

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
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The Fourth Sunday in Advent

21 December 2025

Welcome! God's Word Is Fulfilled for Us in the Flesh and Blood of Christ Jesus, the Son of Mary. The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the Nativity of Our Lord. With the blessed Virgin Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Word and Spirit of God. This fulfillment of the sign once given to the house of David, that "the virgin shall conceive and bear a son" (Is. 7:14), is now given to us in the Gospel. It declares that salvation is by His grace alone, entirely His work and a free gift. It also is the way and means by which the Lord our God is Immanuel, "God with us." The almighty and eternal Son of God is conceived and born of Mary, and is thus "descended from David according to the flesh" (Rom. 1:3-4). He comes in this way to save us with His own flesh and blood; wherefore, He is called "Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). As Joseph received this sign in faith and immediately "did as the angel of the Lord commanded him" (Matt. 1:24), we also live by faith in this Holy Gospel.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Troy Bise-recovering

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)

Ginger Clifford-recovering (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Carl Dittmar-recovering (father of Jennifer Smith)

Ken Gage-hospitalized (father of Patrice Caster)

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

David Hempel-recovering

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Nancy Kasper-recovering

Billy Krause-recovering

Hildegard Krause-recovering

Mary Ann McCombs-recovering

Mike Maass-hospitalized

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

Stephen Mersiovsky-recovering (son of Stephen Mersiovsky)

Chris Miertschin-recovering

Gene Namken-recovering (brother of Linda Oltmann)

Elaine Peters-recovering (friend of Kyle Jenke)

David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)

Alton Weiser-recovering

John Boy 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 Gruetznier, 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 Dorthy 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, Lawton, 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 Order of Service— Worship Folder

- † **The Altar flowers** on Wednesday and this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of Rosalie's 4th birthday by Kasey and Rio Rosales.
- † **Thank You** to Pastor Droegemueller and the Elders for leading us in worship this morning.
- † **Voters Meeting Minutes.** The minutes from the Voters Meeting held on Sunday, December 14th, are included in the bulletin this morning.
- † **Pictorial Directory.** The Pictorial Directories have arrived. If you had your picture taken or submitted for the directory you may pick one up in the church office. One per household. Please mark your name off the Pictorial Directory list.
- † **November Financial Statements** are available from the ushers this morning.
- † **Christmas Eve Service.** Join us on Wednesday, December 24th at 6:00 p.m. for our Children's Christmas Eve Service. The children have been working hard on learning their parts and rehearsing their songs and are ready to share with us the story of the Savior's birth.
- † **Christmas Day Service.** Christmas Day Service will be held on Thursday, December 25th beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will be broadcast on KBUK Radio (104.9 FM) from LaGrange. Our thanks to Paige Tractors for sponsoring this broadcast.
- † **Christmas Trees.** The Christmas Trees are donated in memory of Hattie Mutschink and Jack Jones by the Jones family.
- † **Thank You.** Thank you to the LAF for setting up and decorating the Christmas trees, and to the LYF for setting up the manger scene in front of the church.
- † **Thank you** to all who purchased poinsettias and the ladies of the LWML for beautifying the sanctuary by arranging the Poinsettias. If you would like, you may leave your poinsettias in the Church until January 1, 2026, otherwise you may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Day Service and check your name off the list.
- † **Immanuel Lutheran-Giddings** is seeking to hire a church secretary. This full-time, front office position attends to visitors, fields phone calls, and handles various administrative duties. Experience working in an office and/or administrative setting is strongly preferred but not required. Please contact Candice Hahn in the church office for a copy of the job description and to submit a resume/application, chahn@ilgtx.com.
- † **2026 Offering Envelopes.** The 2026 adult offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the church office meeting room. The 2026 children offering envelopes were sent home with the children on Friday. **Please continue to use the 2025 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 2025 church year, please give this before the New Year's Day service. If you failed to receive your 2026 envelopes or have any questions, please contact the church office.
- † **Give the gift of Financial Peace** – Ever feel like you can't get ahead with money? You're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people feel this way. But there's hope – with a Financial Peace University class! Over nine weeks, you'll learn biblical principles for handling money that will give you peace with your finances. Pastor and Mandy Kaspar will facilitate the course at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, located at 800 N. Franklin St in La Grange, starting Thursday, January 15, 2026. Cost is \$99 per family, and there is space for nine couples (18 individuals). Please sign up by January 5 either by calling the church office at 979-968-3938 or by emailing secretary@mtcalvary-lcms.org. This is a gift that will enrich your lives now and in the future!
- † **Aluminum Cans:** Need somewhere to take your aluminum cans? There is a drop-off trailer by the pasture gate for anyone who would like to drop off their aluminum cans to be recycled. All money raised from the recycled cans will go to the Building Fund. We sold the cans this past week and raised another \$96.00. for the Building Fund. Total given to the Restoration/Building fund is \$4,568.60.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 28th, **"Get Ready for the Best"**. Guest Speaker: Rev. German Novelli Oliveros. Christ will return-maybe this year, maybe even today! Pastor German Novelli helps us to prepare for the blessings and challenges of a new year. Luke 12:36-37. 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 w/Communion– 8:30 a.m.**
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Mon. – Fri. No School – Christmas Vacation

Wed-Thurs ECC Closed -Christmas Vacation

Wednesday **Christmas Eve Worship Service – 6:00 p.m.**
Acolytes: Max Sommerfield and Nicholas Taylor

Thursday **English/German Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.**
Acolytes: Dylan Arldt and Madilyn Kalbas
Greeter: Pam Krause

Next Sunday **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Nathen Barnett and Max Faske
Greeter: Deanna Miertschin
Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.

Birthdays: Today – Michelle Birnbaum; 22nd – Scott Jones, John Weiser; 23rd – Daniel Schulze; 24th – Krista Jatzlau, Vic Lohbert; 25th – Ruby Schulze; 27th – Blakelee Jacobs, Luke Adair. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Midweek Advent (12-10-2025)- 124, Morning Worship- 217, Bible Class- 22;
Sunday School- 24. Offering- \$21.62.

Offering Last Week: \$28,604.49

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$12,160.66	Mission	\$304.75
Thanksgiving	\$30.00	Mission Total	\$304.75
Advent	\$2,414.00	Savings/Other:	
Sunday School	\$24.00	Building Fund	\$96.00
Lunch Room	\$2,372.00	Savings/Other Total	\$96.00
ECC Operating	\$5,147.70		
Thrivent	\$449.00	Total	\$28,604.49
Tuition	\$5,606.38		
Received 12/14/2025	\$28,203.74		
Est. needed per week	\$31,870.00		
Received MTD	\$75,532.07		
Est. needed per month	\$138,103.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Glenroy Ebner by Arthur & LaVerne Urban – \$100.00. In memory of Phillip Procell by James & Kathy Kalbas - \$100.00. In memory of June Ray by Doris Fritsche - \$15.00

Serving today: Elders– Michael Krause and Tim Weise

Organist- Susan Michael

Acolytes- James Miertschin and Whitlee Smolik

Head Ushers- Donald Becker

Captain- Troy Menzel Assistant- Mark Jones

Ushers- Cooper Hinze, John Hinze, Scott Jones,
Russell Kappler, Brooks Kasper, Kaden Kasper,
Kyle Kasper, Ty Kasper, Clyde Schimank,
Troy Wiederhold

Counting and Posting offering this week:

Chairman-Glen Albrecht

Payton Oltmann, Tommy Miertschin, Cole Mertink

Life Thoughts in the Church Year:

December 21 – Advent 4

The birth of the King of Glory (Psalm 24:7) is surrounded by the messiness of human sin and intrigue (Matthew 1:18-25). As we rejoice that our Lord has taken on our human likeness with all its sin and pain, being “descended from David according to the flesh” (Romans 1:3), we can also rejoice that Jesus has sanctified every human life, even those born in circumstances which are surrounded by sin and pain.

2025 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
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

