

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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.

**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.

**Visitation:** If you are homebound or in the hospital or know of someone who is and would like to receive visits from our Visitation Team or receive communion at home, please call Jen in the office and she'll make sure you are on the list!

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

**Office Information:** Please have all announcements in to the office by Thursdays at 10am if you want them in the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday. Bulletins are printed by 11am on Thursdays. If you have events or meetings to go on the monthly calendar, get them to the office the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month.

**Office Hours:** 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday

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

MEMBER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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Lead Pastor: Reverend Dr. Tim Perry 438-969-1362

Youth & Young Adult Minister: Stephen Bilski 204-392-1444



## Sunday, December 8th, 2024 Welcome to our Family Worship Service On this II Sunday of Advent

**Sunday, December 8th**

9am - Confirmation

9:30 - Worship Service

9:30am - Sunday School

Coffee Time!!

11am - Family Worship

**Tuesday, December 10th**

1:30pm - Annual Ladies Advent Tea

7pm - Council Meeting

**Thursday, December 12th**

6:30pm - Youth Group

7pm - Midweek Advent Service

**Sunday, December 15th**

9am - Confirmation

9:30 - Worship Service

9:30am - Sunday School

Coffee Time!!

11am - Family Worship

### 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.

**KEEP IT REAL! BRING IT HOME!**

My Soul Is Filled With Joy



A 4 WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES  
ON MARY'S MAGNIFICAT

STARTING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH AT 7PM

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
465 HENRY STREET, STEINBACH

CALL 204-326-3758 FOR MORE INFORMATION

ALL I WANT FOR  
CHRISTMAS IS A  
COMFY SPACE AND A  
PILE OF BOOKS!

If this is your  
Christmas wish -  
check out our  
Library!

Christmas titles for  
everyone are on  
display!



Thanks to Karen Neufeld, our  
librarian, for getting  
everything ready!

Annual  
Ladies'  
Advent  
Tea

BRING FINGER FOOD  
TO SHARE AND SLOW  
DOWN FOR A BIT TO  
ENJOY SOME LAUGHS,  
MUSIC, FOOD AND EACH  
OTHER!

Tuesday,  
December  
10th at  
1:30pm





# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 8TH, 2024

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: God of mercy,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

L: God of might,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbours. We have trusted false promises.**

L: God in our midst,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

L: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Saviour, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**C: Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray,

**C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

**SONG:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

## GOD'S WORD

### FIRST READING: MALACHI 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE READING: LUKE 1:68-79

L: Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free.

**C: You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of your servant David.**

L: Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

**C: to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.**

L: This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**C: free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

L: And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**C: to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.**

L: In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**C: to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

### SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: #168 (sung)

**C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

L: Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 3:1-6

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'

L: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

**SONG:** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

## APOSTLES CREED

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

**OFFERING** "Offering"

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray,

**C: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE TABLE

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory, forever praising you and saying:

**SONG:** "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

L: On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory. Christ is the bread of life:

**C: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

L: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

### COMMUNION SONGS

"Jesus, Feed Us"

"Open Up My Eyes Lord"

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

**C: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

L: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless and keep you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** "Even So Come"

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## PRAYER REMINDERS

In your prayers this week, please remember:



Cari Doerksen, Dalia Dyck, Adelaide Freund, Chris Funk, Jeremy Funk, Stan Funk, Janet Harder, Tina Heckert, Herta Kihn, Robert Krentz, Tabrina Krentz, Jim Lohr, Ruby Myran, Gordon & Iris Pylypjuk, Tony Sawatzky, Ray Schalla, Helmuth Renz, Khrista Vogt, Mary Wiebe and Bishop Geoff Woodcroft.

## MEMORIAL DONATION

A memorial donation has been received from Lorraine Pachal, Terry & Rachel Pachal, Glen & Jody Davies and the grandchildren in loving memory of Gordon Pachal (December 12, 2020). "Silent thoughts of times together hold memories that will last forever."

## DISCUSSION WITH THE BISHOP

Bishop Jason will be holding a discussion session here focusing on the church's value and purpose. The session will be held on Saturday, December 14th starting at 12:30pm. The Bishop will use this information to generate change initiatives needed by the Synod in future planning and decision making. This is a great opportunity to have your ideas and concerns heard. All congregants are welcome to participate. Please leave your name with the office if you plan to attend.

## CHRISTMAS HOME COMMUNION

If you or a loved one is unable to attend Christmas services (December 24th, 25th, 29th and January 5th) and would like to receive home communion from Pastor Tim during the Christmas Season (December 26th to January 6th) please phone the office to book a time. He is scheduling these visits in the morning, unless an alternate time works best for you.

## LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Lutheran Men in Mission special meeting. If you have been involved with LMM in the past, please join us to discuss a special project. We will meet on December 8 after the 9:30 service at the back of the sanctuary for about 15 minutes.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have participated in today's services!



**ATTENDANCE: December 1, 2024**

**Traditional - 181**

**Contemporary - 47**

**Sunday School - 33 Students, 10 Teachers**

**OFFERING: \$17,199**