



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul Lutheran Church

## A Message from Pastor Mathew

During Advent we will light candles each Sunday as we sing. This first week the Sunday School children led the congregation in singing, “He came down that we may have love.” (ELW Hymn #253) In subsequent weeks we will sing of the light, peace, and joy that Jesus brings. And of course, Christ brings hope.

Do you have an Advent wreath at home? This week Pastor Amy and I put together a simple wreath with four small candles and one larger one in the middle. We added some evergreen branches from the yard.

During Advent I encourage you to find one or two times each week to light a candle or candles and reflect on these questions.

- The first week of Advent, ask “What has made me hopeful about the future this week?”
- The second week of Advent (begins Dec. 5th) ask, “Where have I found peace this week?”
- The third week of Advent (begins Dec. 12th) ask, “What has given me joy this week?”
- The fourth week of Advent (begins Dec. 19th) ask, “Where have I found love this week?”

Consider jotting down a few words or sketching a picture in response to these questions. As we prepare for Christ’s coming we look expectantly for hope, peace, joy, and love.

Advent Blessings,

Pastor Mathew



*The people of St. Paul gather to worship, reach out, and serve the Lord.*

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

December 1 – Tom Harms  
December 4 – Ethan Schumm  
December 4 – Tate Hendershott  
December 6 – Jeff Dixon  
December 6 – Carol Thorson  
December 11 – Ed Gentes  
December 15 – Adam Girard  
December 15- Addie Folkerts  
December 19 – Tom Rygh  
December 20 – Jim Russow  
December 24 – Dawn Boitnott  
December 27 – Lucy Kehinde  
December 27 – Tami Putnam  
December 28 – Sam Lambert, Sr.  
December 29 – Jack Bristow  
December 29—Rosemary Sutton

### December Anniversaries

December 23—Louis & Lucy Kehinde (1978)

### **Rebecca Circle**

The Rebecca Circle will meet on Thursday, December 16th. We will meet at 11:30 a.m. at Edinger's Filling Station for lunch, and return to the church for our meeting. All the members will participate in the Bible Study, which will be "Women of Advent". We draw strength from our spiritual grandmothers. Carol Thorson will have the devotions and Mil Girard will have the offering meditation. Please feel free to join us for this meeting.

### **Bible & Bagels**

The Bible & Bagels group will meet on Thursday, November 9th at 9:30 a.m. at Edinger's Filling Station. Any woman who would like to attend an informal Bible study is welcome to come to this meeting

### **Praise Band**

The Praise Band will be practicing on December 9 and 16 at 5:15 p.m. If you are interested in joining us for Christmas Eve, please contact Julie Mehlberg.

## Sunday School

Children 3 years old and up are invited to join us from 9:15 a.m.—9:50 a.m. each Sunday during the school year. Join us for Bible stories, songs, and activities that help us learn about God's love!

### **Adult Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:00 a.m. in the Hospitality Room and studies a scripture passage from that day's worship service.

### **Children's Chapel During Worship**

Children are welcome to go to Children's Chapel during worship following the Children's Message. After the sermon children will be brought back into the sanctuary. If your child prefers to stay in worship for the entire service, that's great too!

### **Christmas Families**

We have a sign-up list for Christmas families on the kiosk. 4 families (a total of 9 children) to buy for. We need the gift by December 10th.

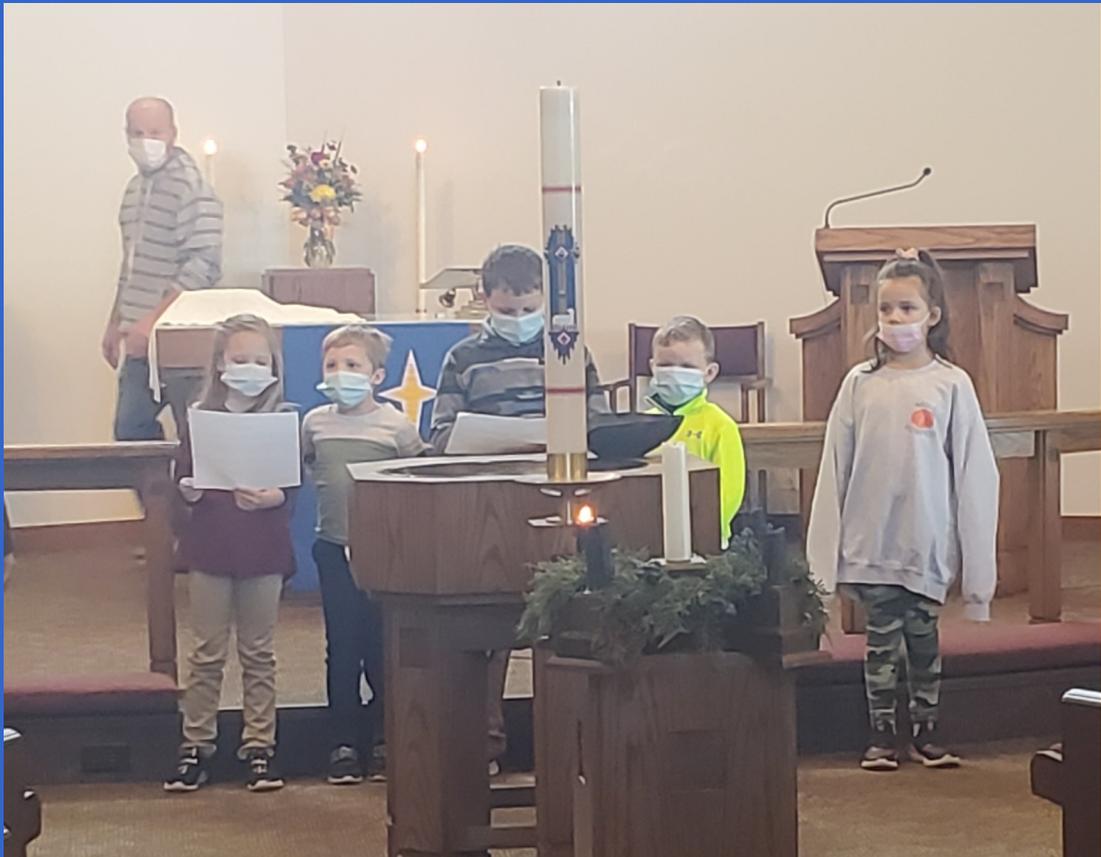
### **Poinsettias**

A sign-up sheet has been posted on the kiosk for Poinsettias. The price is \$7.99 again this year. The deadline for sign-up is December 13th.



### **Congregational Council**

President—Doug Oliver  
Vice President—Mark Mackinson  
Secretary—Shelly Heller  
Building & Grounds Liaison—Louis Kehinde  
Building Community Liaison—Mary Leach  
Lifelong Learning Liaison—Tonya Johnson-Wilcox  
Finance/Stewardship Liaison—Jake Dixon  
Worship and Music Liaison—Sandy Erickson  
Treasurer—Denny Leach  
Financial Secretary—Marian Brown



1st Sunday of Advent