

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

1100 SE Sharon Dr., Ankeny, IA | 515.964.1250 | [www.stpaulankeny.org](http://www.stpaulankeny.org)

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Rhonda Christensen, Organist



## Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

Divine Service Setting Three, LSB page 184 and on screens

Hymns: 355, 834, 332, 343, 639, 336

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5, Epistle Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:1-11


**Welcome to St. Paul,** a people walking together in the life of Jesus. We're glad you're here! Today, Jesus meets us in Word and Sacrament. His gifts are for you and for your children! If you are caring for little ones, don't worry about noises and squirming; we rejoice in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)

This morning we joyfully receive Holy Communion, in which our Lord Jesus Christ gives us a great blessing: His true body and blood in, with, and under ordinary bread and wine. If you are a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who has been instructed and has confessed this reality, we invite you to participate in the Holy Supper. Other guests interested in joining our confession and life are asked to meet with Pastor Newton in the weeks before communing for the first time. We encourage you still to come to the altar and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.

**Voters Meeting** — There is a voters meeting on **Monday, December 1** at 6:30pm. There are information packets in the Narthex and the FLC.

**Advent Meal** — Stewardship will be serving soups for the Advent meal on **Wednesday, December 3** beginning at 5:00pm.

**Church Mailbox** — Please remember to check your church mailbox often. New members, if you don't see one with your name on it, please contact the church office.




### Monday, Dec. 1

Come and join us at St. Paul Lutheran Church as we work our way through the ABC's of the Bible!



Our next letter is...

T is for Tower of Babel

Complimentary coffee is provided. **ALL** are welcome!



AGES 0-5 FREE 1ST & 3RD MONDAYS 10-11 AM



**Poinsettia Orders** — Orders are being taken for poinsettias to decorate the church and sanctuary for Christmas. Forms are on the LWML table. Cost is \$13 per plant. **Deadline is December 3.**

**Christmas Service Practices** — The Board of Christian Education is excited to invite your children to participate in our Youth and Children's Christmas Service on **Sunday, December 7** at both services. This year's services will be a joyful celebration of the birth of our Savior, and we have lots of fun activities and hospitality planned. The youth and children's Christmas service practices have begun. The remaining practice schedule is as follows:

**Everyone in small groups:** Today, Sunday, November 30, 9:15-10:30am

**Everyone in small groups:** Wednesday, December 3, 6:00-7:00pm

**Junior and senior youth:** Saturday, December 6, 9:00am-12:15pm (light lunch provided)

**PreK through 5th grade:** Saturday, December 6, 10:00am-12:15pm (light lunch provided)

**Parents Day Out December 13** — Each year, the youth board hosts a Parents Day Out, giving parents a few hours to enjoy some time to themselves while we care for the kids! As always, we're inviting youth in grades 6–12 to help make this a fun and successful event. We'll play games, do crafts, and keep the little ones entertained. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

The youth board; Jen, Candy, Libby, Kate, and Jeff, are gathering a headcount for two things:

1. **Youth volunteers** – if your tween or teen can help, please have them sign up.
2. **Kids attending** – parents, please sign up your children so we know how many to expect.

**Why is there tape on the floors?** — For those who are curious, the tape and markings on the floor are your building committee in action. Stay tuned for future updates!

**LWML Christmas Dinner** — On **Tuesday, December 9** ladies are invited to join us for our annual dinner, here at St. Paul, beginning at 5:00pm. We'll be ordering takeout from Smokey D's and have a fun time with a gift exchange game. To help us plan, please RSVP to one of the LWML board members or sign up by December 7. Meals cost around \$15 and is due the night of the dinner if you want Smokey D's (or, if you prefer, feel free to bring your own meal). And for the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift with a value up to \$10. We hope you can join us! It's always a nice time to unwind and enjoy time together. — *Kim Rasler, Sue Stoll, Betty Berlau, and Vicki Sickels*

**Advent Services** — There will be a Noon Advent service each week in addition to the regular scheduled 7:00pm service.

**Looking Ahead** — There is only one worship service on **Sunday, December 28** at 9:30am.



JOIN US FOR ST. PAUL'S  
YOUTH & CHILDREN  
CHRISTMAS SERVICES

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December 7 • 8am & 10:45  
Coffee and Hot Cocoa Bar, Spiced Apple Cider,  
and delicious donuts between services!

### **Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study —**

Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the FLC.  
*The Who, What, When, Where, Why of It All.*  
Join us as we explore all that it means that Jesus descends from heaven to be with us in the Divine Liturgy, why we do what we do, say what we say, sing what we sing, and even dress how we dress!

### **Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study —**

**Thursday, December 4** at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Kottlowski leads, working through a book study of *Unfailing: God's Assurance for Times of Change*.

### **Homebuilders — December 7 at 4:00pm.**

*The Sanctuary Is Our Home.* This year Homebuilders (a group for those interested in following Jesus as a household) will delve into the Sacrament of the Altar as the center of life for the Christian family.

**BASIC Bible Study** — Pastor Kottlowski continues the study of Romans, following the Apostle Paul on a course through the context of the doctrine of justification and its joyous outflow in the life of the Christian. Meets **Thursday, December 11** at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Monday Night Women's Bible Study —**

The ladies are on break until 2026.

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**Additional Ushers Needed** — Are you looking for ways to use your time and talents at St. Paul? We are currently seeking individuals to serve as ushers, a vital ministry that welcomes attendees and ensures a smooth worship experience. If you are warm, welcoming, and feel called to serve, we invite you to join our team! High school age and older women, men (couples encouraged to serve together!) are invited to participate. Please contact Kathy in the church office to get started!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## PARENTS DAY OUT

Need a break for Christmas shopping? Drop the kiddos off Dec. 13 for games, crafts, and tons of fun!

**DEC. 13  
9AM-12PM**

Between games, we'll also decorate cookies for our shut-ins and friends we haven't seen in church—letting them know we're thinking of them!

JR + SR Youth + Parents

## SUNDAY FUNDAY

December 14 • 12pm - 2pm  
Parents vs. Students Games  
Cookie Exchange

## Happening This Week at St. Paul

<u>Today</u>	8:00am Worship Service 9:30am Christmas Service Practice 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service 5:00pm Advent by Candlelight
<u>Monday</u>	9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Sonshine Kids 6:30pm Voters Meeting
<u>Tuesday</u>	11:30am Lady Dinners
<u>Wednesday</u>	Noon Advent Service 10:00am Moms Group 5:00pm Meal (Stewardship) 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:00-7:00pm Midweek 7:00pm Advent Service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
<u>Thursday</u>	9:30am Chapel 10:00am Ladies Bible Study 7:00pm Men's Fellowship & Bible Study
<u>Saturday</u>	9:00am-12:15pm Youth & Children's Christmas Service Practice

### December Altar Committee

Sue Crawford, Donna Stoelk

### Elder

November 30 — Kaleb Grev

December 7 — Nathan Wendzel

### Offering Counters November 30

David Reddel, Doyle Witt

### Ushers November 30

8:00am — Mike Hayden, Ray Marvin

10:45am — Steve Bradley, Kathy Olson

### Ushers December 7 & 14

8:00am — Ken Kise, Dan Hubbard

10:45am — Jason, Jaydon, Jordan, Jalen Buls

## St. Paul Prayer List

Nicole, granddaughter of McConnells  
Chad Keeling, cancer, son of Joyce Keeling  
Marie Van Beek, friend of the Glenns, cancer  
John and Jodi, cancer, uncle and friend of Jeremy Sellen and Paula Wehmas

Denny Lensch, Parkinson's Disease and cancer  
Christy, Karen Kisker's cousin, breast cancer  
Morgan, friend of Becky Haase, stroke  
Savannah, cancer, friend of Stephanie Hilchen  
Lawrence, brother of McConnell's daughter-in-law  
Kyler Hess, friend of Wielenga family, cancer  
Conrad, Tony Miller's brother, cancer  
Tess Soholt, Brent Rangen's mother, cancer  
Rose Vawser, medical issues, Carolyn Vesely's sister  
Terry Moehnke

Joel Ausan

Curt Hora

Amy Schmidt, former DCE, breast cancer  
Greta, niece of the Grevs, born with hearing issues  
Debbie Tunnell, Hauge's daughter, breast cancer  
David Stephens, Traci Haselhuhn's brother, cancer  
Brittany Wilber, pregnancy complications, Pastor's sister  
Lori Matz, knee replacement surgery  
Donald Klinker, Faylene Kluver's uncle, hospice  
Carter Reddel, knee injury  
April, cousin of Paula Wehmas, colon cancer  
Kevin Christensen, teacher at Southview, heart attack  
Aaron, McConnell's grandson, car accident  
Heather, girlfriend of Donnie Houseman, hospitalized

### *For those who mourn*

Caitlin Remington and family, at the passing of her mother, Colleen Wessel

### *For those deployed & Active Military*

Chris Madsen, Drake Johnson, TJ Krehbiel,  
Joshua Krehbiel, William Krehbiel, Jayden Krehbiel, Tim Fairchild

### *For those preparing for the Holy Ministry*

Ezekiel Grabau, Jarrod Thomas

### Attendance Sunday, November 23

8:00am — 157 10:45am — 127