

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
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The Third Sunday in Advent

12 December 2021

Welcome! *The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice.* The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning "Rejoice!" For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; "he has cleared away your enemies," "taken away the judgments against you" and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15–17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to "rejoice in the Lord always," knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even "the dead are raised up" (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Adelia Becker
Cindy Becker-recovering
Brian Becvar (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner)
Delvin Boriack-recovering
Pat Hughes-recovering (friend of James and Kathy Kalbas)
William Johnson (father of Heather Perry)
Gracelyn Kalbas-recovering
Hildegard Krause-recovering
Mary Loewe (mother of Christi Bradford)
Ruth Lorenz
Chris Miertschin
Shannon Miertschin-recovering
Leonard Mitschke-recovering
Kathy Mumm-recovering
Glenda Paskett-recovering (mother of Lyndy Krause and Melodi Oltmann)
Calvin Robertson
Katie Schmidt-recovering (mother of Pastor Schmidt)
Greg Sorrento-recovering (nephew of Doris Fritsche)
Kynlee Stewart-recovering
Josie Symm-recovering (sister-in-law of Mike & Barbara Symm)
Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Sean Weiser-recovering (grandson of Ken & Ruby Weiser)
Conway Whited-surgery (nephew of Ashley Schmidt)

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Annie Beasley (niece of Shorty & Sandra Schimank)
Joyce Bise
Don Claxton-father of Jeff Claxton
Russell Cleghorn (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)
Mandie Fritsche (granddaughter-in-law of Doris Fritsche)
Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)
Ross Hughes-recovering (friend of James and Kathy Kalbas)
Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)
Rev. Fred Krebs (friend of Shorty & Sandra Schimank)
Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)
Heather Lilly (granddaughter of Irene Noack)
Kathy Lohberg (niece of Adelia Becker)
Louis Muniz, Jr. (brother of Robert Muniz)
Carie Oltmann
Pat Richardson (friend of Darlene Schatte)
Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Karen Schmidt
Jim Sladek (friend of Johnathan Noack)
Barbara Symm
Judy Westbrook (mother of Heather Krause)
Tiffany Wittman (sister-in-law of Jason & Cindy Heuermann)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Irwin, CA
Kosh Osmun (son of Stephanie Miertschin), Ft. Hood, TX
Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Camp Hovey, South Korea

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our Sunday morning prayers either call the church office through the week or write out the request and give it to pastor on Sunday morning.

The Order of Service— 184 of the hymnal
The Hymns: 740, 345, 803, 818
Sermon Text: Zephaniah 3:14-20
The Sermon: **“Sing and Shout”**

✠ *We begin today with the order of Baptism on page 268 of the hymnal*

We welcome to God’s people through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Travis William Wiederhold

Travis is the son of Troy and Chelsea Wiederhold.

His baptismal sponsors are Jan Wiederhold, Julia Volk, Susan E. Volk, Zach Pietsch and Eric Schulze

- ✠ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God to commemorate the December, 1854 arrival of the Wends in Galveston, Texas and the 1871 dedication of St. Paul Lutheran stone church building.
- ✠ **The Altar stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Lisa Schmidt on her birthday by Pastor, Erich, Ann, Pablo, Krista and Elizabeth.
- ✠ **Side Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Travis’s baptism by his grandparents, Kenneth & Lynette Wiederhold.
- ✠ **Mission Goal.** In the Voters Meeting held on December 13, 2020, the Voters set our 2021 Mission goal at \$37,500.00. To date our Mission contributions are at \$36,553.48. We are **\$446.52** away from meeting our 2021 goal.
- ✠ **Voter’s Meeting.** The December Voter’s Meeting will be held this evening at 7:00 p.m. The agenda is available on the table by the bulletins. All voting members are encouraged to attend
- ✠ **Scrip Program.** Getting ready to do your holiday shopping, or giving gift cards as gifts? You can do it all with a Scrip Card. Order them through the Church’s Scrip Program. Orders can be placed through the Church Office or you can go online and order your cards. Order forms are available on the table at the back of the church.
- ✠ **Ebenezer Lutheran Church of Manheim,** will be having a German Hymn Song Service - December 15th @ 7 pm. Please join us for this celebration of Christ's birth in German.
- ✠ **LWML.** The LWML is again selling Christmas Cards. They are \$4/box. Contact Doris Fritsche at 979-212-1886.
- ✠ **Poinsettias:** The LWML will be selling Poinsettias for \$10.00 each to be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. To order please fill out the order form in the bulletin this morning, and return it to the Church Office or put it in the collection plate. Orders are due by Thursday, December 16th. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 16th.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- ✠ **Wreaths Across America.** Thank you to everyone who purchased wreaths this year. We met our goal, so every veteran grave will receive a wreath. The Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 18th at 9:00 a.m., at the cemetery.
- ✠ **The LAF** will meet at 1:00 p.m. this afternoon to set up and decorate the trees.
- ✠ **2022 Offering Envelopes.** The **2022** adult offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the church office meeting room. **Please continue to use the 2021 envelopes until the end of the year and then discard,** since offering envelope numbers often change from year to year. If you wish to give an offering to the 2020 church year, please give this before the New Year’s Day service. If you failed to receive your 2022 envelopes or have any questions, please contact the church office. **The children’s envelopes were sent home, with the children, on Friday.**
- ✠ **A Bark & Shop event** is being planned for Sunday, December 19th, from 10pm-4pm at Holy Cross, Warda Picnic grounds. This event is to help raise funds for Brisyn Dixon and his service dog as Brisyn battles autism spectrum disorder. For information contact Bianka Vanicek 979-505-0354, Lisa Brugger 979-966-8403 or Tiffany Noack 979-540-7117. Brisyn is the nephew of Mike and Tara Pietsch.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 19th, **“Charlie Brown Christmas Tree”.** Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The drama surrounding the first airing of “The Charlie Brown Christmas Special’ 56 years ago, against all odds, it gave viewers the true story of Christmas and doomed aluminum Christmas trees to near extinction. (Luke 2:1-15). Hear *The Lutheran Hour* each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
LAF Set up Christmas Trees – 1:00 p.m.
Voter’s Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Monday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Circuit Meeting @ St. Michaels, Winchester 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Favorite Carol Chapel Service – 8:30 a.m.
Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
Candelight Carol Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.
Acolytes: Grant Oltmann and Evelyn Williams

Thursday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Friday All School Christmas Party & Christmas Luncheon
ECC Christmas Party for Jesus
School Early Release

Saturday Wreath’s Across America-Wreath Laying Ceremony – 9:00 a.m.

Next Sunday **Song Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Benjamin Schonhoeft and Emma Short
LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m.

Birthdays: Today – Daniel Engler, Lisa Schmidt, Jeanna Wenke; 13th – Christina Fridenberg, Lillian Kunkel, Ashley Schmidt; 14th – Gary Kubsch, Colby Oltmann; 15th – Kari Jatzlau, Elizabeth Richardson, Brandon Schautschick, Douglas Weiser; 16th – Lane Gersch; 17th – Kathy Gersch, Brandi Perry; 18th – Christopher Birnbaum, Kenneth Lorenz, Lillian Wenke. God’s Blessings to you.

Serving today: **Elders**– Mark Jones and Steven Schautschick
Organist- Jack Wiederhold
Acolytes- Kaden Kasper and Brandon Burgdorf
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Troy Menzel **Assistant**- Mark Jones
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Johnathan Noack
Virgil Becker, Tim Symm, Chase Oltmann

Life Through the Church Year:

December 12 – Advent III

Our Savior embodies a God who does not just tolerate us in our physical weaknesses. He favors those who need Him the most (Luke 7:22), and that makes the Gospel the opposite of abortion and physician-assisted suicide. Is there any reality in which we may rejoice more than this (Philippians 4:4)? Why would we find this message offensive (Luke 7:23)? And why should we deny anyone else the delight by staying silent about it?

2021 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Candlelight Carol Service	Wed	Dec. 15	7:00 p.m.		General
Song Service	Sun	Dec. 19	8:30 a.m.		General
Christmas Eve	Fri	Dec. 24	6:00 p.m.		½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund
Christmas Day	Sat	Dec. 25	9:00 a.m.	English/ German	½ LSS & ½ LBT
New Year's Eve	Fri	Dec. 31	7:00 p.m.		General
New Year's Day	Sat	Jan. 1	9:00 a.m.	Communion	General

