

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor  
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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

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

## The Second Sunday after Christmas

4 January 2026

**Welcome! *The Lord Jesus Is Found in the Temple of His Church.*** The Lord Jesus “grew and became strong” (Luke 2:40); He “increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). As His body grew and developed, His mind also increased in knowledge and understanding. For as our brother in the flesh, that we might “have redemption through his blood” (Eph. 1:7), He lived by faith in the Word of His Father. Thus, He was catechized by His parents, who took Him up “to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover” (Luke 2:41); and when He was of age, He gave attention to the Holy Scriptures in His Father’s house (Luke 2:46, 49). Christ Jesus is still found in His Church, in “the word of truth, the gospel,” by which we are adopted by His Father and sealed with His Spirit (Eph. 1:5, 13). Thus do we gain “an understanding mind” to go about our vocations, discerning “between good and evil” (1 Kings 3:9). And so do we also go up to Jerusalem to stand “before the ark of the covenant of the Lord” (1 Kings 3:15), that is, in the Holy Communion of His body and blood.

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  
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-recovering (brother of Linda Oltmann)  
David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)  
Alton Weiser-recovering

John Boy Weiser-recovering  
Ruby Weiser-hospitalized

#### 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)

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 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

##### Those who mourn:

The family of Hildegard Krause  
The family of Wayne Volk (half-brother of Chelsea Wiederhold)

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**— Page 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 686, 410, 781 v. 1&2, 376, 384, 589, 725

Sermon Text: Ephesians 1:3-14

The Sermon: **“Blessed in Christ”**

✠ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God.

✠ **Altar flowers** are needed for Sunday, January 11, 18 and 25. If you would like to place flowers on any of those dates, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.

✠ **We express our sympathy** to the family of Hildegard Krause. She fell asleep in Jesus, Wednesday, December 31, 2025. Funeral services for Mrs. Krause were held here at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Saturday, January 3, 2026. May the Lord comfort the family with His word of promise

✠ **Trustees** will meet this Monday, January 5<sup>th</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 all Boards Meeting**— This Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. the church council and all boards will meet to set the agenda for the January 11<sup>th</sup> voters meeting. All congregational officers and board members are part of the church council.

✠ **Being Installed** today are the new Congregational Officers: Rusty Mertink – Chairman, Bradley Schmidt – Vice Chairman, Seth Kalbas – Secretary, Mark Jones – Board of Elders, Monroe Schatte, Jr. – Board of Elders, Josh Droegemueller – Board of Trustees, Scott Jones – Board of Trustees, Dan Marak – Board of Christian Education, Clint Oltmann – Board of Christian Education, Keff Claxton – Finance, Clay Mertink – Finance, Ethan Miertschin – Finance, Robert Zoch – Finance, Alan Kaiser – Picnic Committee – General, Russell Kappler – Picnic Committee – BBQ, Cody Mertink – Scholarship, Julie Kasper – Scholarship.

✠ **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 Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

✠ **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department:** The annual membership meeting and election of officers of the South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department is scheduled for Sunday, January 18<sup>st</sup> at the fire station in Northrup. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Meeting at 6:00 p.m. All area residents are encouraged to attend. Refreshments and a meal will be provided.

✠ **2026 Offering Envelopes.** There are still some 2026 offering envelopes in the church office meeting room. If you have not picked up your 2026 envelopes, please do so.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, **“Solidarity”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Solidarity is how Christians understand their relationship to Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus, the Son of God, went where we had gone so that we might go where He goes. Romans 6:5. 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 Thoughts in the Church Year:**

**January 4-Christmas II**

God used Joseph, who adopted Jesus as his own son (Luke 2:41), to care for our Lord as He (Jesus) mysteriously lived a perfectly human life as our substitute. Through Jesus, God has now adopted us as His own children and has promised us an eternal inheritance in His kingdom (Ephesians 1:5,11). Christians should be encouraged to likewise consider and promote adoption as a godly way to preserve and care for the lives of God’s precious children and bring them into His kingdom.

## THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	<b>Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. <b>Install Congregational Officers</b>
Monday	Staff Professional Development Day <b>No School</b> 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. Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m. Church Council, All Boards Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Next Sunday	<b>Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Nicholas Taylor and Dylan Arldt Greeter: Dorothy Schautschick Voters Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

**Birthdays: Today** – Wesley Clopton; 5<sup>th</sup> – Averie Miertschin, Marissa Ruiz; 7<sup>th</sup> – Dianna Noack, Carie Oltmann, Zelda Richrds; 8<sup>th</sup> – John Tate, Lynette Wiederhold; 9<sup>th</sup> – Sharon Claxton; 10<sup>th</sup> – Bobbie Krause. God's Blessings to you.

## ST. PAUL NOTES:

**Attendance Last Week:** Christmas Eve- 482, Christmas Day- 154, Morning Worship- 338, Bible Class- 28; Sunday School- 20, Visitors- 2, Offering- \$17.00.

**Offering Last Week:** \$33,445.77

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$22,894.09	Mission	\$2,115.75
Advent	\$5.00	Lutheran Hour	\$50.00
New Years Eve	\$100.00	Christmas Eve – LBW	\$1,760.62
Sunday School	\$17.00	Christmas Day - LSS	\$1,272.50
ECC Operating	\$1,797.70	Christmas Day – LBT	\$1,272.50
<b>Received (12/28/2025)</b>	<b>\$24,813.79</b>	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$6,471.37</b>
		<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$31,870.00</b>	School Fund	\$400.00
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$173,236.51</b>	Bus Replacement Func	\$1,760.61
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$138,103.00</b>	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$2,160.61</b>
		Total	\$33,445.77

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Phillip Procell, Jr. by Lil Robertson - \$30.00. In memory of Jasmine Bailey by Doug & Mary Jatzlau - \$500.00. In memory of Theresa Krause by William C. Krause & family - \$500.00. In memory of Carol June Wenke by Doris Fritsche - \$50.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Jane Ray by Leonard & Lucy Mitschke - \$50.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Melvin & Bonnie Menzel by Steven & Tammy Lehmann - \$200.00. In memory of M/M Walter Fischer, M/M Herman Menzel and Eugene Menzel by Steven & Tammy Lehmann - \$200.00. **Texas Wendish Heritage Society:** In memory of Carol Jurk, Roy Pharis, Jr., Jane Ray, Alice & Robert Miller by Milton & Geraldine Albrecht - \$100.00.

**Serving today:** **Elders**– Mike Krause and Tim Weise  
**Organist**- Susan Michael  
**Acolytes**- Nathen Barnett and Max Faske  
**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**- Mason Becker  
John Hinze, Philip Tharp, Chase Oltmann  
\* \* \* \* \*