

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine

(LCMS)

First Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Divine Service

9:30 AM

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Administrative Coordinator: Sheryl Kim

Office: 10-2 M-F; 949-599-4760

Website: www.saintpaulsirvine.com

Email: office@saintpaulsirvine.com

Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus

16355 Laguna Canyon Rd

Irvine, CA 92618

Mission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have command you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Vision: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42

Sunday's Starting January 14th:

Divine Service	9:30 am
Fellowship	10:40 am (café)
Bible Class	11:00 am
Individual Confession & Absolution	2:30 pm
Divine Service	4:00 pm

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Vision: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Acts 2:42

Welcome to Saint Paul’s!

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacrament. We follow the ancient liturgy because it is based on God’s Word. Its reverence leads us to acknowledge that the Lord is not a God of confusion (1 Cor 14:33). We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins as He teaches in 1 Corinthians 11, Matthew 26:28, et al. Saint Paul’s was established in Laguna Beach in 1947 and restarted at Crean Lutheran High School in 2011. We rejoice in our new home here at Concordia University -- Spectrum campus (started worshipping here on Sunday, August 20th, 2023). We now have offices and a 24/7 homebase! We are glad you're here as the Lord has led us to offer more services. We are excited about what the Lord is doing here at St. Paul's and it is our great joy to serve you! In Your Service and To Christ's Glory, Pastor Espinosa

This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News: God forgives you all your sins, gives you eternal life, and abundant life now led by Him ***all on account of Jesus Christ by grace through faith in Jesus!*** To know Jesus as your Savior is to be delivered from sin, death, and the power of the devil. God is FOR YOU in and through Jesus Christ! Please read Luke 24:47, John 3:16, John 1:29, John 6:51, 1 John 1:7, 1 John 2:2, Matthew 11:28, Romans 11:32, 2 Peter 3:9, Romans 10:12, Romans 3:22, and John 6:40. This service brings the life-giving Word and Sacraments of Jesus to you so that your saving faith in this Gospel would be fed and nourished! Welcome!

THE LORD'S SUPPER is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors**. If the pastor does not see you holding an individual cup, he will present the blood of Christ to you in the chalice (common cup).

Prayer Before Divine Service:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth. I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

**A Nativity Suite
Wilbur Held**

Greeting: --Psalm 111:9

P: "He sent redemption to his people;"

C: "**HE HAS COMMANDED HIS COVENANT FOREVER.**"

All: "**HOLY AND AWESOME IS HIS NAME!**"

Confession and Absolution

374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859–1933

Tune: Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae, 1582, Griefswald

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

387 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

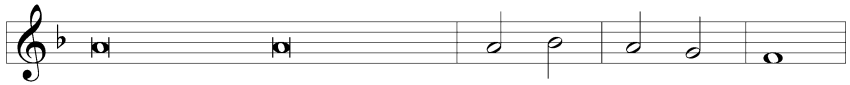
Gloria in Excelsis



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



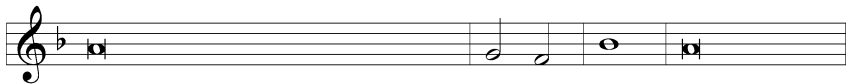
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



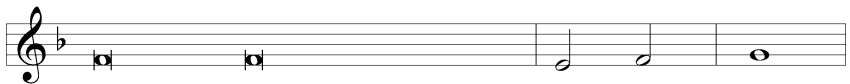
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful
 headdress,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to sprout up before all the nations.
¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
 and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
 until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
 and her salvation as a burning torch.
²The nations shall see your righteousness,
 and all the kings your glory,
 and you shall be called by a new name
 that the mouth of the LORD will give.
³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
 and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

368 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
 Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.

Text and tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

Epistle Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,

⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant^e depart in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation
³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and

to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life T everlasting. Amen**

Sit

Children's message

389 Let All Together Praise Our God

sts. 1-4, 7



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
 △ 7 Your grace in low - li - ness re - vealed, Lord Je - sus,



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
 we a - dore And praise to God the Fa - ther yield And



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
 Spir - it ev - er - more; We praise You ev - er - more.

Text (sts. 1, 3-4, 7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Text (sts. 1, 3-4, 7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000405

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

Sermon "Appointed Child" Pastor Espinosa

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

- L In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**

- L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Announcements

+Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

[1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs the church that pastors are stewards of the mysteries (1st Cor 4:1) and that they are only to serve those who share a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and are not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor is glad to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament of Christ's true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Thank you.]

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

P Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

C **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

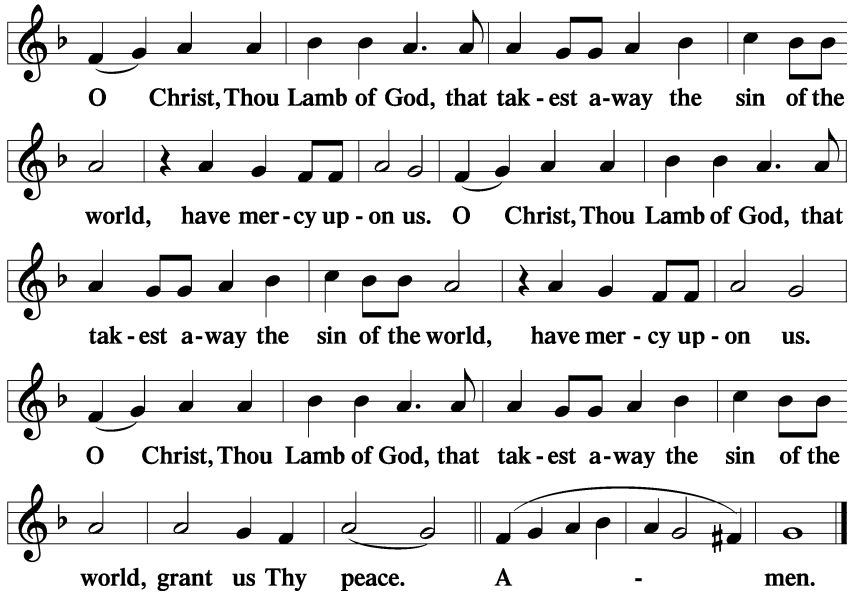
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My I bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My I blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.

C **Amen.**

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

sts. 1, ref, 2-4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God In the high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.

Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786

Text and tune: Public domain

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47

Text and tune: Public domain

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
 Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty
 Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
 May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.

Tune: German, 14th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

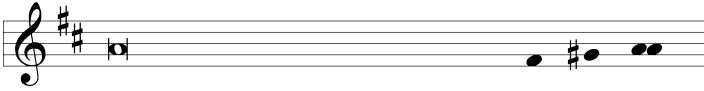
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

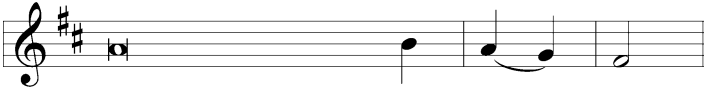
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

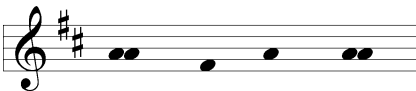
Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



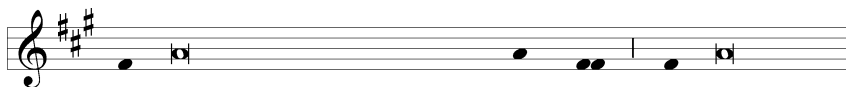
A Bless we the Lord.



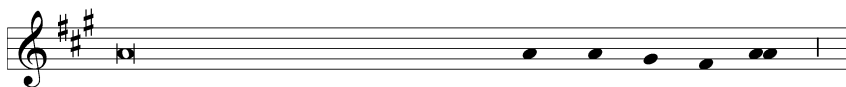
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

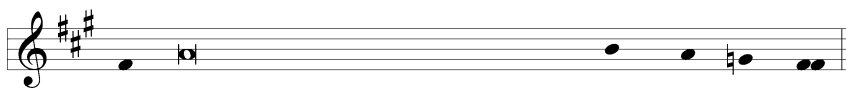
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness
--JS Bach

**Worship Attendance Form
For Members & Guests:**

(or you may fill out an attendance card at the entrance table. GUESTS, please sign our guestbook at the entrance table.)



Offerings may be placed in the box on the entrance table on your way out. (Guests, please note that offerings are always voluntary. We are glad you joined us today!)



Upcoming New Services

Pastor Espinosa is preaching at the installation for church son, Rev. Dr. Steve Parks, becoming the new regular pastor at Hope Lutheran Church, 1041 E. Foothill Blvd., Glendora. This service is on Sunday, January 7th at 2 pm. All are invited.

First NEW Sunday early evening service at 4 pm:

January 14th, 2024

Special Service Offerings



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

We are meeting during the school year every second and fourth Saturday at 4pm.

For any questions or information, please contact:

Shane Perry at (949) 400-6426

or shaneperryca@gmail.com

Instagram: @lamplight_youngadults

Invitation:

High School Youth: We are coordinating with four other LC-MS congregations in the area to go to the Higher Things retreat at First Lutheran Church -- El Cajon (San Diego) January 12-13. I will drive my van leaving the church parking lot at 1:30 pm. The theme is "Masks of God." Registration is \$40 and the retreat ends on Saturday at 2 pm. We need to register everyone going at <https://higherthings.org/events/retreats/>

I will drive our youth back (with the assistance of another chaperone and get back to the church parking lot at about 4 pm on Saturday, January 13th. Please speak to me if you have any questions. In Your Service and To Christ's Glory, Pastor Espinosa

Average Sunday Attendance 2023

(Averages include those who registered online attendance)

January: 71	June: 77	November: 80
February: 78	July: 82	
March: 82	August: 98	
April: 91	September: 81	
May: 83	October: 87	

Wednesday Night Services (live attendance only):

Thanksgiving Eve, November 22nd: 37

Advent 1 December 6th: 35

Advent 2, December 13th: 26

Advent 3, December 20th: 27

Teaching Service, December 27th: 24

**Last week, Sunday, December 24 9:30 am: 65 in person/
7 online**

Christmas Eve December 24 7:00 pm: 75 in person/9 online.

Christmas Day December 25, 9:30 am: 52 in person/ 4 online

Education:

This Wednesday January 3rd, Teaching Service (Service of Prayer and Preaching): Romans chapter 2. Invite a friend. These are perfect services to bring friends for sharing the Gospel and learning Holy Scripture. **7 pm right here!**

Sunday Adult Bible Class: "Journey Through God's Word"
Sunday Bible Study: **TODAY (12/31)-** Colossians!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation/Instruction Preparing for the Reception of the Holy Sacrament: Pastor has just commenced a new adult confirmation course and is meeting with a youth confirmation class (ages 11-14). Adults and children may join us. Please speak to Pastor Espinosa if interested

LIGHT OF THE WORLD PODCAST

Please check out our latest episode, Season 2, Episode 7 on Atheism. You can access our podcast on YouTube, Apple, Spotify, Amazon, or Audible.

Join us online:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaintPaulsIrvine YouTube: www.youtube.com/SaintPaulsIrvine



New Website; is now accessible through Saintpaulsirvine.com

New Website Brochure; is now available on the welcome table and Pastor will be distributing today. Thanks to Shane Perry for his artistic design

BUILDING FUND

Total Donations as of December 10: \$115,076

Total Expenditures as of December 10: \$63,212

In the coming months, many more expenditures will be on the way. These funds will support the installation of stained glass, lighting, ceiling tiles, a new altar, and more. Donations to our building fund are still very much needed and appreciated.

To donate to our building fund:

Text dollar amount to (844) 794-2206 (*specify building fund*)

Online at www.saintpaulsirvine.com/online-giving (select "Building Fund") *Note: Works best with Chrome or Explorer.*
Check (please write "building fund" in the memo)
Cash (marked envelopes provided on the entrance table)

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

Date	Altar Team	Ushers/ Greeters	Elders on Duty	Entrance Area	Livestream
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Laura Hendricks</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
Sunday 12/31	Mei Kuntz		Mike Padilla/Mark Kuntz	Kui Geisler	
Sunday 1/7/24	Nina Mueller/Myra Taylor	Alex Padilla	Bruce Dannemeyer/ Karl Blanke	Laura Hendricks	Jon Steele
Sunday 1/14/24	Elizabeth Brothwell/Mei Kuntz	Shane & Nathan Perry	Steve Fischer/Brad Perry	Laura Hendricks	Jim J
Sunday 1/21/24	Ali Frank/ Laura Miller	Bill Frank/Ed Miller	Mark Kuntz/Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Shane Perry

Fellowship Rotation

Sunday 12/31	Angela Perry	
Sunday 1/7/24	Liana Padilla	
Sunday 1/14/24	Angela Perry	
Sunday 1/21/24	Jeannette Dahlin	

Please pray for our Missionaries...

St. Paul's is helping to support these missionaries with financial gifts to the national synod annually:

Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad

Serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic

Rev. Dr. John and Melinda Bombaro

Serving the Lord in the Czech Republic • Theological Educator

Erin Mackenzie

Serving the Lord in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Mark Winterstein

Serving the Lord in Germany — Refugee Outreach Missionary



St. Paul's has formed friendships with these missionaries and are not currently supporting them financially:

Tirzah Krey, Regional Human Care Coordinator

Serving the Lord in the Latin America and Caribbean Region

Britt Odemba

Serving the Lord in Kenya

Rev. Dr. Tom Park

Serving the Lord in Taiwan

St. Paul's also supports our local evangelist Rev. Mark Jasa.

Please pray for our Church Leaders...

Our Parish Council members and Elders are so appreciated. Please pray that God grant them strength and bless their ministry to our church:

St. Paul's Parish Council Members

Debbie Dannemeyer – President

Matt Bures – Secretary

Ken Mott – Treasurer

Laura Miller – Financial Secretary

Steve Fischer – Trustee

Paul Fick- Stewardship

Mark Kuntz – Presiding Elder

Angela Perry – Fellowship Director

Bradley Hustad – Evangelism Director

Kate Panichi – Education Director

Danielle Vergara – Youth Director

St. Paul's Elders: Mark Kuntz (Presiding Elder), Brad Perry, Bruce Dannemeyer, Bryan Kilduff, John Church, Jon Steele, Karl Blanke, Michael Padilla, Steve Fischer



New Announcements:

Congregational Voters Meeting

January 14, 2024

Following the Worship Service

Purpose: 2024 Budget Approval

January 20, 2024 next Elder meeting!