

CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY (Dec 2) Sunday School	8:00 am
WORSHIP (NO Adult Bible Study)	9:00 am
MON (Dec 3) Choir	6:00 pm
TUES (Dec 4) Women's Fellowship (Packing Cookies) ..	NOON
WED (Dec 5) Grades 7-8 Confirmation Class	6:30-7:45 pm
THUR (Dec 6) Teen Bible Class	7:00 pm
NEXT SUNDAY (Dec 9) FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY	
Sunday School	8:00 am
WORSHIP (HC) (Adult Bible Study follows Worship)	9:00 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS: See who's celebrating a birthday this week & wish them a "Happy Birthday!" Dec 1–Kim Swinford.

THANK YOU!

- † We thank **Dave, Carol & Jim Magolski, Dan & Jenni Heise & kids--and Terry & Brandon Selle** for setting up and decorating the beautiful Christmas tree in church today. Thanks also to Roger & Sharon Steinberg once again this year for donating the tree to us from their property!
- † **Thanks also to those helping to decorate the church for today:** Pastor & Tommy Finn, Landon Goodwill and Wescott Freeman.
- † **COOKIES DONATIONS WELCOME:** The Women's Fellowship group is accepting **cookie donations** at church through NOON December 4 (the day they are packing the cookies) for delivery to shut-in members. Please leave your cookie donations on the counter in the kitchen at church

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

November 25 Plate Offerings: \$2,740.00
Weekly Electronic Offerings: 100.00
Total Offerings this past week = \$2,840.00

(Includes Thanksgiving Offering)

OFFERINGS RECEIVED YTD (47 wks) \$104,233.71

TOTAL OFFERINGS NEEDED YTD = \$107,818.00

YTD DEFICIT = (\$3,584.29)

AMOUNT NEEDED EACH WEEK: \$2,294.00

TOTAL FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS = \$5,253.00

(Visit stpauldale.com to give electronically or scan Q-R code)



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



St. Paul Lutheran Church
N926 Dale Avenue Dale, Wisconsin
Pastor William A. Finn



St Paul Lutheran Church

"Making Friends For Eternity"

Est. 1859

A Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
DALE, WISCONSIN ♦ CHURCH PHONE (920) 779-6777 ♦ PASTOR WILLIAM FINN
REVWFINN@GMAIL.COM ♦ WWW.STPAULDALE.COM

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 2, 2018

Welcome to Worship today...



The season of Advent brings us to the beginning of a new Church Year. The word 'advent' refers to a coming. The Church looks for the coming of her Savior in this three-fold coming: his coming in the flesh at Bethlehem, his return in judgment, and his daily coming in Word and Sacrament. The Church encompasses all three facets of the season in a single word that defines Advent worship: "Come!" Throughout the prayers, verses, and lessons that single word is our invitation, our anticipation our sure and certain hope—Come, Lord Jesus!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: #1 *"The Advent of Our King"*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God invites us to come into His presence and worship Him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

CONGREGATION: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have sinned against you in

SERMON: Based on Genesis 19:15-17, 23-29

"People, Get Ready!"

1. Leave behind the things of this world.
2. Look forward to the day of your salvation.

After the Sermon please rise to sing "Create in Me," found on page 20 in the front of the hymnal.

THE OFFERING AND PRAYERS

PRAYER AND BLESSING, pages 24-25

CLOSING HYMN: #26 *"Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring":*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIA ORDERS: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to help beautify our church at Christmas, forms are available on the counter today. **Please use the forms to let us know you're purchasing a plant--(just one or as many as you like)** we want to list all donations in the Christmas bulletins. Use the form to also indicate if you are donating your flower(s) in loving memory of a loved one or to the glory of the new-born King, Jesus. Fill out a form and give it to Pastor or Bonnie (*She's willing to shop for you if need be*). **The day to have your poinsettia(s) here: Saturday, Dec. 22nd.** Church door under the bell tower open Sat 8:00-10:00 am. Thank you!



Advent & Christmas 2018 Worship Schedule

The Sundays in Advent prepare us for Christmas
Dec 2, Dec 9, Dec 16, Dec 23 (9 am)

Christmas Eve Worship is at 6:00 pm

Christmas Day Worship is at 9 am

New Year's Eve Worship is on Monday,
December 31, 2018 (6:30 pm)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 21:25-36

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

LUKE 21:25-36 (*Jesus teaches us to see the signs he talks about and to be ready when He returns again*). “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴ “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



THE APOSTLES' CREED, page 19

HYMN OF THE DAY: #2 “*Savior of the Nations, Come*”

thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

P: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

P: We hear his call to watch.

C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.



SING: (Tune: Hymn #48)

We Light the Advent Candles



1. We light the Ad - vent can - dles A - gainst the win-ter night
2. The first one will re - mind us that Christ will soon re-turn



to wel-come our Lord Je - sus Who is the world's true light
We light it in the dark - ness And watch it gleam and burn



to wel-come our Lord Je - sus Who is the world's true light
We light it in the dark - ness And watch it gleam and burn

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Pastor)



Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 19:15-17,23-29 - (There are many positive examples in Scripture of believers who were ready for the coming of the Lord's day. Lot's wife is a negative example of the doom that falls upon those who are unprepared for the judgment). With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished." ¹⁶When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two

daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. ¹⁷As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, "Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!" ²³By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. ²⁴Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. ²⁵Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. ²⁶But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. ²⁷Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the LORD. ²⁸He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace. ²⁹So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

Psalm of the Day: Ps.25, page 75 (Sing in Unison)

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (Paul prays for your continued faith until the day Jesus returns with his holy ones to bring us to heaven's glory). How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

VERSE OF THE DAY: Alleluia. "He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus." (Rev.22:20) Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!