



December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Advent

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
205 St. Paul's Church Road • Salisbury, NC 28146
StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Sara Barringer • Crucifer: Henry Barringer
Lector: Kim Pepper
Communion Assistants: Bonnie Hinson,
D.W. Honbarger, Wayne Taylor

Welcome and Announcements

The Angel Candle

Lee, Jennifer, Caroline,
and Cooper Aldridge

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plain,
and the mountain in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Glo...ria, in excelsis deo; Glor...ia, in excelsis Deo.

You are invited to stand.

Hymn: “Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

34

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

*After prayer and pastoral statement there will be
silence for reflection and self-examination, then...*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free
ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and
deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not
loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead
us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and,
for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained
minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore
declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

The Kyrie



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



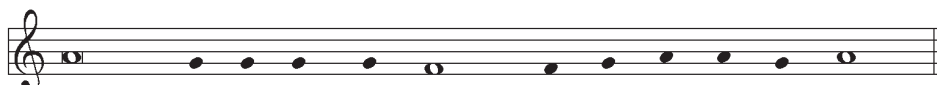
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



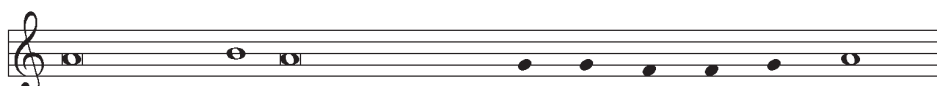
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

The Hymn of Praise



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



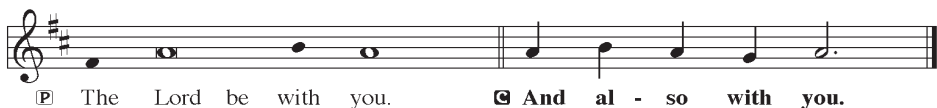
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.



Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. With your great might, give us your help, that whatever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished by your grace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever one God. **Amen**

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a

²But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will come forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His times of coming forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.” ³Therefore He will give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth. Then the remainder of His kinsmen will return to the sons of Israel.

⁴And He will arise and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God. And they will remain, because at that time He will be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵This One will be our peace.

Here ends the lesson.

Psalms 80:1-7

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

³Restore us, O | God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

⁴**O Lord | God of hosts,
how long will you be angered despite the
prayers | of your people?**

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

**⁶You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says,
“YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED SACRIFICE AND OFFERING,
BUT YOU HAVE PREPARED A BODY FOR ME;

⁶YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN PLEASURE IN WHOLE BURNT
OFFERINGS AND OFFERINGS FOR SIN.

⁷THEN I SAID, ‘BEHOLD, I HAVE COME
(IT IS WRITTEN OF ME IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK)
TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.”

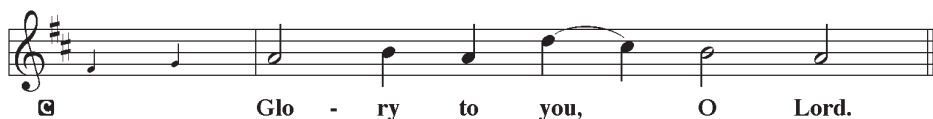
⁸After saying above, “Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and offerings for sin You have not desired, nor have You taken pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the Law), ⁹then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will.” He takes away the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰By this will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time.

Here ends the lesson.

Please stand for the Gospel.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the first chapter.



Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

³⁹Now at this time Mary set out and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And how has it happened to me that the mother of my Lord would come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord,

⁴⁷And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸For He has had regard for the humble state of His bond-servant; For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed.

⁴⁹For the Mighty One has done great things for me;
And holy is His name.

⁵⁰And His mercy is to generation after generation
Toward those who fear Him.

⁵¹He has done mighty deeds with His arm;
He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones,
And has exalted those who were humble.

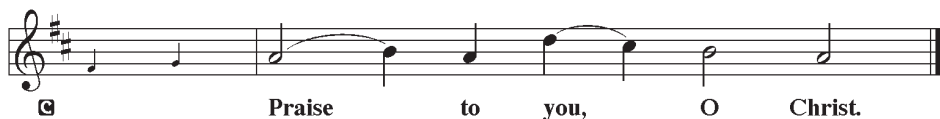
⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things,
And sent the rich away empty-handed.

⁵⁴He has given help to His servant Israel,
In remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵Just as He spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and his descendants forever."

⁵⁶Mary stayed with her about three months, and then returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon: "This One"

Please stand as you are able

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for
all people, according to their needs.

Following each of 4 prayers:

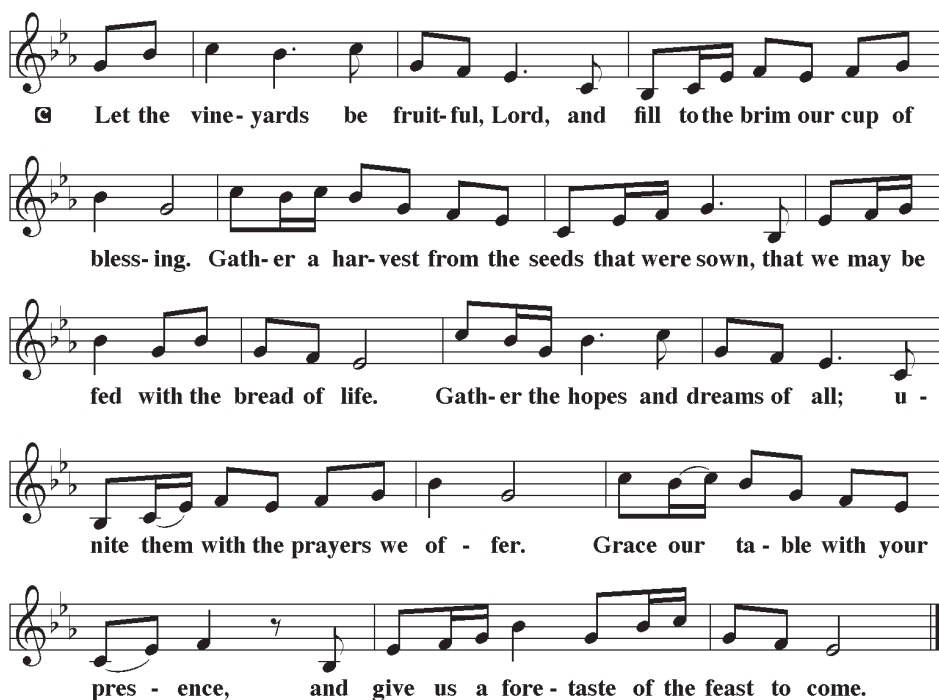
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Please be seated.

Offering and Offertory

Please stand as you are able.



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you
have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions,
signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him
who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

The Lord’s Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

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

Please be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion



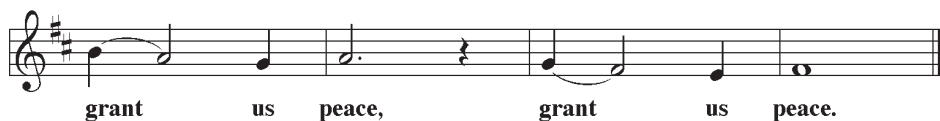
☒ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



After the distribution, please stand.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the will of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

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The Benediction

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 give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Postlude: Variations on "Antioch"

Watts/Handel

~ SPLC Presents ~
A Grown-Up Christmas Wish
Written by Joyce Wilhelm

Join our cast and crew of 75 bring to life the
Biblical Nativity story.
Pastor Ryman narrates this pageant heralding the birth of our
Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, through Scripture and music.
Tell others about the reason for the season and invite them
to our Candlelight Nativity Pageant!

Wednesday, December 22

Thursday, December 23

7:30pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church sanctuary



As creatures of habit, we Lutherans often sit in the same pews each Sunday. We appreciate you sharing the pews to make room for the Nativity pageant stages.

Announcements

Upcoming Events

Dec. 20 – Council meeting, 6:30pm

Dec. 22 & 23 – “A Grown-up Christmas Wish”, 7:30pm

Dec. 23 – Office closed

Dec. 24 – Office closed

Dec. 24 – Children’s Christmas Service, 7pm

Dec. 24 – Candlelight Communion Service, 10:30pm

Dec. 31 – Office closed

Jan. 2 – Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am

Jan. 8 – Removal of Christmas decorations beginning at 9am

No Men’s Choir practice during December

Handbell practice – Sundays, 4pm

No Girl Scouts for the rest of 2021

Girl Scouts will resume in January, Tuesdays at 6:45pm

Adult Choir practice – Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Confirmation Class – Wednesdays, 7:30pm

Thursday Bible Study will resume on January 6, 10am and 6pm

Vespers at the Parsonage *each Sunday* – finger foods at 6pm,

Vespers at 6:30pm

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (12/12)..... \$9,773

Other Offering (12/12) \$3,791

Worship Attendance (12/12) 174

General Fund YTD Receipts as of 12/12\$367,112

General Fund YTD Budget as of 12/12 \$380,481

2022 Offering Envelopes

For those who use numbered offering envelopes — the 2022 envelopes are in the narthex in alphabetical order by last name. Please help us save postage by picking up your envelopes.

Naomi's Heart Mission

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St Paul's:

We would like to "thank you" for your generous gift of support we recently received.

Through your generosity this helps us to continue to minister to many children and families who benefit from all the programs, feedings, outreaches and Bible teachings at the mission and surrounding villages. During this time of the corona-virus we are using what extra we have to buy rice. Thank you for your generous heart that enables us to give to children and families in need.

We are truly blessed and grateful for your love for this ministry.

Blessings,
Kristie L. Ward
Founder, Naomi's Heart Mission

2022 Preparations

The deadline for 2021 offerings is December 29th. This allows us time to close the books for the year. Any offerings received after December 29th, by mail or in person, will be posted to your account for 2022.

Statements for 2021 will be mailed out during the first week of January, 2022.

Also in preparation for 2022, we are updating information for the next yearbook. If you have changes in any of your contact information or your mailing address, please call the church office so we will have the correct information for the yearbook.

Special Prayers for members of St. Paul's:

Franklin and Ashley Bowles - loss of home

Grady Earnhardt - Health concerns

Sonya Eller - Health concerns

Terry Eller - Recovering at home

Bishop Goodman - Aplastic anemia

Peyton Holland - Blood disorder

Emerson Holder - Health concerns

Shirley Hoosier - Health concerns

Alan Lysterly - Recovering at home

James Lysterly - Recovering at home

Mike Morris - Health concerns

Teresa Peeler - Health concerns

Jane Wilhelm - Health concerns

Please let us know if any corrections to this list of concerns are needed. In an effort to keep the list current, we will try to update/remove prayer requests on a monthly basis, with the exception of known, prolonged issues.

Homebound and Long-Term Care:

Autumn Care: Walter Smith

Citadel: Mary Sherrill

Elmcroft: Helen Howe

Trinity Oaks: Barbara Whisnant

Home: Ray Beattie, Judy Bernhardt, Iverson and Gayle Brendle, John and Louise Cornelison, Barbara Deese, Ruby Heilig, Chuck and Linda Hess, Shirley Hoosier, Susan Lysterly, Carrie Reavis, Dottie Stancil, Barbara Upright, Polly Webb

Friends of St. Paul's:

Catie Critchfield - Great-granddaughter of Ed and Betty Niedens, health concerns

Ashley Fink - granddaughter of Larry and Leilani Watson, health concerns

Linda Jaramillo - Mother of Julie Jaramillo, health concerns

Chad, Terri, Maddy and Ella McConnell - Son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren of Stan McConnell, health concerns

Donna Petrea - cousin of Vicki Sanders, surgery/broken hip

Elizabeth Tancordo - Niece of Bill and Linda Behrendt, health concerns

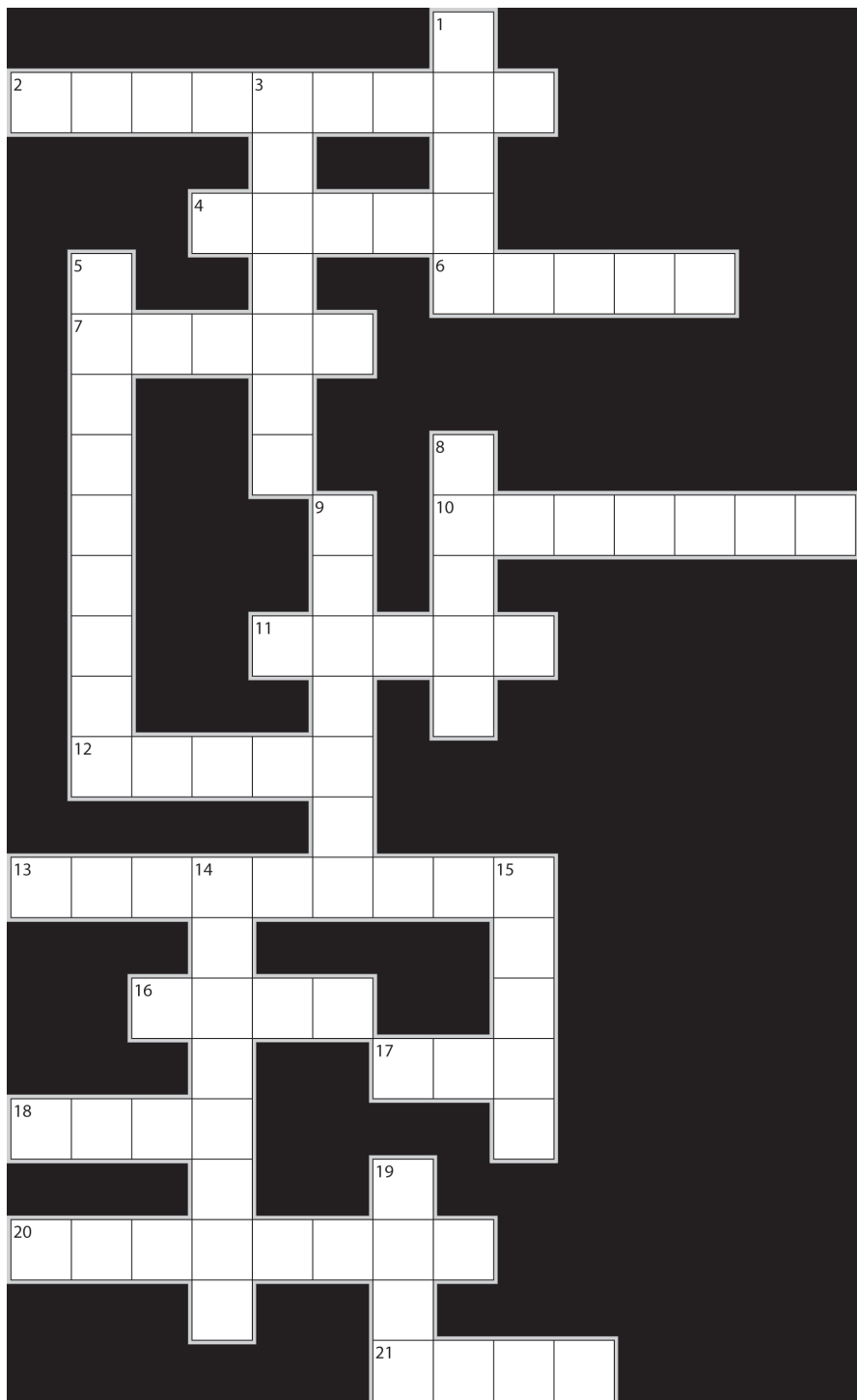
Leslie Ryman - Sister of Pastor Ryman, cancer

Let Your Face Shine

*Find the 36 **bold** words from Psalm 80:1-7 (ESV)*

J D I P N M E R L H G T F M Z
X A B R I I N Y D E C I E E N
P E R A M G T R R E A A V E D
Z R I Y A H H M J G S R I E S
C B T E J T R B I U N G S A N
F O S R N V O E R B H A V I L
A L N S E D N E S B U E Q A R
C U G T B R E P O T D R U A H
E V I G E I D R B F O G E E N
F L O C K N S T S O H R S H Q
S A V E T K T H D T Y S E P C
E P H R A I M I I A A I D E L
S E I M E N E V O N E N O S L
D R E H P E H S A N E L U O U
D R O L G O D M T E A R S J F

Give ear, O **Shepherd** of **Israel**, you who **lead Joseph** like a **flock**. You who are **enthroned** upon the **cherubim**, shine forth. Before **Ephraim** and **Benjamin** and **Manasseh**, **stir up** your **might** and come to **save** us! **Restore** us, O God; let your **face shine**, that we may be saved! O **LORD God** of **hosts**, how long will you be **angry** with your people's **prayers**? You have **fed** them with the **bread** of **tears** and **given** them tears to **drink** in **full measure**. You make us an **object** of **contention** for our **neighbors**, and our **enemies laugh** among themselves. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be **saved**!



Two Year Daily Lectionary

Advent 4, Year B

Sunday – Genesis 3:8–15; Revelation 12:1–10; John 3:16–21

Monday – Zephaniah 3:14–20; Titus 1:1–16; Luke 1:1–25

Tuesday – 1 Samuel 2:1b–10; Titus 2:1–10; Luke 1:26–38

Wednesday – 2 Samuel 7:1–17; Titus 2:11–3:8a; Luke 1:39–56

Thursday – 2 Samuel 7:18–29; Galatians 3:1–14; Luke 1:57–66

Friday – Jeremiah 31:10–14; Galatians 3:15–22; Luke 1:67–80

Saturday – Isaiah 60:1–6; Galatians 3:23–4:7; Matthew 1:18–25

ACROSS

2. Whose prayer did God hear? (Luke 1:1–25)
4. This brought salvation to all people. (Titus 2:11–3:8a)
6. For whom did God build a house? (2 Samuel 7:18–29)
7. We should shine because this has arrived. (Isaiah 60:1–6)
10. If we believe in the Son, we have this kind of life. (John 3:16–21)
11. God will keep or guard Israel like this. (Jeremiah 31:10–14)
12. What did David want to build for God? (2 Samuel 7:1–17)
13. The Lord has taken these away. (Zephaniah 3:14–20)
16. The favored one (Luke 1:26–38)
17. God's people are portrayed as a woman clothed with this.
(Revelation 12:1–10)
18. To what are we to hold firmly? (Titus 1:1–16)
20. He will save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:18–25)
21. God is understood as this metaphor. (1 Samuel 2:1b–10)

DOWN

1. Adam hid because he was... (Genesis 3:8–15)
3. If you have faith in Christ, you are this man's son.
(Galatians 3:1–14)
5. Who said what John's name would be? (Luke 1:57–66)
8. God will guide our feet into this road or way. (Luke 1:67–80)
9. The promise of faith in Christ is given to those who do this.
(Galatians 3:15–22)
14. The law is portrayed as a moral caretaker or... (Galatians 3:23–4:7)
15. Elders or preachers are to teach this doctrine. (Titus 2:1–10)
19. God's mercy is extended to all those who... (Luke 1:39–56)



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922 ~ Fax: 704-636-1300

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: www.stpaulslutheran.church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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