

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine

(LCMS)

Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Divine Service

9:30 AM

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

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

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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

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 Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship

emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus said, "And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'" (Matthew 26:27-28). 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 13th, 2023). We now have offices and a 24/7 home base! We are glad you're here as the Lord has led us to offer more services to our members and our local communities. 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

The Holy Sacrament 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.**

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: **Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring**
--JS Bach

Greeting:

P: May the Lord give strength to his people!

C: May the Lord bless his people with peace! -- Psalm 29:11

Confession and Absolution

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our

unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

- C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap - tized
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap - tized
 3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap - tized
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad - ness: I am bap - tized
 5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing To this life - long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:
 in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
 Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
 I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in
 E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



treas - ures man - y? I have one worth
 con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
 font I've trav - eled, All your might has
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance
 waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -
 did re - lease me In a dear for -
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your -
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



more than an - y That brought me sal -
 did re - lease me In a dear for -
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your -
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized

va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
 giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
 tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
 strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.
 in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957
 Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.
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Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Holy Gospel

Mark 1:4-11

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

- C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,**

**being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

404 Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered



1 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Had no blem - ish
 2 John con - fessed Him as the Sav - ior— "Look, the sin - less
 3 This the bap - tism that our Sav - ior Great - ly longed to
 4 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Full o - be - dience



of His own; In the wa - ters of the Jor - dan
 Lamb of God!" Yet he dared not loose the san - dals
 un - der - go; This the crim - son cleans - ing need - ed
 was Your path; You, by death, have con - se - crat - ed



His true worth and work were shown: Heav - en o - pened
 Of the One God's love had shod. Oh, how fair the
 So the world God's love might know; This the mis - sion
 Wa - ter in this sav - ing bath: Dy - ing to the



and the Spir - it There de - scend - ed like a
 feet of Je - sus, Bring - ing news of peace to
 of Mes - si - ah As He stepped from Jor - dan's
 sin of Ad - am, Ris - ing to a life of



dove, As the Fa - ther's voice re - sound - ed,
 us, Christ, the her - ald of sal - va - tion,
 stream, He, the cho - sen and a - noint - ed
 grace; We are count - ed with the righ - teous,



"Hear My Son, the One I love."
 Preach - ing mer - cy from the cross:
 Son of God, sent to re - deem.
 O - ver us the cross You trace.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: William B. Roberts, 1947

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Sermon

"Baptized into Christ" (Romans 6:1-11) Pastor Mueller

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For this congregation, its mission and its people; for the ability to meet the needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the educational institutions of our synod: for our preschools, our day schools and high schools, our colleges and universities, and for our seminaries, that those who teach and those who learn in them would be transformed by the wisdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood, that in their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life and have a foretaste of the feast to come, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the

performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who are sick (especially *[name]*), that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who mourn (especially *[name]*), that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Offering

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

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

LSB 208



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



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

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.**

407 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His Fa - ther's
2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him - self has
3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y word and
4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to us ex -



plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
 spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell
 won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
 tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
 And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His
 Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -
 Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
 Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.
 lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
 sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's op -
 God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while be -
 Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full - est
 That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find a



pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
 stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing,
 mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."
 dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.

5 To His disciples spoke the Lord,
 "Go out to ev'ry nation,
 And bring to them the living Word
 And this My invitation:
 Let ev'ryone abandon sin
 And come in true contrition
 To be baptized and thereby win
 Full pardon and remission
 And heav'nly bliss inherit."

6 But woe to those who cast aside
 This grace so freely given;
 They shall in sin and shame abide
 And to despair be driven.
 For born in sin, their works must fail,

Their striving saves them never;
Their pious acts do not avail,
And they are lost forever,
Eternal death their portion.

- 7 All that the mortal eye beholds
Is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds
The pow'r of Jesus' merit.
For here it sees the crimson flood
To all our ills bring healing;
The wonders of His precious blood
The love of God revealing,
Assuring His own pardon.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911–88, alt.

Tune: David Lee, 1956

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605 Father Welcomes

Refrain

The musical notation is written on two staves in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly'. The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,'.

Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,

Life for - ev - er has been won.

1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
 2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,
 3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly

is of these. Life and love I have to give,
 be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve
 rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,

Mer - cy for your sin.
 Shall be born a gain.
 Live in the peace of God.

Text and tune: Robin Mann, 1949

Text and tune: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000405

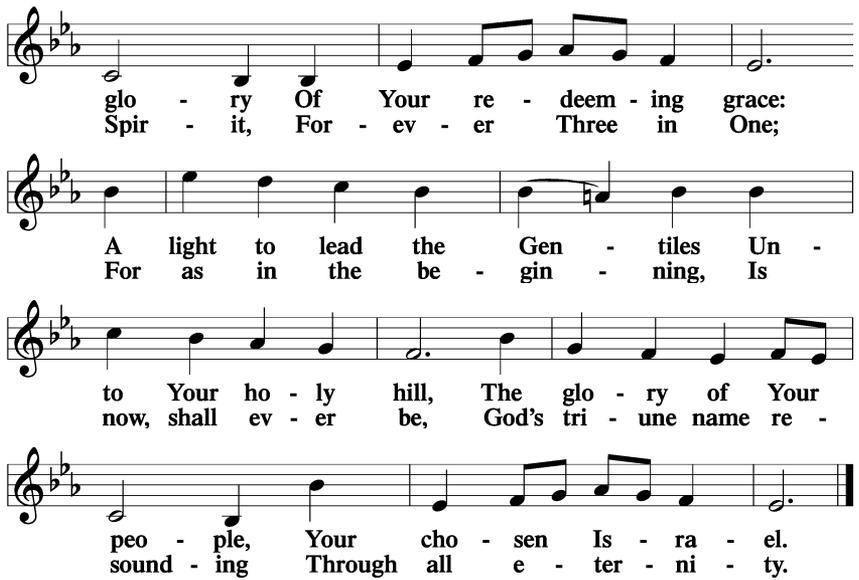
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

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 **Amen.**

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Postlude: "What Joy to Know" from *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* --Michael Burkhardt

What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
 The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
 Beyond all tears and sinning!
 Amen! Amen!
 Come, Lord Jesus!
 Crown of gladness!
 We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**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!)

You're Invited To Support One of Our Church Sons TODAY:

The Installation for Rev. Dr. Steve Parks is THIS AFTERNOON at 2 pm at Hope Lutheran Church, Glendora, 1041 E. Foothill Blvd., Glendora. All are invited. Pastor Parks is one of our church sons! Let's support him. Pastor Espinosa is preaching.

New Sunday Schedule Starting This Coming Sunday: We will continue offering our 9:30 am service and 11 am adult Bible study, but we are ADDING this Sunday, January 14th, individual confession and absolution starting at 2:30 pm. We will use the two-page service right out of our hymnal (pgs. 292-293). Where is this gift taught in God's Word? Answer: John 20:23, Luke 10:16, and Matthew 18:18. We conduct general confession and absolution within our services, but the service for individual confession and absolution is intended to address anything that is weighing on your conscience. The pastor is bound to complete confidentiality. On average the service lasts for about 10 minutes. It will be conducted in our sanctuary. Pastor sits between you and the altar. His ear towards you hears your confession; his ear towards the altar hears Christ's command to absolve you. Pastor will dress as you see him during Sunday services. If you come and see pastor with someone in the sanctuary, please wait in the hall before entering.

We are also starting the 4 pm service. The order of service with the Sacrament is the same as our 9:30 am service. We are offering more services to better serve the diversity of schedules among our congregants AND for those you invite to have more options for their convenience and ability to attend. Let us continue to be good stewards of our new sanctuary the Lord has graciously provided for us.



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

High School Event: We are leaving this Friday, January 12th at 1:30 from our church parking lot to attend the Higher Things Retreat in the San Diego area at First Lutheran Church, El Cajon. It's not too late to join. If you would like to join us, please speak to Pastor Espinosa. It's only \$40/person. Pastor is driving down in his van and has room!

Senior Pastor's Annual Report for 2023 is on the welcome table and has gone out via email. Please read this important update about St. Paul's!

Education:

This Wednesday January 10th, Teaching service (Service of Prayer and Preaching): Romans chapter 3. 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 (1/7)- Philemon!**

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

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 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: \$117,406

Total Expenditures as of December 10: \$66,658

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 1/7/24	Nina Mueller/Myra Taylor	Alex Padilla	Bruce Dannemeyer/ Karl Blanke	Laura Hendricks	Jim J.
Sunday 1/14/24	Elizabeth Brothwell/Mei Kuntz	Shane & Nathan Perry	Steve Fischer/Brad Perry	Laura Hendricks	Jon Steele
Sunday 1/21/24	Ali Frank/ Laura Miller	Bill Frank/Ed Miller	Mark Kuntz/Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Shane Perry
Sunday 1/28/24	Jeanette Dahlin/Ann Wright	Gary & Daisy Minter/ Barney Wright	John Church/Jon Steele	Ann Wright	Jon Steele

Fellowship Rotation

Sunday 1/7/24	Liana Padilla	
Sunday 1/14/24	Angela Perry	
Sunday 1/21/24	Jeannette Dahlin	
Sunday 1/28/24	Gary & Daisy Minter	

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



Congregational Voters Meeting

January 14, 2024

Following the Worship Service

Purpose: 2024 Budget Approval

January 20, 2024 next Elder meeting!