

WORSHIP NOTES

If you are a guest today, please sign our guest book! Welcome here! We're very glad you came!

Children in Worship: We welcome and encourage children to share in worship. Even very young children see faith in action as we pray and sing and commune together. Children's lessons are available at both entrances, or by checking with any of the ushers.

Communion: If you are unable to reach the serving pastor during communion - they can come to you. Please let an usher know and they will make sure you receive communion.

Need A Helping Hand? If you or someone you know needs assistance getting in or out of the church, please let us know. We're happy to arrange help - Your church family is here for you! Contact the office at office@stpaulsteinbach.org or (204)-326-3758.

Hearing Assistance: Devices are available at the sound booth.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for one for yourself or a loved one!

Cell Phones and Pagers: Should be turned to silent.

Washrooms: located in the narthex and Education Wing, upstairs and down.

Elevator: located next to the church office.

Masks are optional at all services.

Drop Box: The drop box at the side entrance nearest to the office remains available for envelopes or small items.

THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF

On behalf of the church staff and our families, thank you for the many cards, gifts, and heartfelt well wishes shared with us over the holiday season. Your kindness, generosity, and encouragement mean more to us than you know. We are truly grateful to serve such a caring and supportive congregation. May God bless you in the year ahead.

- *Tim & Rachel Perry, Stephen Bilski, Don & Karen Neufeld, and Arnold & Tanisha Loewen.*

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR PICK-UP

Offering envelopes for 2026 are now available. A table has been set up in the narthex with your envelope package. The envelope boxes will be in alphabetical order by **last names**. Please take a moment after the service to stop by and pick yours up. If you don't see your envelope number, are new but do not have an envelope number, or have any questions, please contact the office and we'll be happy to

ATTENDANCE: December 21, 2025

Traditional - 129

Family - 37

Sunday School - 48

OFFERING: \$9,038.5

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have participated in today's service.



This world "for all its horror,
been found by God to be
worth dying for".
(Flannery O'Connor,
Collected Letters)



HAWAIIAN DINNER TICKETS

Enjoy the entertaining Hawaiian Dinner to be held on January 24th! Tickets will be for sale between all Sunday services until **January 11th**. Tickets can also be purchased at the office on weekdays from 9AM-4PM.

QUILTING LADIES - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us as Quilting Ladies resumes on **Wednesday, January 14th at 10:00 AM**. Men and women are welcome. Please bring a bagged lunch, and feel free to bring a friend. You can **stitch or tie quilts**, and **you don't need to know how** - it's easy, and help will be available.

COMING UP

Pioneer Girls - January 7 / 7:00-8:30 PM

Scouts - January 7 / 7:00-8:30 PM

Junior Youth - January 12 / 6:30-8:30 PM

Young Adults - January 14 / 6:30-8:30 PM

Quilting Ladies - January 14 / 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STEINBACH INC.

MEMBER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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Office Assistant: Tanisha Wiebe 204-326-3758 office@stpaulsteinbach.org

Sunday, December 28th, 2025 Welcome to our Family Worship Service On this 1st Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 28th
9:30 AM - Traditional Service
11:00 AM - Family Service

Monday, December 29th
No Junior Youth

Wednesday, December 31st
No Young Adults
No Pioneer Girls
No Scouts

Thursday, January 1st
OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, January 4th
9:30 AM - Traditional Service
11:00 AM - Family Service

Morning Prayer: 8:30 AM
(Mon. - Thurs. in Chapel)

Evening Prayer: 4:00 PM
(Mon. - Thurs. in Chapel)



HOLY COMMUNION

God feeds and renews us with the presence of Jesus Christ. In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission. In response to the Lord's invitation I come - confessing my sin, trusting that the Lord is truly present, believing that to receive Him is to receive forgiveness - to partake of the Lord's Supper. People of all ages and faith communities are welcome.

Holy Communion is served in a continuous format unless announced otherwise. Participants are asked to fill out a registration card, available in the pews or at both entrances, and place them in the baskets at the entrances, or in the offering plates.

Ushers will direct you toward the aisle to come forward to the serving stations. If you desire to commune, extend your hand to the server who will place a wafer in your hand. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, simply say "gluten-free" to the server. Wine is served from the chalice or individual cups; white grape juice is served from individual cups.

Come and hold in your hand and taste on your lips the love we cannot comprehend.

OUR MISSION

God's purpose for St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is: **Accepting all people through God's grace, sharing our faith in Christ, and making disciples.**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 28TH, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Song: “As With Gladness Men Of Old” #302

Gathering Psalm: Psalm 148

L: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

C: Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

L: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

C: Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,

C: who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.

L: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

C: fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God’s will;

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

C: wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

L: sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

C: young men and maidens, old and young together.

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

C: The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God’s steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Reconciling God,

C: we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to welcome the stranger; our participation in harming the innocent; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

L: God’s grace upon grace flows over you. Christ’s presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

L: O Lord God,

C: you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children’s Lesson

Song: “Away In A Manger” #277

GOD’S WORD: Darlene Turner

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” ¹³ And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.” ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

C: Glory to you, O Lord

¹³ Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.”

²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Song: “What Child Is This” #296

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of the People

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Song: “Christmas Offering”

Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray together,

C: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Table

L: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

L: With joy we praise you, gracious Father, because you gave Jesus Christ your only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

Song: “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

L: On the night in which he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me.” For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. Therefore we proclaim our faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

The Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Communion

L: God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

Communion Songs

“Peace Has Come”

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem” #279

“The Birthday Of A King”

“Angels From The Realms Of Glory” #275

“Hark The Herald Angels Sing” #270

“The First Noel” #300

Blessing

L: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

L: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C: Amen.

The Benediction

L: And the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #288

Dismissal

L: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to God’s people on earth!

L: Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

C: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER REMINDERS

In your prayers this week, please remember: John, Mario & Kayla Dupont, Dalia Dyck, Adelaide Freund, Chris Funk, Ed Harder, Tina Heckert, Linda James, Val & Nathan Kehler, Ruth Ketter, Pastor Al Maier, Rick Martins, Glorian Mehling, Mary Pelletier, Gordon & Iris Pylypjuk, Helmuth Renz, Tony Sawatzky, Ray Schalla, Khrista Vogt, Mary Wiebe, Kathy Wintoniw (Abby & Julia), and Bishop Geoff Woodcroft.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered in the **Continuous Format today**. Registration cards are available in the pews and at both entrances. Participants are asked to fill out a card and place it in the basket provided or in the offering plate. All are welcome at God’s table.

COMMUNION DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

During this Christmas season, we want everyone to have the opportunity to share in communion. If you are unable to attend our Christmas service and would like to receive communion at home during Christmas week (Dec. 26-31), please contact the church office to make an appointment. We are thankful to share this season with you.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

We will join with the parishioners at Paroisse S. Joachim in LaBroquerie on Thursday, January 22nd, at 7:00pm for our annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service. Pastor Tim hopes to be the preacher for the evening, but if grandbaby calls him away to Ontario, Pastor Terry Gudmundson will bring the sermon. Please join us as we pray that the Lord Jesus will strengthen the bonds of fellowship between our communities!

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our junior youth numbers are increasing. One additional female adult volunteer is needed. Please contact Parish Assistant Steve to sign up.