (son of Stephen Mersiovsky)

Chris Miertschin-recovering

Gene Namken-surgery (brother of Linda Oltmann)

Bradly Schautschick-recovering

David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)

John Boy Weiser-hospitalized

Ruby Weiser-recovering

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)

Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)

Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)

Ralph & Debbie Domel (sister & brother-in-law of Mary Jatzlau)

Christie Hall (friend of Mark Arldt)

Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Weise)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Brenda Karisch (friend of Bonnie Wenke family)

Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)

Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)

Jensyn Lesikar (nephew of Kasey Rosales)

Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Suzanne Mogonye-recovering (mother of Lindsey Hansen)

Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)

Kelli Meinholdt (sister of Carie Oltmann)

Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)

Walter Rehle (friend of the Arldt's from Germany)

Carol Sander

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)

Christopher Taylor

Tina Warren (mother of Jason Heuermann)

Jordan Weidemann (friend of Byron Kalbas)

Judy Westbrook (mother of Heather Krause)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Bliss, El Paso

Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Ft. Drum, New York

Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville, North Carolina

Aron Marak (nephew of Mike and Susie Maass) Fr. Bragg, North Carolina

Kyler Brown (friend of Dorothy Schautschick) U.S. Navy-Bahrain

Benjamin Symm-Training Camp Johnson, North Carolina

Jacob Droegemueller Ft. Eisenhower, Georgia

Corey Pedeville (friend of Dorothy Schautschick) Army-serving in Saudia Arabia

Brittany Loudon (daughter of Bryan and Antoinette

Winkles) Navy, stationed in Florida

Kolton Alen (nephew of Mike & Susie Maass) Army, stationed at Ft. Sill, Laughton, OK

Rain

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our Sunday morning prayers either call the church office through the week or write out the request and give it to pastor on Sunday morning.

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Dan & Haley Marak's 5th wedding anniversary by Douglas & Debra Hartfield.
- † **Altar Flowers** are needed for Sunday, December 7th. If you would like to place flowers on that Sunday, please contact Dorothy Schautschick a 979-716-0094.
- † **Congratulations** to Joshua and Jennifer Smith on the birth of a son, Cody Wyatt Smith. He was born on November 22, 2025 at 2:40 pm. He weighed 8lbs 2.2 ozs and was 18.7 inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- † **Mission Goal.** In the Voters Meeting held on October 13, 2024 the Voters set our 2025 Mission goal at \$37,500.00. To date our Mission contributions are at \$36,340.62. We are **\$1,159.38** away from meeting our 2025 goal
- † **Trustees** will meet this Monday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. Packets are available to be picked up in the church office to review prior to the meeting.
- † **BBQ Pork Steak Lunch:** drive-thru at Serbin Picnic Grounds, Sunday, December 14th 10:00am-12:30pm, meal includes pork steak, buttered potatoes, and green beans, supports Giddings High School BBQ Club. \$15.00 each. Kaden will sell tickets after church this morning. Contact Kaden 979-540-0863, Kyle 979-540-8664, or Laurie 979-540-9073 by December 1st to purchase tickets. **Thank you in advance for your support!!**
- † **Midweek Advent Services** begin **Wednesday, December 3rd**. The theme for our services this year will be **"Every Heart Prepare"**. The Lord's Supper will also be celebrated on the December 3rd service. Make room for Jesus and His word in this hectic season by attending mid-week Advent Services.
Overview of the Sermon Series We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In November and December, people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel, presents are put under the tree, and we "deck the halls with boughs of holly." These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday. Advent is the church's season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation, we will reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the crèche. Then, on Christmas, we will focus on the wrapped presents, which point us to the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.
- † **Advent Devotional Books** are available from the ushers this morning and in the church office.
- † **The December Calendar** is available from the ushers this morning.
- † **Pastor John DeYoung** will be installed as Pastor of Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Manheim on Saturday, December 13, @ 3 PM. Finger foods and refreshments to follow in the fellowship hall adjacent to the Church. The church address is 4146 Highway 21 West, Paige, Texas 78659.
- † **LADIES NIGHT OUT!** The Serbin LWML invites all ladies to join them for a night out to celebrate the Christmas season on Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 pm at Los Patrones Restaurant in Giddings. Bring a friend, sister, daughter, or neighbor that needs an evening with the girls. Food and drinks are on your own, and we will supply the fun, games, and conversation! Bring an ornament for the gift exchange game! Text Melodi at 979-540-0039 to RSVP by 12/12/25.
- † **The LWML** is selling Poinsettias for \$10.00 each to be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. To order please fill out the order form which is available from the ushers this morning and in the church office, and return it to the Church Office or put it in the collection plate. Orders are due by Tuesday, December 9th. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 9th.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- † **We need your help!** The Serbin LWML ladies are collecting items for Orphan Grain Train before December 9. OGT is asking specifically for new underwear and socks (any sizes and gender), and also new or gently loved stuffed animals and quilts to give those who need it the most! If you have any questions, call Dorothy S. At 979-716-0094. Let's come through for this wonderful organization
- † **Christmas Cards** are available at \$5.00/box. Contact Doris Fritsche at 979-212-1886 for cards.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 7th, **"Chosen for What?"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeiglewr. God calls believers to trust and follow Jesus-chosen, but chosen for what? (Romans 15:7). Hear *The Lutheran Hour* each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Song Service**
Monday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
LWML Quilting – 9:00 a.m.
Board of Christian Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday School Chapel – 8:30 a.m.
Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
Advent Worship w/Communion – 7:00 p.m.
Acolytes: Whitlee Smolik and Max Somerfield
Greeter: Joyce Hinze
Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.
Thursday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Friday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
ECC Christmas Program – 5:00 p.m.
Next Sunday **Worship Service w/Communion– 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Nicholas Taylor and Dylan Arldt
Greeter: Lana Kaiser

Birthdays: Today – Lukas Iselt; 1st – Audrey Hempelk, Douglas Jatzlau; 2nd – Emily Gruetzner; 3rd – Granger Kalbas, Stephen Kasper; 4th – Brent Perry; 6th – Jonathan Hansen, Cody Mertink. God's Blessings to you.

Serving today: Elders– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Susan Michael
Acolytes- Emmalynn Knott and Lucy Gurka
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker **Assistant-** Carson Becker
Ushers- Jason Becker, Randy Becker, Brandon Burgdorf,
Mike Krause, Dan Marak, Ethan Miertschin,
Rex Perry, Brad Schmidt, Tim Symm
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Mason Becker
Chase Oltmann, John Hinze, Philip Tharp

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Morning Worship- 218, Bible Class- 24; Sunday School- 11, Offering- \$20.00.

Offering Last Week: \$27,762.65

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$10,313.00	Mission	\$789.75
Thanksgiving	\$200.00	Mission Total	\$789.75
Sunday School	\$20.00	Savings/Other:	
Lunch Room	\$450.00	Scholarship	\$300.00
ECC Operating	\$8,500.00	Savings/Other Total	\$300.00
Tuition	\$7,189.90		
Received 11/23/2025	\$26,672.90	Total	\$27,762.65
Est. needed per week	\$31,870.00		
Received MTD	\$113,002.28		
Est. needed per month	\$138,103.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Brandon Oltmann by Ronnie & Linda Oltmann - \$250.00.

Life Thoughts in the Church Year:

November 30-Advent 1

Being a Gospel-motivated voice for life means loving all our neighbors, regardless of their size, condition or past. As servants in the Master's house (Matthew 24:43), we not only need to be prepared for Christ's coming (Matthew 24:44; Romans 13:11), we should be eager to make all others ready, preaching the Gospel to them, inviting them "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:3) that they, too, might be brought into the safety of the ark of the holy Church.

2025 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Advent Services	Wed.	Dec. 3, 10	7:00 p.m.	Communion Dec. 3	General
Candlelight Carol Service	Wed	Dec. 17	7:00 p.m.		General
Song Service	Sun	Dec. 21	8:30 a.m.		General
Christmas Eve	Wed	Dec. 24	6:00 p.m.		½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund
Christmas Day	Thurs	Dec. 25	9:00 a.m.	English/ German	½ LSS & ½ LBT
New Year's Eve	Wed	Dec. 31	7:00 p.m.		General
New Year's Day	Thurs	Jan. 1	9:00 a.m.	Communion	General

