

December 10, 2023

8:00 AM

Second Sunday in Advent - Congregation Christmas Program

PEACE CAME TO EARTH

ADAPTED FOR

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, VALLEY CITY, OHIO

Opening Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379



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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 9:6

- P** For to us a child is born,
C to us a son is given;
P and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
C and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
P Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
C Prince of Peace.

Collect for the Day

- P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

Christmas Program:

- Reader 1: In the beginning, God created a perfect world filled with sparkling stars, majestic mountains, verdant valleys, and amazing animals. There was no sickness, no pain, and no death. The people God had made lived at peace with the animals, with each other, and with God. Then one day, the people were tempted to doubt God's Word and to question the gifts He had already given them. They disobeyed God and took what God had commanded them not to take, bringing sin into the world.
- Reader 2: When sin entered the perfect world God had made, perfect peace was lost. The man and woman hid from God and blamed each other and God for what they had done. Peace was replaced by shame and hurt and sickness and death. But God did not give up on the people He had made! He promised to send a Savior to bring back the peace that had been lost.

Reader 3: We read about God's first promise of a Savior in Genesis 3:15, when He spoke judgment on the serpent who had deceived Adam and Eve: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." The Savior would take upon Himself the punishment that man deserved. He would defeat sin, death, and Satan and restore the relationship between God and man.

Reader 4: Hundreds of years passed while God's people waited, sometimes wondering if God had forgotten the promise He had made in the Garden of Eden. But God had not forgotten. He sent prophets such as Isaiah to remind the people that He would one day fulfill His promise to restore peace. Isaiah prophesied about the promised Savior, saying, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Hymn: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God *LSB 389 sts. 1-2, 4, 6*



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
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
6 He is the key and He the door To bless - ed



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
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
par - a - dise; The an - gel bars the way no more. To



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
God our prais - es rise, To God our prais - es rise.

Text (sts. 1, 4, 6): 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, 4, 6): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522
Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

Reader 5: Malachi, the last prophet recorded in the Old Testament, foretold that God would send a messenger to prepare the way of the promised Savior. Four hundred years later, when John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, proclaimed these words about John, who was the messenger:

ANGEL: “And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:76–79).

Reader 5: The promised Prince of Peace was about to arrive! God sent an angel to Mary with the proclamation that she would be the mother of the Savior. The angel said to her:

ANGEL: “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end” (Luke 1:30–33).

Reader 5: God also sent an angel to proclaim this good news to Joseph. Matthew 1:20–23 tells us, “An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying:

ANGEL: ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel’ (which means, God with us).”

Solo: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Sarah Moser

Reader 6: The birth of Jesus Christ from Luke chapter 2: “In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn” (Luke 2:1–7).

Reader 7: “And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!’”
(Luke 2:8–14).

Choir: *To Hear the Angels Sing*

Reader 8: “When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.’ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them” (Luke 2:15–20).

Reader 9: The baby born in Bethlehem was the promised Prince of Peace, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, our Savior! God the Father sent His only Son into this world to live a perfect life in our place, die on the cross for our sins, and rise again to life, giving us the sure hope of eternal life. All who believe in Him shall have peace with God once more. Romans 5:1 declares, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Choir: ***This Peaceful Night***

Stand

Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

P A reading from Matthew, chapter 2.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reader 10: The shepherds couldn't keep the good news of the Savior to themselves. They returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard. The Wise Men also likely shared the story of the star that led them to the Savior-King. How beautiful it is when we share the Good News of the Savior, who brings peace to the world. Isaiah 52:7 tells us, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'"

Solo:

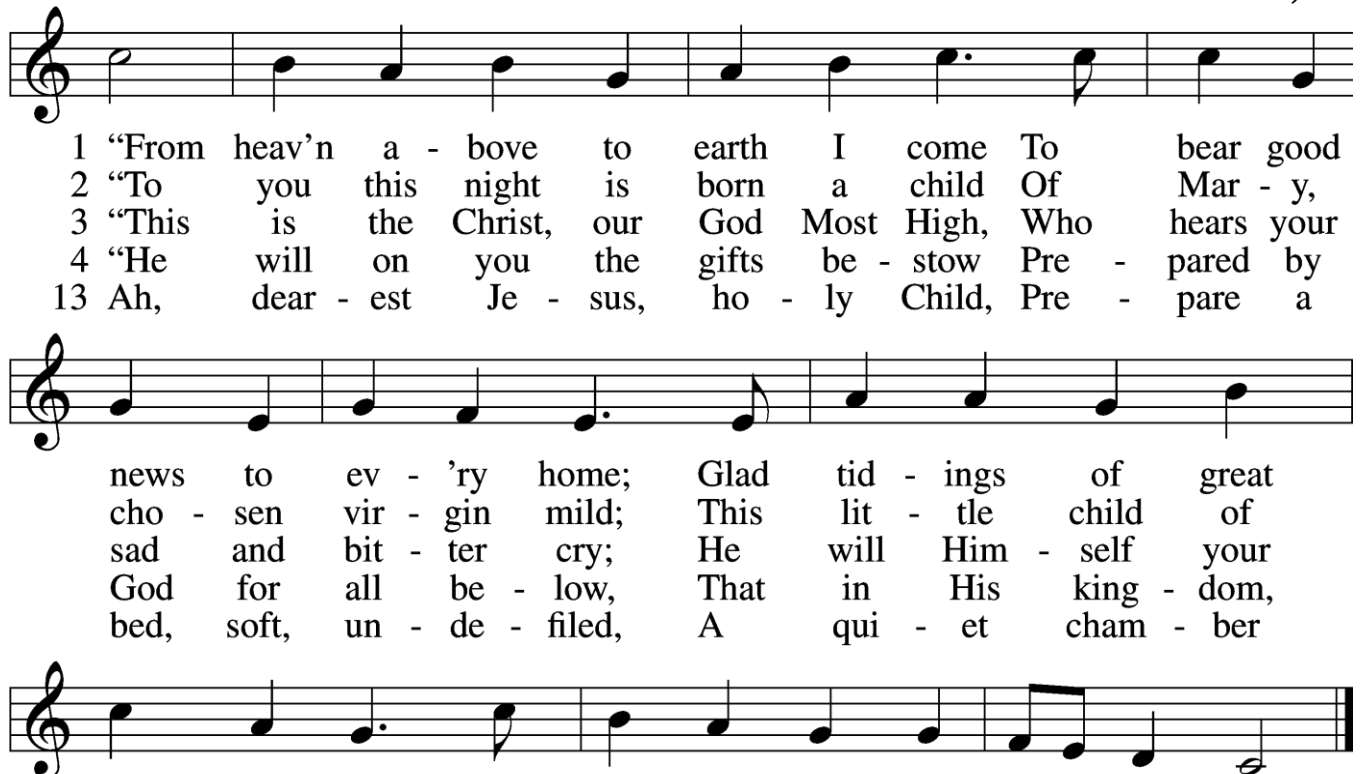
Shepherd's Lullaby

Audrey Harris

Announcements

Sermon Hymn: 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358 sts. 1-4, 13



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
 13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, Pre - pare a

news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,
 bed, soft, un - de - filed, A qui - et cham - ber

joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.
 set a - part For You to dwell with - in my heart.

Sermon

Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Solo:

Such a Gift

Trenna Tighe

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord's face would shine on us, that we may be saved; and that Christ would lead us in straight paths as He once led Joseph like a flock, bringing us out of the bondage of our sins and planting us securely in His eternal promises, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For diligent and faithful pastors, that like John the Forerunner, they would preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins and herald the Messiah, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For us and our fellow citizens, that God would preserve us from placing our trust in princes and mortal men who come and go like grass before His breath; for our nation, that God would give rulers who will rule after His good pleasure, keeping order and protecting life; and for godly quietness and honesty, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and sorrowing, that the Shepherd of Israel would give ear to their need [especially _____]; and for healing, courage and perseverance to all who cry out to God, that they may find comfort in His enduring Word and the certain hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Lord's patience and His Spirit, that when we have strayed from His commandments we may be drawn back to Him in repentance, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P In the memory of the saints before us who rest in the Lord's presence, and for the Church on earth awaiting the coming of Christ, that God would preserve us both until He gathers us to Himself in the new heavens and new earth in which righteousness dwells, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Benedicamus

Psalms 103:1

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P Joy to the world, the Son of God, our Savior, has come!
The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Joy to the Word

LSB 387



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
play, 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

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Christmas Program Rehearsal
Today	10:00 AM	Christmas Program
Today	11:30 AM - 4:00PM	Christmas in the Valley
Today		NO Walk-In Communion
Today	2:00 PM	LWML Christmas Family Tea
Monday	6:00 PM	Confirmation
Tuesday	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Elders
Wednesday	10:00 - 11:15 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Advent-2 Morning Worship
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Youth Group Soup Supper
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Advent-2 Evening Worship

ALTAR FLOWERS were placed in honor of Bob Schiemann's 80th birthday.

LITTLE JESUS, BORN FOR ME We have ordered more! And you may find them at the Welcome Center. Please help yourself.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL is today at 9:15 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Harris. Thank you!

ADVENT SOUP SUPPER is this Wednesday at 6:00 PM featuring the SPVC Youth Group who is cooking a special spaghetti dinner with a fun Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest! You are invited to bring desserts that night. Sign-up at the Welcome Center to bring your favorite holiday goodies. Thank you!

LWML CHRISTMAS TEA (Part of Christmas in the Valley Community Christmas at St. Paul) is today from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Guest Speaker: Ruth Pangrace will be portraying the character of Mary, Mother of Jesus.

YOUTH GROUP Grades 6-12 meet every other Wednesday here at SPVC at 6:30 PM.
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Questions? Please contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2024 Jan-March devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take a copy home today.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Join us on Thursdays starting January 4th, 2024 as we will meet in the church basement from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM for light lunch and playtime for kids! (Please bring your own lunch.) Kids of all ages are welcome. There is potential for this group to blossom into a homeschooling group, as we have several

homeschooling families at St. Paul! If you are interested in this or have any other questions, contact Sarah Moser.

PEACE CAME TO EARTH Advent Devotionals for adults are available in the Narthex hallway, please take one home today.

GENTLE REMINDER You are welcome to take home your Worship folders, otherwise, you may place all worship folders in the blue plastic tub in the Narthex Hallway. **We do recycle the black combs** for the Large Print bulletins. **(PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOUR USED TISSUES IN THIS TUB.)** Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your worship folders, filled out, or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

WIGGLE BAGS Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities kids may engage and participate in the worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that “big church” is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the “Used Wiggle Bag” plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" - you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app needs updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

“BREATH OF HEAVEN”

*Live Nativity Presentation
26th Anniversary*

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
15617 MASON ROAD, VERMILION

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9th & SUNDAY DECEMBER 10th
4:00 PM THROUGH 8:00 PM

Walk-through presentations approximately every 15 minutes



*Please join the members of St. Matthew, Bethany and
Grace Lutheran Churches as we share our 26th
presentation of “Breath of Heaven.”*

*It is our honor to share a portrayal of that Holy Night when
Jesus was born. The presentation is free to the public.*

*Please bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the
local food banks.*

Performances by the Firelands High School Select Choir.



SPVC
youth



Prizes for best
Adult Sweater
Youth Sweater (6-12)
Child Sweater (pK-5)

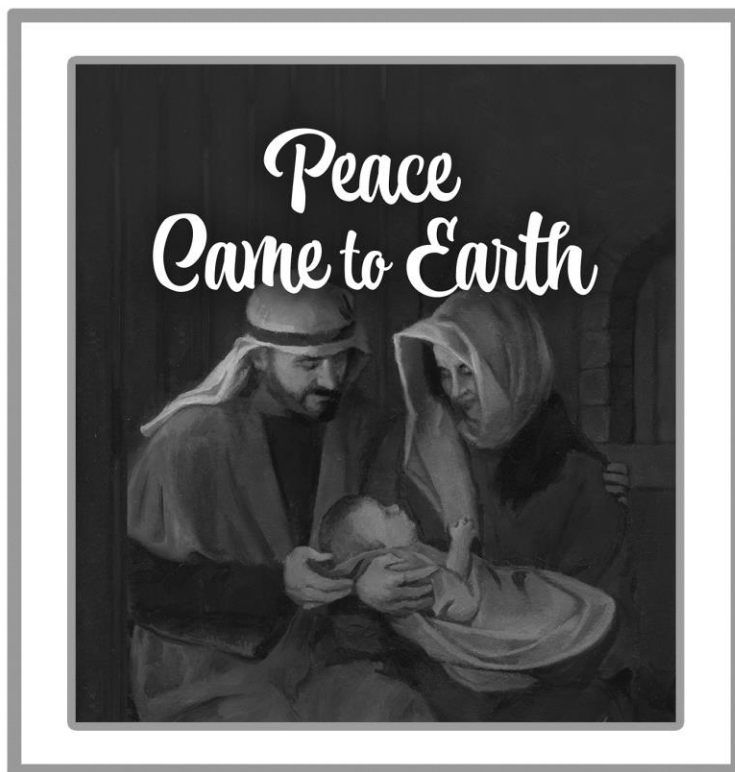
1st Annual Ugly Sweater Contest & Youth Supper

Dec 13th
6:00pm



DECEMBER 2023

	SERVICE	December 3 SUNDAY Communion	December 6 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 10 SUNDAY Communion	December 13 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 17 SUNDAY Communion	December 20 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 24 SUNDAY Christmas Eve Communion at the morning services only	December 25 Monday Christmas Communion 10am Service Only	December 31 SUNDAY Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Jim Jackson	Tim Wadle	Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Steve Kato	Steve Kato	S Kato / J Jackson	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson		Sam Jakabcic		Jim Jackson		Jim Jackson		Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Jim Sherry		Dave Hesketh		Mark Gordon				Jim Sherry
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	N/A	Jay Moser	N/A	Rich Proeschel	N/A	Elders to Assign	N/A	Erich Gottl
GREETERS	8am	H & I Cordes		D & M Duran		D & B Bremke				H & I Cordes
	10:30am	Barb Pjior		R & J Proeschel		Joe Bennet				Barb Pjior
ELDER INFO										
Stephen Kato 330-242-7183 Tim Wadle 216-214-7109 Jim Jackson 330-391-6393 Chris Duran 216-577-5164 Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076								4:00 S Kato / T Wadle		
								7:00 S Kato / C Duran		



Wednesdays 11:30 am & 7:00pm (supper @ 6pm)
in Advent December 6, 13, & 20

Christmas in the Valley at St. Paul

Sunday, December 10

Sunday School Program 10:30am

Christmas Tea 2:00pm

Christmas Town Train, Hot Cocoa, Until 4:00pm
Ornaments & Cookies to Decorate

Christmas Eve 4:00pm & 7:00pm

Candlelight Lessons and Carols 3:30pm & 6:30pm Carols by Request

Christmas Day 10:00am

www.spvc.org

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

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 His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.