

## Scripture Readings

Dec 28	First Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 63:7-14	Psalms 111	Gal. 4:4-7	Matt. 2:13-23
Jan 4	The Epiphany of Our Lord (observed)	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalms 72:1-11 (12-15)	Eph. 3:1-12	Matt. 2:1-12
Jan 11	The Baptism of Our Lord	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalms 29	Rom. 6:1-11	Matt. 3:13-17

### MATCHING FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING PROJECT

Matching funds up to \$500,000 are available for all contributions made through January 19, 2026, towards the building project approved by the congregation on October 19, 2025. These funds are being generously contributed by one of our church families with confidence that St. Paul's will continue to proclaim the Gospel of Christ with faithfulness for future generations.

If you have any questions or would like to visit with a committee member, please contact the office or you may contact any of the building committee members: Brett Ohlde, Mike Holte, Donna Jordan, T.R. Reiner, Linda Underwood, Garry Stenzel or John Bosch.

All contributions made towards the building project should include a notation for "New Building Fund."

### This Week's Schedule - December 20 through December 28

<b>Saturday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
<b>Sunday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Bulletin Deadline - Noon</b> Christmas Eve Service - 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Office Closed</b> Christmas Day Service - 10:00 AM
<b>Next Saturday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
<b>Next Sunday</b>	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

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

REV. MATTHEW VATTHAUER,  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR 817-917-6288

"A Place of Grace, A Source of Hope, A Mission of Mercy!"

For 137 years!!!

OUR MISSION

"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 20 & 21, 2025

**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.

**RADIO BROADCAST** this week is sponsored by Raymond Carlson Family.

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!

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**Hymn #s - 343, 357, 348, 336, 335, 332, 810**  
**SERVING THIS WEEKEND**

**Organist** Sat. Connie Paronto/Sun. Connie Paronto  
**Ushers** Jerry Siebold, Allan Schmale, Ethan Schuette  
**Greeters** Addy Pladson, Maizy Gurney, Isabel Mesalles  
**Live Stream** Jarrett Wachsnicht  
**Acolyte** Isabel Mesalles, Aubrey Pfizenmaier  
**Communion Assistant** Wes Wright  
**Altar Guild** Kristin Wright, Jess Wohler, Heather Schmale, Maria Pfizenmaier, Kristi Hager  
**Fellowship Host** Carrie Lane

**FAMILY EDUCATION - 10:30 AM - 11:30 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
<b>December 6 &amp; 7</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>December 10 - Advent</b>			<b>97</b>
<b>December 13 &amp; 14</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>December 17 - Advent</b>			<b>93</b>

Family Education Attendance	Total
<b>December 7</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>46</b>

**REMINDER!!!!**

Offerings for 2025 must be received on or before the last service of the year, (December 31) for 2025. A contribution received after that date is counted as a contribution for 2026 for income tax purposes, even if the check was written in 2025.

Join us for a beloved Christmas tradition! Beginning with the procession and followed by the party with food, drink, music, and piñatas! Where: Zion Lutheran Church, 210 Church Street, Linn KS 66953 When: Sunday, December 21 starting at 6:00pm Email: zionoffice@bluevalley.net Phone: 785-348-5332

**Friendship Circle** will be collecting Mites for Missions on Sunday, January 4

**IN OUR PRAYERS**  
**Congregational Members**

**Remembering our shut-ins:** Bonnie VonLehe-Wakefield Care/Rehab, Georgie Dierking, Larry Rakowsky -Presbyterian Manor; Julie Hillman-Linn Nursing Home; Cedric Pfaff-Well Springs of Westmoreland; Mary Ann Mall, Lola Lehman-Liberty Place; Pauline Burger-Legend; Larry Ernsting - Topeka VA.

**Health concerns:** Kristi Hager, Michelle Tessaro, Cody Hunter, Ron Schmale, Dalton Lehman, Kayla Wang, Raef Schuette, Larry Ernsting, Lyle Underwood, Nancy Kemp, Dwight Koch, Stan Ohlde, and Larry Rakowsky.

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

**Larger Community Members**

**Healing:** Jackie Hall, Sarah Tessaro, Ron Baehr, Ryan Withee, Bobbie Holz, Emmitt Budy, Dee Hilton, Malissa Milum, Rev. David Grouner, Scott Trautwein, Gary Hilton, Donna Watson, Ron McDaniels, Micah Helms, Addie Voelker, Ann Huninghake, Arnold Pittenger, Mike Dunn, Sandy Larkey, Irene Bane, John Zeller, Rev. Greg DuBois, Melissa Martin, Benjamin Willroth, Jennifer Zimmerman, Gail Thomas, Lois Nash, Melissa Dunn, Darlene Miller, Darla Wilder, Rachelle Smith, Joe Parlli, Sheila McGrew, Grant & Grace Goodin, Connie Winter, and Kerri Brown

**Military:** Kyle, Enrique, and Cooper.

Thank you to the kind & generous person who blessed me with an anonymous Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness truly means more than you know. Your kindness has been a true blessing. Sincerely, Kristi Hager

**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

**Please remember to inform the church office when the person for whom you requested prayer should be removed from the prayer**

**Installation of Board Members & Officers will be January 3 & 4, 2026 during worship!**

**An all Boards and Officers retreat is scheduled for January 10, 2026!**

**All members of all boards** should attend this important event. We will be making action plans for 2026 and beyond. This group will also make a 2026 schedule of church events.

Meeting at the Church to begin at 9:00 AM.

Lunch will be provided.

Please inform the church office if you will be **unable** to attend.

There will no Midweek Classes on December 24 or December 31. Midweek will start back up for the 2nd semester on January 7th with a meal at 5:30pm.

If your child/children didn't participate with the meal during 1st semester & would like to be included starting in January, please contact the office to let them know. Thank you & Merry Christmas!