

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor  
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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## The First Sunday after Christmas

29 December 2024

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### Welcome! *The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin and Death.*

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for “the redemption of Jerusalem” and “the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in “giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,” including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

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### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

*Jasmine Bailey-hospitalized*  
*Chris Birnbaum-recovering*  
*Delvin Boriack-recovering*  
*Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)*  
*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-recovering*  
*Janelle Mogonye-recovering (grandmother of Lindsey Hansen)*  
*Russell Richards-recovering*  
*Zelda Richards-recovering*  
*Lucille Schatte*  
*Glenn Teinert-recovering*  
*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 Fritsche*  
*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*

### 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– Worship Insert

Today we welcomed to God's people through the  
Sacrament of Holy Baptism  
**Adalynn Eileen Rodriguez**  
Adalynn is the daughter of Pablo and Krista Rodriguez  
Her Baptismal Sponsors are Erich Schmidt and Ann Stenquist

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in loving memory of Gertrude Fischer by her children and grandchildren.
- † **The Altar stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Adalynn's baptism by her family.
- † **Altar flowers** are need for Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to place flowers on any of these Sunday's, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- † **January Calendar.** The January Calendar is available from the ushers this morning and in the church office.
- † **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 the New Years service on January 1, 2025, otherwise you may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Day Service and check your name off the list.
- † **Annual Report.** Reports from various committees and organizations for our congregation's annual report are asked to be completed and turned in to the church office by January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- † **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 2<sup>nd</sup>** 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 **4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Life Through the Church Year:

### December 29 – Christmas I

The Old Testament ritual of redeeming firstborns clearly declares that the Lord lends us our children, but they belong to Him (Exodus 13:11-12). Little ones are gifts and privileges, not property, preferences, accessories or rights. The coming of Christ extends this designation to every neighbor, including those of advances age (Luke 2:25-26, 36-38). Let us not neglect to teach and admonish one another about it (Colossians 3:16).

**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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**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, “**In the Beginning Was Dialogue**”. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Do you need more faith? Then you need the Word. Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ. (John 1-1). 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.

**THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK**

Today **Song Service – 8:30 a.m.**  
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Mon. – Fri. No School – Christmas vacation

Tues. – Wed. ECC Closed

Tuesday **New Years Eve Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.**  
 Acolytes: Kylie Schmidt and Kelton Schulze  
 Greeter: Irene Hempel

Wednesday **New Years Day Worship Service w/Communion - 9:00 a.m.**  
 Acolytes: Kenzie Stewart and Max Sommerfield  
 Greeter: Joyce Hinze

Friday LYF Lock-in

Next Sunday **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**  
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
 Acolytes: Whitley Smolik and Dylan Arldt  
 Greeter: Lana Kaiser  
 Install Congregational Officers

**Birthdays: Today** – Kevin Kunkle; 30<sup>th</sup> – Allen Perry; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hudson Short; 4<sup>th</sup> – Wesley Clopton.  
 God’s Blessings to you.

**ST. PAUL NOTES:**

**Attendance Last Week:** Midweek Advent (12-18-2024)- 205, Morning Worship- 283, Bible Class- 19; Sunday School- 24, Visitors- 2, Offering- \$17.00.

**Offering Last Week:** \$25,738.87

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$11,538.12	Mission	\$284.00
Advent	\$1,590.00	Lutheran Hour	\$30.00
Sunday School	\$17.00	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$314.00</b>
Lunch Room	\$640.00	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
ECC Operating	\$6,323.25	School Fund	\$1,115.00
Tuition	\$4,014.00	Bus Replacement Fund	\$187.50
<b>Received 12/22/2024</b>	<b>\$24,122.37</b>	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$1,302.50</b>
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$29,635.00</b>	Total	\$25,738.87
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$153,707.35</b>		
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$128,417.00</b>		

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Annie Hempel and Judy Kalbas by Susan Michael - \$50.00. In memory of Judy Kalbas by Ted & Glenda Merz - \$25.00; by Pastor & Kathy Mumm - \$20.00; by George & Virginia Hernandez - \$50.00. **Tuition:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Darlene Oltmann - \$50.00; by Jerrell & Oranell Dunk - \$30.00; by Susan Cook - \$30.00; by Janet Oltmann - \$200.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Mark, Nicole, Wyatt & Dylan Arldt - \$30.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Willard & Marjorie Albrecht - \$25.00; by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Colbey Wright by Calvin & Ina Mitschke - \$100.00. **Texas Wendish Heritage Society:** In memory of Esther Namken, Dora Durenberger and Judy Kalbas by Milton & Geraldine Albrecht - \$60.00