#### **Scripture Readings**

Dec. 22	Fourth Sunday in Advent	Micah 5:2-5a	Psalm 80:1-7	Heb. 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45 (46-56)
Dec. 29	First Sunday after Christmas	Ex. 13:1-3a, 11- 15	Psalm 111	Col. 3:12-17	Luke 2:22-40
Jan. 5	The Epiphany of Our Lord (observed)	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15)	Eph. 3:1-12	Matt. 2:1-12

"Find Financial Peace: Join Our Upcoming Class!

Are you ready to take control of your money and transform your financial future? Our church is hosting Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, a life-changing course that teaches you how to save, pay off debt, budget, and build wealth—all from a biblical perspective.

Whether you're struggling to make ends meet, planning for retirement, or simply want to learn better money habits, this class is for you. Everyone from any age or stage of life will benefit from this course!

When: Starting January 19th, 3-5 PM,
- 9 weeks in a row
Where: Zion Lutheran Church, Linn Kansas
Cost: 75\$ for both a married couple or single person

Don't miss this opportunity to gain the tools and confidence to handle your finances wisely. Sign up today and start your journey to financial peace!

For more information or to register, contact Vicar Harding, <a href="mailto:Jacob.harding85@gmail.com">Jacob.harding85@gmail.com</a>

Space is limited—reserve your spot now!"

Saturday Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM

Family Education - 10:30 AM Christmas Program - 6:00 PM

Monday Newsletter Deadline - 4:00 PM

Wednesday Bulletin Deadline - Noon

Advent Services - 12:05 PM & 7:00 PM

Midweek - 6:00 PM

Next Saturday Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
Next Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM

Family Education - 10:30 AM

### Welcome

to

#### St. Paul Lutheran Church

816 9th Street Clay Center, KS 67432 E-mail: spluther@sbcglobal.net www.claycenterlutheran.com

Phone: 785-632-5301

REV. PAUL TESSARO, SENIOR PASTOR 785-630-0751

"A Place of Grace, A Source of Hope, A Mission of Mercy!"
For 136 years!!!
OUR MISSION

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"Existing in God's love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the Gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service."

## December 14 & 15, 2024 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).

RADIO BROADCAST this week is sponsored by Troy & DeeDee Anderson - In Celebration of Wedding Anniversary.

The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$40.00.

A book is in the Narthex to sign-up for dates.

**WELCOME** to our guests and congregation! We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship and please feel free to join us again!

# Third Sunday in Advent Hymn #s - 803, 345, 549, 621, 543, 556, 921 SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Organist Sat. Connie Paronto/Sun. Nola Schmale Ushers Tim Burger, Dave Jermark, Deron Rosenow

Greeters Jerry & Betty Siebold Live Stream Jarrett Wachsnicht

**Acolyte** Charlotte Hevelone, Aubrey Pfizenmaier

**Communion Assistant** Wes Wright, Enrique Torjesen

Altar Guild Kristi Hager, Kelly Holte, Maria Pfizenmaier, Heather Schmale,

Jess Wohler, Kristin Wright

**Fellowship Host** Caleb & Kristi Davis

#### FAMILY EDUCATION - 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Preschool - Kindergarten - meet in Preschool Room (Basement)

1st Grade - 3rd Grade - meet in Library Room (West Wing)

4th Grade - 6th Grade - meet in Room 11 (West Wing)

**7th Grade - 8th Grade** - meet in Conference Room (West Wing)

9th Grade - 12th Grade - meet in High School Room (Basement)

Adult - meet in Fellowship Hall (Basement)

Weekly Attendance	Sat	Sun	Total
November 30 & December 1	32	127	159
December 4 - Advent Services			70
December 7 & 8	20	126	146

Family Education Attendance	Total
December 1	39
December 8	43

#### 2024 Poinsettia Order

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to provide a Poinsettia in memory or honor of someone you love or a special occasion.

The cost of the plant is \$12.00.

Christmas Program - Sunday, December 15 @ 6:00 PM
The program will also be streamed on Facebook live for those who cannot attend and wish to watch. Refreshments available after the program in the Fellowship Hall. If families have time & are able to prepare a light treat to bring to share in the fellowship that would be great.

Looking for volunteers to sign-up to do Fellowship Host on Sunday Mornings. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to volunteer. Any questions talk to Gene Ferguson or Pastor Tessaro.

Thank you!

## IN OUR PRAYERS Congregational Members

Remembering our shut-ins: Bonnie VonLehe-Advena, Irma Burger, Georgie Dierking-Presbyterian Manor; Betty Sump-Leonardville Nursing Home; Julie Hillman-Linn Nursing Home; Cedric Pfaff-Well Springs of West-moreland; Bob Bauer, Lola Lehman-Liberty Place; Pauline Burger-Legend; Larry Ernsting -Topeka VA.

**Health concerns:** Mary Ann Mall, Kayla Wang, Dottie Scripter, Gary & Sharon Wachsnicht, Mary Brown, Dena Hillman, Kinsey Hillman, Loyde Hager, Mark & Janet Thurlow, and Larry Rakowsky.

**Our outreach programs:** Small Group Ministry, Christian Preschool at St. Paul, Radio Ministry, LWML Friendship Circle, and our Youth groups.

#### **Larger Community Members**

Healing: Jill Sanneman, Keith Hageman, Gary Voelker, Greg Baehr, Jackie Monroe, Arnold Pittenger, Hank Stellner, Sandy Abeldt, Taylor, Arnie, William, Steve, Mike Dunn, Sandy Larkey, Irene Bane, John Zeller, Rev. Greg DuBois, Melissa Martin, Benjamin Willroth, Brian, Jennifer Zimmerman, Gail Thomas, Sharon Schweitzer, Lois Nash, Lee, Melissa Dunn, Darlene Miller, Darla Wilder, Rachelle Smith, Joe Parrlli, Taylor James, Sheila McGrew, Donald, Sandy Wohler, Grant & Grace Goodin, Connie Winter, Kerri Brown, Ethan, Luke, and Ella Turner

**Military:** Kyle, Enrique, Liam, Cooper, Michael, and Evan.

#### **REMINDER!!!!!**

Offerings for 2024 must be received on or before the last service of the year, (December 31) for 2024.

A contribution received after that date is counted as a contribution for 2025 for income tax purposes, even if the check was written in 2024.

#### Mission Efforts beyond St. Paul

Hope House; LeadaChild; For the Sake of the Church; Lutheran Bible Translators; Lutheran Heritage Foundation; KansaSEED Deaf Ministry; Lutheran Hour Ministries; North Central Kansas LCMS Outreach

<u>Please remember to inform the church office</u> <u>when the person for whom you requested</u> prayer should be removed from the prayer

We are looking for sponsors for the Radio Broadcast for the year 2025. Please see the sign-up book located in the Narthex to choose your week to sponsor for the cost of \$40. You can sponsor in celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of someone or something special in your life to give thanks to God!

Oraan Fundraiser Due to failure of 1 of the 2 keyboards (the upper swell keyboard), our organ console will need repairs or replacement in the immediate future. The organ has been inspected and options and quotes are expected in January. To start raising funds for the organ, our organists have challenged each member to contribute \$1.00 (or more) this Christmas season for each year of life God has blessed you with. Make your checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran organ fund and put them in the offering plate or drop them by the office.