

# **St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS**

**503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723**

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**Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor**

## **FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**November 30, 2025, 8:30 & 11:00 AM**

**Divine Service Setting 4 Abbreviated**



### **AS WE GATHER**

Today is not only the First Sunday in Advent but also the commemoration of St. Andrew, whose day governs the start of Advent. In this way, Andrew continues to point to Christ as we begin a new Church Year. How odd it is, then, that the Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is the same as the Gospel for Palm Sunday! This reminds us that Jesus came for the cross and empty tomb, and this is the only Gospel that can save us from sin and death. The cry of Advent is “prepare the way of the Lord.” We will echo the words of John the Baptist, heralding Christ’s coming. We will join in the chant of the crowd: “Hosanna to the Son of David!” (Matthew 21:9). We will hear Him speak to us through the voice of His Word. We will feast upon His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin. In all our preparations, we acclaim Him as Lord and receive Him and all His benefits.



## **FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION**

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)*

## **PRESERVICE MUSIC**

## **WELCOME**

**HYMN OF INVOCATION**      “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” LSB 340

**INVOCATION** *(Please stand, spoken responses)*

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **EXHORTATION**

*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

*[John 20:19–23]*

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **INTROIT**

*Psalm 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.*

Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation.

**Save us, we pray, O LORD!**

**O LORD, we pray, give us success!**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

**The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.**

**Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God; I will extol you.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation.**

## **KYRIE ♪**

*Mark 10:47*

**Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY: Advent 1**

*(Spoken responses)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the LORD  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be lifted up above the hills;  
and all the nations shall flow to it,

<sup>3</sup>and many peoples shall come, and say:  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;  
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE: Romans 13:8-14**

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and

any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

<sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand, sing)*

### **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the  
Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44** *(Spoken responses)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>36</sup>[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. <sup>37</sup>As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

<sup>40</sup>Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. <sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into  
hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended  
into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and the life ✚ everlasting. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**CHILDREN'S SONG OF THE MONTH:**    **"Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man"**

**Zacchaeus was a wee little man, a wee little man was he.  
He climbed up in a sycamore tree, for the Lord he wanted to see.  
And as the Savior passed that way, He looked up in the tree.**

**SPOKEN:    *And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down."***

**For I'm going to your house today.  
For I'm going to your house today.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**"O Bride of Christ, Rejoice"    LSB 335**

**SERMON**    *(Please be seated)*

**OFFERING**    *(Please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew.)*

*(Please stand)*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**PREFACE**    *(Spoken responses)*

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

**The Lord be with you.**

**And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:**

## **SANCTUS** ♪

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PAX DOMINI** *(Spoken response)*

**The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
Amen.**

## **AGNUS DEI** ♪

*John 1:29*

- 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*(Please be seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" LSB 350

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" LSB 334

**NUNC DIMITTIS** *(Please stand, sing)*

*Luke 2:29–32*

1. O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.
2. All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT** *(Spoken responses)*

**Amen**

**BENEDICAMUS**

*Psalm 103:1*

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**HYMN TO DEPART:**

**"O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide" LSB 355**

**LEAVING**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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