

# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, School, & Preschool (WELS)

922-1080 (office phone) 1010 Adams Ave., North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Pastor Michael Kampman, 238-5777  
Website: [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com)  
WLA Principal David Schroeder: 921-4930  
WELS Christian Family Counseling: 800-282-0561  
WELS Ministry of Christian Giving: 920-740-5899

Principal Aaron Hartwig, 7-8  
Joseph Loescher, 5-6  
Kristin Kampman, 3-4  
Rebecca Miller, 1-2  
Dawn Hinn, Kindergarten  
Abby Loescher, Preschool

Worship: Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:30pm and Sundays at 9:00am  
Online services and materials can be found weekly at [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com)

December 26/27, 2020

Christmas 1

**Order of Service:** Service Folder

**Sermon:** Colossians 3:12-17

**This Child Changes Everything!**

We are now God's people  
Striving to live for him  
Thankful for all he has done

## Welcome to St. Paul's!

- **Seating:** Please sit in the designated pews and observe safe spacing between families.
- **We have a t-coil hearing loop system** for those with hearing aids. We also have headsets to use without hearing aids. An usher can help if you have questions.
- **Service folders** are on stands near the sanctuary doors. These folders contain the entire service. *Please take it and the bulletin home with you.* Large print copies are available on the information center.
- Parents, please feel free to use the **child training room** to calm or feed small children.
- **Restrooms** are to the right as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Your offering** may be placed in baskets on stands near the door.
- After the service, please visit outside. Thank you!

**Ushers** this weekend are teams 7 (M. Hintz) and 9 (J. Laudolff). Next weekend (Jan 2/3) teams 10 and 12 (J. White) will usher. Ushering schedules for 2021 are now available in the narthex.

**God's Word this week:** Whether or not we had a "good Christmas," as some may ask us, today we hear the good news of God's grace over and over.

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**December 26, 2020 - January 3, 2021**

12/26	<b>Sat</b>	6:30pm	Worship
12/27	<b>Sun</b>	9:00am	Worship
12/31	<b>Thu</b>	6:30pm	New Year's Eve Worship with Communion
01/02	<b>Sat</b>	6:30pm	Worship with Communion
01/03	<b>Sun</b>	9:00am	Worship with Communion

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**Other worship opportunities:**

- Online at [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com) (Recorded services are available anytime or live-stream it at 9:00am Sundays.)
- WELS Sunday radio: AM1450 (FDL) and AM1280 (Appleton) at 8:00am; AM1430 (Beaver Dam) at 9:30am.
- WELS Sunday TV: *Time of Grace* on Green Bay NBC-26 at 6:30am and Milwaukee CBS-58 at 10:30am.

**Worship attendance:** Members and guests can sign up to attend worship at [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com) or call 922-1080. If you forget to sign up, please come anyway, but **please do sign up** for our special service on New Year's Eve (6:30pm).

**Worship** days and times will remain the same for the month of January: Thursday and Saturday at 6:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am.

**Divine Call:** *Pastor Alex Groth*, serving Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, continues to consider our call to serve here as associate pastor. Please keep him in your prayers.

**A New Year's Eve** service will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> with the Lord's Supper. Please register online or by calling the office: 922-1080. If you change your mind about attending, please "un-register" so that others may attend.

**Face coverings:** The Lord directs us to obey earthly authorities unless they require that we disobey God's commands (Rom. 13:1-5; Acts 5:29; 1 Peter 2:13-17). Please wear a mask while inside the building. Please also remember that some are exempt from wearing masks.

**Stewardship Moment:** “When Jesus enters our lives he gives us new goals and priorities. No longer does the selfishness that controls us need to dominate. With our best interest always at heart, his Spirit helps us dedicate ourselves and our possessions to the service of God and others. Instead of finding our sense of security and satisfaction in our house, car, clothing, occupation, or family, we can depend on Christ, and he will never fail us.” (*Managing Finances*, David Anderson, CPH, © 1994, p. 20)

**Offerings:** If you are not yet attending worship because of the pandemic, here are some options for sharing Christ’s good news with your offering:

- Send it to St. Paul’s Lutheran, 1010 Adams Ave., NFDL, 54937.
- Drop it off in the lock box post near the office/school entrance.
- Use Vanco electronic options, including your smart phone. Go to your phone’s app store under “Giving Plus.” Thank you!

**Envelopes for 2021** are available on the tables across from the mailboxes. Please don’t use them until 2021. After New Year’s Eve, please don’t use your 2020 envelopes anymore. Thank you!

**This is a good time** for us, individually, to extend a hearty thank you to our teachers at St. Paul’s School for their hard work and dedication throughout the course of the pandemic -- and always. With the exception of a mid-fall virus outbreak that was resolved as quickly as possible, we have been blessed to have in-person classes in our school. Please let our Christian educators know how grateful you are for everything they do. Especially keep them in your prayers of thanksgiving to God. These days present many new and unforeseen challenges, but our faculty rejoices in the privilege of sharing Christ’s gospel with our children and families.

**Last week’s gifts:** Current Fund-\$15,682.06; Missions-\$1,035; Improvement Fund-\$213; Mortgage Fund-\$2,973; Early Christmas-\$1,632; Early New Year’s-\$100; *Meditations*-\$165; St. Paul’s Student Aid-\$10; Organ/Piano Fund-\$250; Facilities Use Gift-\$150 (Electronic funds included in these gifts total \$5,460.49). Other Receipts: Extended Care-\$392.50. **Memorials:** to the Piano Fund in memory of David Wiener from Mark & Bonnie Wiener; to the Current Fund from Janet White in memory of her husband Jerry on the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of his going to heaven on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **In your Bible read: Luke 1:26-38**

*“You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus” (Luke 1:31).*

### **Rejoice that God Sent His Son**

When kids are little, they often want something right now, but often they just need to wait. One mom asked her impatient children, “What’s Grandma’s word?” They’d sigh and reply, “Patience.” And then they’d wait.

When you’re reading the book of Luke, the story of an angel appearing to Mary comes so close to the story of Jesus’ birth that it seems like Mary didn’t have to be patient. Actually, when the angel told Mary she’d have a baby, Mary had to wait about nine months until Jesus was born.

You want to know how long nine months is? That’s how long it’s been since COVID-19 began to shut down our country. How much have you done since then? School online or in person. You’ve played in the backyard, done puzzles, watched a lot of movies, read books, played basketball, listened to music, went to the beach, taken a walk. Maybe you even went on a small trip.

Nine months was a long time for Mary to patiently wait. But she waited, God kept his promise, and Jesus was born.

You know what? The truth is that people had to wait a whole lot longer than nine months for this baby. After Adam and Eve first sinned and God promised he’d send a Savior, believers waited 4,000+ years for the Savior to arrive. While they wanted the Savior right now, God was telling them, “Patience.” God knew when the time would be right to send the one who would save us from our sins.

He knew the exact right time to send Jesus to take our place, to live perfectly for us, to endure pain and suffering and death for us. Three days later he rose from the dead to defeat Satan—and give us the victory.

You know what else? We are still waiting for Jesus to come back again. At that time, Jesus will come to take us to heaven with him. Sometimes we want him to come right now, but God knows when the time is right.

So rejoice! Be happy! Be patient. God sent his Son once, and he will send him again.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Dear God, thank you for always acting when the time is right. Thank you for sending your Son the first time to save us from our sins. Give us patience while we wait for you to come again so that we can all live together in heaven.

*For more family devotions brought to you by WELS Discipleship, go to [www.WELS.net](http://www.WELS.net)*

### **Isaiah 45:20-25**

"Gather together and come; assemble, you fugitives from the nations. Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood, who pray to gods that cannot save. <sup>21</sup> Declare what is to be, present it -- let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. <sup>22</sup> "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. <sup>23</sup> By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. <sup>24</sup> They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone are righteousness and strength.'" All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame. <sup>25</sup> But in the LORD all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.

### **Colossians 3:12-17**

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. <sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **Luke 2:25-40**

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: <sup>29</sup> "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. <sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all people, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." <sup>33</sup> The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. <sup>38</sup> Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.