

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



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## The First Sunday in Advent

01 December 2024

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### Welcome! *In Repentance We Are Alert to the Coming of Christ.*

The signs of the end are all around us, constant reminders that “heaven and earth will pass away.” But all of these signs are centered in the cross of Christ, whereby He has conquered sin and death, that we might be raised with Him in righteousness through His Word of the Gospel, which “will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). He is “the firstborn of the dead,” who in His great love “has freed us from our sins by his blood” (Rev. 1:5). His salvation is certain because “his dominion is an everlasting dominion” and His Kingdom “shall not be destroyed” (Dan. 7:14). For this purpose He came into the world, to reign in love through His voice of the Gospel, which is the truth (John 18:37). So is the righteousness of Christ “a light to the peoples,” which “will never be dismayed” because it is the justice of His cross and resurrection (Is. 51:4–6). As He “is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory,” so wait upon “the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life” (Jude 20–24). Today is the last Sunday of the Church Year. As another year in Christ draws to a close, we look forward to the day when our Lord will return in glory. May we always be ready to meet Him. We invite you all to worship with us again.

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### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

*PJ Albrecht (nephew of Willard Albrecht and Milton Albrecht)*  
*Chris Birnbaum-recovering*  
*George Hernandez-recovering*  
*Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)*  
*Lorin Kieschnick (nephew of Billy & Eva Kieschnick)*  
*Pastor Joshua Knippa, Holy Cross, Nederland-recovering*  
*Mike Maass-recovering*  
*Charles Malke-recovering (brother of Carol Jean Noack and Douglas Malke)*  
*Douglas Malke-recovering*  
*Ernie Melcher-recovering (Aunt of James Kalbas)*  
*Chris Miertschin-surgery*  
*Russell Richards-recovering*  
*Zelda Richards-recovering*  
*Lucille Schatte*  
*Mildred Wachsmann-recovering (Mother of Peggy Wachsmann)*  
*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)*  
*Judy Kalbas*  
*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 Wesbrook (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-*

#### Those who mourn:

*The family of Colbey Wright (sister of Cherie Oltmann)*

#### Those affected by hurricane Helene and Milton

#### 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: 357, 706, 781 v. 1&2, 340, 336, 508, 333

Sermon Text: Luke 21:25-36

The Sermon: **“It’s Coming”**

† **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God to commemorate the 1977 donation by St. Paul Lutheran Church of the 1915 St. Paul Lutheran Serbin School Building to the Texas Wendish Heritage Society to establish the first Wendish Museum by the Wendish Society.

† **Congratulations** to Pablo and Krista Rodriguez on the birth of a daughter, Adalynn Eileen Rodriguez. She was born Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> in the Austin, TX. She weighed 7lbs. and was 20½ inches long. May God bless this growing family.

† **October Financial Statements** are available from the ushers this morning.

† **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 \$35,840.00. We are **\$1,660.00** away from meeting our 2024 goal

† **Trustees** will meet this Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Packets are available to be picked up in the church office to review prior to the meeting.

† **Church Council** – This Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. the Church Council will meet to set the agenda for the December 8<sup>th</sup> Voters meeting. All congregational officers and board members are part of the Church Council.

† **Midweek Advent Services** begin Wednesday, **Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. The theme for our services this year will be **“His Name Shall Be Called”**. The Lord’s Supper will also be celebrated on the December 4<sup>th</sup> service. Make room for Jesus and His word in this hectic season by attending mid-week Advent Services.

**Overview of the Sermon Series.** During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God’s Son, who was given the name *Jesus*—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” In addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles which describe something about His person or work. In this year’s Advent series, we are going to examine four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. Those titles are “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Everlasting Father,” and “Prince of Peace.” We will learn how each of these titles describes something about *who* Jesus is and *what* He did for our salvation.

† **Serbin LWML** is asking for donations for the Orphan Grain Train to distribute to needy families in the US and around the world. Specifically, OGT is requesting new and/or gently used **socks, undies, and stuffed animals** for boys and girls through the month of December. Please bring any of these items to the church office meeting room by December 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Schautschick or Melodi Oltmann.

† **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.

† **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 in the bulletin this morning, and return it to the Church Office or put it in the collection plate. Orders are due by Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 16<sup>th</sup>.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, **“Completely Ordinary Human”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Everyone has a story to tell and yours can be one through which Jesus is working to make the world new again. (Malachi 3:7). 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](http://lhm.org) for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

## Life Through the Church Year:

### December 1 – Advent 1

Abortion and assisted suicide arise out of panic. The Advent Gospel offers something better: promise and patient anticipation. During surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis, Jesus Christ means that better days are coming (Jeremiah 33:14), redemption is drawing near (Luke 21:28), and none who wait upon the Lord shall be put to shame (Psalm 25:3). Sufferings will end, but blessings accumulate. Breathe, trust, hope, and rejoice.

**Serving today:** Elders– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann  
**Organist-** Susan Michael  
**Acolytes-** Emmalynn Knott and Kalisa Oltmann  
**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  
Troy Wiederhold, John Hinze, Philip Tharp  
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### THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service w/Communion– 8:30 a.m.**  
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
LWML Christmas Party – 2:00 p.m.

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 Service w/Communion – 7:00 p.m.**  
Acolytes: Kylie Schmidt and Kelton Schulze  
Greeter: Judy Boriack  
Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Thursday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.  
Church Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Friday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.  
PreK-K caroling at FNB – 9:30 a.m.  
3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade caroling at FNB – 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Jingle Bells & Jammies – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Next Sunday **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**  
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
Acolytes: Whitlee Smolik and Max Sommerfield  
Greeter: Nancy Beckcom  
4-H Meeting – 2:00 p.m.  
Voters Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

**Birthdays: Today** – Audrey Hempel, Douglas Jatzlau; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Emily Gruetzner; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Granger Kalbas, Stephen Kasper, Krista Rodriguez; 4<sup>th</sup> – Brent Perry; 5<sup>TH</sup> – Kristina Kanevsky; 6<sup>th</sup> – Jonathan Hansen, Cody Mertink. God's Blessings to you.

**ST. PAUL NOTES:**

**Attendance Last Week:** Morning Worship- 239, Bible Class- 24;  
 Sunday School- 36, Banner Classes: Nursery 1, Kindergarten, Offering- \$21.00.

**Offering Last Week:** \$23,100.04

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$11,338.56	Mission	\$2,294.00
Thanksgiving	\$500.00	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$2,294.00</b>
Sunday School	\$21.00	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
Lunch Room	\$2,883.00	Scholarship	\$20.00
ECC Operating	\$1,627.34	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
Tuition	\$4,416.14		
<b>Received 11/24/2024</b>	<b>\$20,786.04</b>	Total	\$23,100.04
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$29,635.00</b>		
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$89,601.70</b>		
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$128,417.00</b>		

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Esther Namken and Kimberly Hembry by Linda Jones - \$50.00. **Scholarship Fund:** In memory of Linda Nelson by David & Karen Schmidt - \$20.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Mike Organ by Delvin & Judy Boriack - \$20.00.

**2024 Advent/Christmas Schedule**

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Advent Services	Wed.	Dec. 4, 11	7:00 p.m.	Communion Dec. 4	General
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