

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
School 366-9650 ECC 366-9650
Rev. S. 716-7632

Church Office E-mail st.paulserbin@verizon.net
Church Address: 1572 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

The Third Sunday in Advent

15 December 2024

Welcome! *The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice.* The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning “Rejoice!” For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; “he has cleared away your enemies,” “taken away the judgments against you” and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15–17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to “rejoice in the Lord always,” knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even “the dead are raised up” (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

PJ Albrecht (nephew of Willard Albrecht and Milton Albrecht)

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Delvin Boriack-recovering

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

George Hernandez-recovering

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Pastor Joshua Knippa, Holy Cross, Nederland-recovering

Billy Krause-recovering

Mike Maass-recovering

Charles Malke-recovering (brother of Carol Jean Noack and Douglas Malke)

Douglas Malke-recovering

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

Chris Miertschin-surgery

Russell Richards-recovering

Zelda Richards-recovering

Lucille Schatte

Mildred Wachsmann-recovering (Mother of Peggy Wachsmann)

Laverne Weiser-recovering

Wesley Yurk-recovering

Irene Zoch-recovering (mother of Donnie Zoch)

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Randy Belz (uncle of Amanda Carter)

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)

Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)

Russell Cleghorn (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)

Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Sherri Fritshce

Ian Hailes (great-nephew of Marian Wiederhold and Stephen Kasper)

Christie Hall (friend of Mark Arldt)

Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Wiese)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Devin Jackson (brother-in-law of Chris and Michelle Birnbaum)

Cheryl Jurk (friend of Stephen & Dorothy Schautschick)

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)

Heather Lilly (granddaughter of Irene Noack)

Vic Lohberg

Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)

Gladys Mathena (sister of Frances Miertschin and Marilyn Miertschin)

Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)

Keith Muessel (brother of Chris Miertschin)

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

Carol Sander

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)

Courtney Wagner (cousin of Mark Gruetzner)

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

Randall Weise (grandson of Bernice Doebbler) Ft.

Huachuca, Arizona

Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville, NC

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

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

Benjamin Symm-Completed Basic Training

Those who mourn:

The family of Ernie Melcher (aunt of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy Kslbas)

Seasonal Weather

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 Order of Service— 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 592, 803, 781 v. 1&2, 349, 347, 636,818

Sermon Text: Zephaniah 3:14-20

The Sermon: **“Sing and Shout”**

✠ *We begin today with the order of Baptism on page 268 of the hymnal*

Today we welcomed to God’s people through the
Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Haisley Grace Tappe

Haisley is the daughter of Jordan and Dawn Tappe.

Her Baptismal Sponsors are Alison Symons, Louis Symons, Kristy Hentschel and Tyler Roeber. Her Baptismal witnesses are Minnie Roberts, Amber Sternadel, Bridget Winkelmann and Dane Winkelmann.

- ✠ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Haisley’s baptism by her parents and grandparents.
- ✠ **Mission Goal.** In the Voters Meeting held on October 8, 2023 the Voters set our 2024 Mission goal at \$37,500.00. To date our Mission contributions are at \$39,723.00. We have exceeded our mission goal for this year.
- ✠ **Voters Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the December Voters Meeting are included in the bulletin this morning.
- ✠ **LAF** will meet at 1:00 p.m. today to set up the Christmas Trees in the Church.
- ✠ **Portals of Prayer.** The January-March Portals of Prayer are available from the ushers this morning and in the church office.
- ✠ **Thank You.** Thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday morning to help with and participate in the Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony.
- ✠ **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 and return it to the Church Office or put it in the collection plate. Order forms are available from the ushers this morning. Orders are due by Monday, December 16th. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 16th.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- ✠ **LWML.** The LWML is again selling Christmas Cards. They are \$4/box. Cards are available in the church office or contact Doris Fritsche at 979-212-1886.
- ✠ **Sunday School Teacher.** We are in need of a Sunday School Teacher and Helper for Nursery I and II. Please contact Mike Symm or the church office.
- ✠ **Scrip Program.** Getting ready to do your holiday shopping, or giving gift cards as gifts? You can do it all with a Scrip Card. Order them through the Church’s Scrip Program. Orders can be placed through the Church Office or you can go online and order your cards.
- ✠ **2025 Offering Envelopes.** The **2025** adult and children offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the church office meeting room. **Please continue to use the 2024 envelopes until the end of the year and then discard**, since offering envelope numbers often change from year to year. If you wish to give an offering to the 2024 church year, please give this before the New Year’s Day service. If you failed to receive your 2025 envelopes or have any questions, please contact the church office.
- ✠ **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** SAVE THE DATE! The Annual Chili Supper & Live Auction is scheduled for **Sunday, February 2nd** at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Cook-Off judging and Silent Auction (4-5:30pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm). All School & ECC children will be selling tickets from January 8, 2025, thru January 22, 2025, or you can purchase by calling the school office.
- ✠ Attention Chili Cookers! Enter your family recipe for a chance to win at our **4th Annual Chili Cook-Off!** Please contact Kristy Hentschel (979)220-9474 for details and registration.
- ✠ **Be a Cook-Off Sponsor!** We are accepting sponsorships – individuals or businesses – your name will be displayed with the opportunity to provide marketing materials in the cook-off packets. The sponsorship levels can be found on the School Website, or you can contact the school office or Kristy Hentschel.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 22nd, “**Does it Matter If Jesus Is God?**” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can’t help dead people. Only God’s Son can make us alive again. (Luke 2:10-11). 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.

Life Through the Church Year:

December 15 – Advent III

Gospel-motivated voices For Life bring reasonableness to the cultural conversation about life issues (Philippians 4:5). It means a message of joy and hope instead of just another angry and fearful demeanor. The sanctity of life proclaims good news to neighbors made poor (Luke 7:22) by pressures toward abortion and physician-assisted suicide. God remains mighty to save (Zephaniah 3:17), even in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis.

Serving today: Elders– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Daniel Krause
Acolytes- Jasmine Bailey and Nathen Barnett
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker **Assistant-** Carson Becker
Ushers- Jason Becker, Randy Becker, Brandon Burgdorf,
Mike Krause, Ethan Miertschin, Rex Perry,
Brad Schmidt, Tim Symm
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Rex Perry
Virgil Becker, Tim Symm, Nathan Michael

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m. Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting – 9:30 a.m. LAF set up Christmas Trees – 1:00 pm. LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m.
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Tuesday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	School Chapel – 8:30 a.m. Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Carol Service – 7:00 p.m. Acolytes: Everett Corn and Addyson Early Greeter: Marian Wiederhold
Thursday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Friday	All School Christmas Party & Luncheon Early Release – 11:45 a.m.
Next Sunday	Song Service – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Jagger Garner and Lane Gersch Greeter: Deanna Miertschin Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.

Birthdays: Today – Krista Jatzlau, Elizabeth Richardson, Douglas Weiser; 16th – Lane Gersch; 17th – Kathy Gersch, Brandi Perry; 18th – Chris Birnbaum; 21st – Lavonne Berdoll, Michelle Birnbaum. God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Midweek Advent (12-4-2024)- 122, Communion- 46, Morning Worship- 222, Bible Class- 15; Sunday School- 34, Visitors- 1, Offering- \$20.00.

Offering Last Week: \$38,863.50

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$13,789.75	Mission	\$2,374.00
Thanksgiving	\$50.00	Mission Total	\$2374.00
Advent 12/4	\$760.00	Savings/Other:	
Sunday School	\$20.00	School Fund	\$100.00
Lunch Room	\$1,633.50	Building Fund	\$50.00
ECC Operating	\$8,104.25	Savings/Other Total	\$150.00
Tuition	\$11,982.00		
Received 12/8/2024	\$36,339.50	Total	\$38,863.50

Est. needed per week **\$29,635.00**
Received MTD **\$63,215.22**
Est. needed per month **\$128,417.00**

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Esther Namken by James & Kathy Kalbas - \$100.00. In memory of Judy Kalbas by James & Kathy Kalbas - \$100.00; by Arthur & Dianna Noack - \$50.00; by Carolyn Noack - \$25.00. In memory of Dora Durrenberger by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00; by Helen Georges - \$20.00; by Raymond & Lanetta Kipp - \$25.00; by Doris Frische - \$20.00; by Stephen & Nancy Kasper - \$50.00. **Tuition:** In memory of Judy Kalbas and Dora Durrenberger by Michael & Teresa Krause - \$50.00. **Mission:** In memory of Judy Kalbas and Dora Durrenberger by Allen & Mildred Perry - \$50.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Arthur & LaVerne Urban - \$100.00. **Building Fund:** In memory of Dora Durrenberger by Jack & Marian Wiederhold - \$50.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Bobby & Carolyn Oltmann - \$40.00; by M/M Delvin Boriack - \$20.00.

2024 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Candlelight Carol Service	Wed.	Dec. 18	7:00 p.m.		General
Song Service	Sun.	Dec. 22	8:30 a.m.		General
Christmas Eve	Tues.	Dec. 24	6:00 p.m.		½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund
Christmas Day	Wed.	Dec. 25	9:00 a.m.	English/German	½ LSS & ½ LBT
New Year's Eve	Tues.	Dec. 31	7:00 p.m.		General
New Year's Day	Wed.	Jan. 1	9:00 a.m.	Communion	General