

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1–5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2–11

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you." ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, 2024**

In Our Thoughts Prayers

Dan Hoffman - home - recovery from heart surgery
Ann Sears - healing from surgery for broken wrist
Brandi Crawford - daughter of Ann Sears
Declan Conover
Marva Bennigsdorf

Keep the congregation at Trinity Lutheran, Odebolt, in your prayers after the sudden loss of Pastor David Viggers

Continued prayers and/or healing for:

Erin Nielsen Lois Jensen George Weir Victor Zobel
Shirley Havener Jo Palmer Jolene Ladwig Makayla Bell
Stella Turnbull Austin Mollhoff Ron Kraphl Jeff Pierce
Rose Schuldt Jim Wilcox Seth Hamann Mark Queen Dan Grell
Kenton Petersen Erin DeBoer Diane Olsen Sue Bubb
Tiffany Lindberg Greg Lewiston Ashley Collins Trisha McCormick
David Johnson Mary Riggs Jared Lund Bud Jepsen

December Birthdays this week:

Dec. 9 Norman Carstensen
Dec. 10 Barb Knudsen
Dec. 11 Autumn Schreiber
Dec. 14 Sawyer Larsen
Dec. 15 Brian Christiansen
Dec. 17 Carly Taggart
Dec. 18 Gloria Feddersen
Dec. 19 Jeff Gilbert
Dec. 22 Dale Edsen Carol Korwes
Dec. 23 Peggy Fick Matt Knudsen
Dec. 25 Linda Ausborn Lori Boysen Bruce Godbersen
Shirley Van Sickler
Dec. 27 Claudia Swanger

December Anniversaries this week

Dec. 10 Kevin & Valerie Krager
Dev. 15 Kris & Tina Krager
Dec. 19 Kent & Karlie Krager
Dec. 24 Duane & Ellen Ernst


NEW MEMBER CLASS January 12 at 3:30PM, if you are interested let the church office know 364-2918 or stpaulidagrove@gmail.com



Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24th @2pm & 6pm

Christmas Day
Divine Service w/Communion
December 25th @10am

The graphic features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. A bright white starburst emanates from the top right, illuminating a silhouette of a manger scene with figures. The text is presented in white and yellow on a dark blue rounded rectangular background.



The
WHOLE
Story

"The Whole Story" Journey Begins

New Year's Eve Worship
Tuesday, December 31st @6:00pm

The graphic has a light beige background with a torn paper effect. The word "WHOLE" is written in large, bold, block letters, each containing a different scenic image: a green field, a red apple, a sunset, and a blue sky. The word "Story" is written in a cursive font below it. The bottom section is a dark brown rounded rectangle with white text.

COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for DECEMBER: Breakfast items: baking/pancake mix, syrup, cereal, cereal bars, peanut butter, jelly, etc., place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. All items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations. The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3rd Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM. ****They can always use toilet paper, laundry soap, shampoo & conditioner, canned vegetables, canned fruits & canned soups. Mobile Food Pantry: Holstein, Methodist Church, on Thursday, December 19 from 4:30-5:30PM**

Worship Service for Sun., December 15, 2024

Song Living Hope

Opening Sentences

Introit

Song O Come, O Come, Emmanuel LSB 357 v. 5, ref

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Old Testament Isaiah 40:1-11

Gradual

Epistle 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Alleluia

Holy Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

Nicene Creed

Offering (Song during Offering)

Song Who Am I

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Santus We Fall Down

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Distribution

Song Mighty to Save

Song You Are My King (Amazing Love)

Song Death Was Arrested

Post Communion Collect

Benedicamus / Benediction

Announcements

Song Our God

Poinsettias

In memory of Leon Petersen from Joan & family

In memory of Dean Fick from Peggy

In memory of Lynn Dittmer from Darrell from Susan Miller

In memory of Marvin & Betty Bubke from Linda Bubke

In memory of Darrell Wellendorf from Virginia and family

In memory of Bob Uhl father of Rob Uhl from Rob, Earleen Uhl & family

In memory of Donald and Janet & Dave Riessen from Gailen & Pam Wessel

In memory of Lloyd and Lorraine, Wayne, & Gene Wessel, Cheryl Knudsen from Gailen & Pam Wessel

In memory of Roland & Virginia Jensen from Rod & Lin Jensen

In memory of Lyle & Roberta Clayton from Rod & Lin Jensen

In memory of Emily Patrick from Rod & Lin Jensen

In memory of Ed Skaren from Marilyn and family

In memory of Carolyn Hilker from Jim and family

In memory of Marlene Bennigsdorf from Darrell & family

In memory of Colleen Knop from Gene Knop

In memory of Don Knop and Colleen Knop from Shayne & Danika Hinkeldey & family

In memory of Harold Hinkeldey & Grandma Lois from Shayne & Danika Hinkeldey

In memory of our grandparents from Ryan & Amy Godbersen

In memory of our parents from Greg & Lorna Steenbock

In memory of Vern Zobel from Marlene and family

In memory of Marilyn Lovett, Bob & Roma Lovett from Terry & family

In memory of Burdette & Vi Witte, Tracy Ford & Charles Witte Jr from Nancy Ford

In memory of Paul Bargar and Art & Helen Billings from Cecile Bargar

In memory of Richard Hoaglund, Evora Hoaglund, Dewitt & Norma Tuneberg from Emily Hoaglund

In memory of Emil & Evelyn Iversen, Allen Iversen, Steven & Vicki Iversen, Robert Iversen and Susan Iversen from Emily Hoaglund

In memory of brothers & sisters in Christ that have gone before us from Alvin & Mary Corbin

In memory of Richard & Leona and Bud & Bonnie parents of Tom & Cheryl Andresen

In memory of Elnora & Victor Lunzman from Marsha & Marc Kjar

In memory of Kody Krager from Kevin & Val Krager

In memory of Van Corr from Jon & Robyn Devitt & family

In memory of Burdelle Knudsen, Morrelle & Darlene Christiansen, Helen & LeRoy Schagt, Marvin Knudsen from Darnelle Knudsen and family