St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA

Pontiac, IL

*The people of St. Paul*

*gather to worship,*

*reach out and serve the Lord.*

**Christ the King**

**November 25, 2018**



**Presiding Minister**: Pastor Wayne Shelksohn

**Worship Steward:** Mark Mackinson

**Musician:** Julie Mehlberg

**Lector:** Rosemary Sutton

**Psalms:** Ethan Schumm

**Acolyte:** Ethan Schumm

**Ushers**: Steve & Jill Rapp

**Greeters:** Carl & Gail Thorson

**Prayers:** Brad Solberg

**Communion Prep:** Becky Edinger

**Comm. Asst.**: Mark Mackinson & Marvin Miller

**Guest Ambassador:** Lucy Kehinde

**Hospitality:** Ginger Bauknecht & Gail Thorson

**Counters:** Cody Leach & Mark Mackinson

**Sunday School:** None

**Introduction**

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ’s coming again. So the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

***The flowers on the altar this morning were given by Doug & Peggie Schneeman in memory of Katie, Corey & Sloan Schneeman.***

**Holy Communion Instructions**

We believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine and offers to us the forgiveness of sin and new life in the community through this sacrament. All who believe in the presence of Christ in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are welcome to the table. Those who do not commune may come forward with their arms crossed over their chests to receive a blessing. Communion today will be by intinction. You may dip your wafer into either the darker colored liquid--the wine, or the lighter colored grape juice.

**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Prepare for Worship**

**Gathering Hymn Awesome God Words only**

**Gathering Hymn Awesome God (see screen)**

**When He rolls up His sleeves**

**He ain’t just puttin’ on the Ritz**

**(our God is an Awesome God)**

**There is thunder in His footsteps**

**And lightning in His fists**

**(our God is an Awesome God)**

**Well the Lord He wasn’t jokin’**

**When He kicked ‘em out of Eden**

**It wasn’t for no reason that He shed His blood**

**His return is very close and so you better be believin’**

**That our God is an Awesome God**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**He reigns from heaven above**

**With wisdom, pow’r and love**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**He reigns from heaven above**

**With wisdom, pow’r and love**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**When the sky was starless in the void of the night**

**(our God is an Awesome God)**

**He spoke into the darkness and created the light**

**(our God is an Awesome God)**

**Judgement and wrath He poured out on Sodom**

**Mercy and grace He gave us at the cross**

**I hope that we have not too quickly forgotten that**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**He reigns from heaven above**

**With wisdom, pow’r and love**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**Our God is an Awesome God**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, one God,

Who calls us into an everlasting hope,

Who guides us to springs of the water of life,

Who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.

**A: Amen.**

L: One with the communion of saints in all times and places,

Let us confess our sin against God and one another.

**A: Amen**.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

L: O God, our merciful redeemer,

**we confess the ways we live only for ourselves.**

**We fail to see you in our neighbor’s face.**

**We turn our ears from voices that cry out.**

**We pass by the hungry and the oppressed.**

**In your great mercy, forgive our sin**

**And strengthen us for service to all in need;**

**Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God,

Jesus Christ was given to die for you,

And for ☩ his sake,

God forgives you all your sin.

Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad,

Beloved people of God.

**A: Amen.**

**Greeting**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

L: Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Reading–Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14**

L: A reading from 7th Chapter of Daniel found on page 813 in your pew Bible, beginning at the ninth verse.

L:The Word of the Lord.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 93**

L: A reading from Psalm 93

L: The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength. He has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

**A: The floods have lifted up, O lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.**

L: More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the seat, majestic on high is the Lord!

**A: Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.**

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word**.**

**A: Thanks be to God.**

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**Second Reading–Revelation 1: 4b-8**

L: A reading from the 1st Chapter of Revelation found on page 1119 in your pew Bible, beginning at the fourth verse.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.*

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**Gospel–John 18: 33-37**

L: A reading from the 18th Chapter of John found on page 989 in your pew Bible, beginning at the thirty-third verse.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

L: The good news of the Lord.

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

**Message Pastor Wayne Shelksohn**

**Hymn of the Day Lift High the Cross ELW 660**

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**NICENE CREED**

**WE BELIEVE** in one God,   
the Father, the Almighty,   
maker of heaven and earth,   
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,   
the only Son of God,   
eternally begotten of the Father,   
God from God, Light from Light,   
true God from true God,   
begotten, not made,   
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:   
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,   
and was made man.  
  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;   
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;   
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,   
and his kingdom will have no end.  
  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,   
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,   
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession**

Each petition will end **“**Lord, in your mercy**”** and the congregation will respond “Hear our Prayer.”

L: With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

**A: Amen.**

**Pastor: Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, that we commend to you this day, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Sharing the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors.*

**Offering–**

[](http://www.google.com/imgres?start=47&hl=en&biw=1920&bih=985&tbm=isch&tbnid=ErYQJYrsib8AwM:&imgrefurl=http://www.bestchurchsupplies.com/products/GS39&docid=0YvdvALeanplkM&imgurl=http://www.bestchurchsupplies.com/images/attendancepadholderBK.jpg&w=126&h=120&ei=m2BPULWBAqOryQH81oHYBQ&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=1167&vpy=775&dur=704&hovh=96&hovw=100&tx=62&ty=84&sig=107086153480104895099&page=2&tbnh=96&tbnw=100&ndsp=58&ved=1t:429,r:36,s:47,i:21)*As we continue with our offering, please sign the attendance book located at the end of each pew. Guests and visitors, please include your address and phone number.*

**Presentation of the Gifts**

*Please rise, as you are able, while the gifts are brought forward.*

**Offering Hymn Create in Me A Clean Heart ELW 185**

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**Offering Prayer**

L: Creator God,

**A: you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

**Preface**

L: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,

Beyond the bounds of death,

And, as he had promised,

poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples.

At this, the whole earth exults in boundless joy.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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**Words of Institution**

**Lord's Prayer**

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**A: 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.**

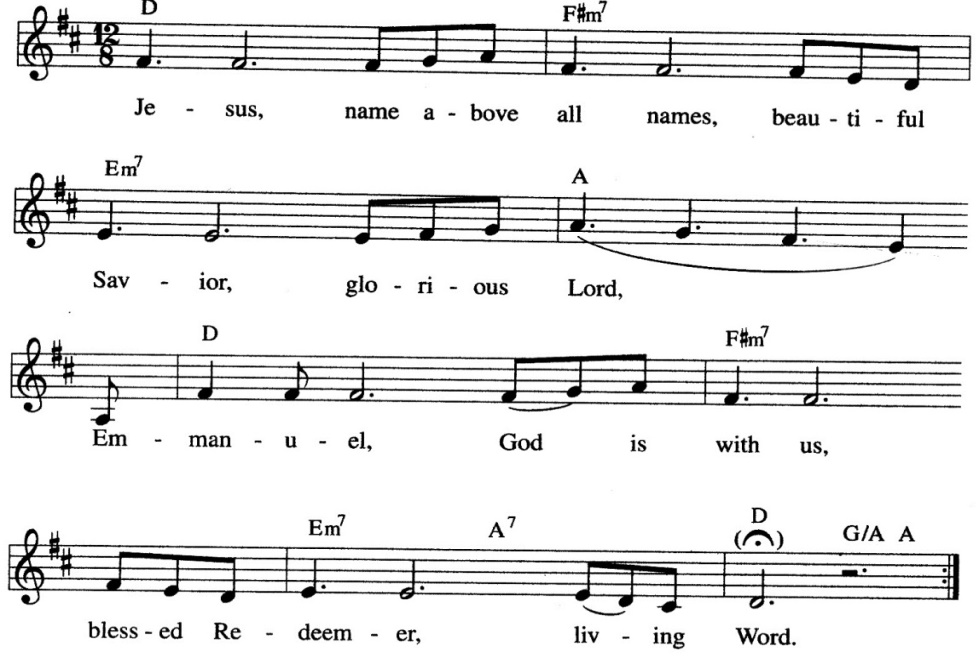
**Invitation to Communion**

L: Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

**Communion Hymn You are My All in All Words only**

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**Communion Hymn Jesus Name Above All Names W&P 77**

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**Communion Hymn I am the Bread of Life ELW 485**

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**Prayer After Communion**

L: Sovereign God,

In this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A: Amen.**

**SENT FOR WORK AND WITNESS**

**Announcements**

**Blessing**

L: The love of God surround you, the grace of ☩ Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore.

**A: Amen.**

**Dismissal**

L:Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

**A:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**THIS WEEK’S CHURCH CALENDAR**

Today 9:00 a.m.: Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m.: Confirmation Class

10:00 a.m.: Worship- “Cookies for College students/

Military”

Friday, 11/30/18 4:30 p.m.: Putting up and decorating Christmas tree

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m.: Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

10:00 a.m.: Worship – “Around the Rail” communion

**St. Paul Lutheran News—November 25, 2018**



**Prepare your heart for Worship**

**Scriptures for next Sunday**

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Psalm 25: 1-10**

**1Thessalonians 3: 9-13 Luke 21: 25-36**

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!**



Myrna Jackie

David Sutton Jerry Erickson

Anne Johnson Carol

Amber White Trent Olson

Bereaved families of:



For the months of November and December we will be collecting cereal.



Remember that our website for St. Paul ([www.stpaulpontiac.org](http://www.stpaulpontiac.org)) contains sermon videos, copies of the newsletters and bulletins. If you miss a Sunday, check it out!

**Bulletin Update**

In response to suggestions concerning the new format to the bulletin, we will be offering a small number of fully formatted ones for those who may have difficulty viewing the monitors. Please ask an usher for one if you are in need. The Worship and Music Team appreciates your input!



January 2019 Worship Services!

During the month of January, Pastor Wayne will not be with us; therefore the Worship and Music Team is organizing worship. We would like you to prayerfully consider sharing your gifts and talents in order for us to continue to provide meaningful and dynamic worship during Pastor’s absence. Here is a tentative schedule for January.

* January 6 – Lessons and Carols (will need readers)
* January 13 – Faith Stories – recognizing those baptized in 2018 – hymn sing
* ( we invite anyone interested in sharing a short faith story)
* January 20 – guest pastor with Holy Communion
* January 27 – Youth Sunday and or Make a Joyful Noise Sunday (we invite youth and anyone willing to share their musical talents)

Please see Sandy Erickson, Blayne Dixon, or John and Julie Mehlberg if you are interested in helping! Thank you for sharing your God-given gifts and talents!

**Worship Servers for December 2, 2018**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Wayne Shelksohn

**Worship Steward:** Mark Mackinson

**Musician:** Sara Solberg

**Lector:** Dawn Boitnott

**Psalms:** Kaylee Delheimer

**Acolyte:** Kaylee Delheimer

**Ushers:** Jack & Lori Bristow

**Greeters:** Ted & Virginia Bauknecht

**Prayers:** Kathy Rygh

**Communion Prep:** Jean Harrison & Kris Lambert

**Comm. Assist:** Karen Claypool & Susan Curtiss

**Guest Ambassador:** Pat Lund

**Hospitality:** Linda Harms & Mary Leach

**Counters: Pending**

The average weekly offering needed to meet our 2018 Mission Proposal is $2,776.00.

Offering for Sunday, 11/11/18 - $2,743.00

Offering for Sunday, 11/18/18 - $1,044.00

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Anyone who has pictures that can be shared on Facebook, please text or email Jake or Blayne Dixon. Please use the church directory for their numbers and email! Thanks for sharing! Let’s get “social!”

As good stewards of God’s creation, the worship and music team is attempting to decrease the amount of paper that we utilize for the bulletin. We are trying to use the monitors for the spoken liturgy as one way of “shrinking” the number of pages. We will use the larger size paper until it is depleted, but in the future we will be experimenting in decreasing both the number of pages and the size of the bulletin. Please be patient as we try new things. We want to continue to provide meaningful and dynamic worship through the Word, Sacraments, and song in order to bring people closer to God. If you have any helpful suggestions or questions, please see Pastor, Julie and John Mehlberg, or Sandy Erickson. Thank you again for your patience!

**ELCA GOOD GIFTS**

**ADVENT TREE ORNAMENTS**

**Have you ever selected a gift for someone in need from a Christmas tree in a store or shopping mall? Now you can do the same thing right here at St. Paul to support ELCA Good Gifts! Take a “honeybee” ornament and make your donation as a way to honor friends and loved ones with gifts that will make a difference in the world. We encourage you to pray about this opportunity and take the ornament home as a reminder of your gift. Please write your $20 check to St. Paul with a memo “ELCA Good Gifts.”**

**THANK YOU FOR SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS DURING THIS ADVENT SEASON!**



St. Paul Memorial Christmas Tree

Christmas is considered a time of joy and good cheer. But when you have experienced the loss of a loved one, Christmas also carries with it the challenger of grieving in the midst of all the celebrations. Each year, St. Paul’s gathering space is blessed with a beautiful Memorial Christmas Tree. The purpose of the tree is to include the memory of our loved ones and church friends during the Advent and Christmas seasons. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Memorial Tree.

Personalized angels are handmade and provided for each St. Paul saint who was a member, and everyone is invited to place an ornament of their choosing in memory of a nonmember. The tree will be up for the first Sunday in Advent. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Lou Bevers.

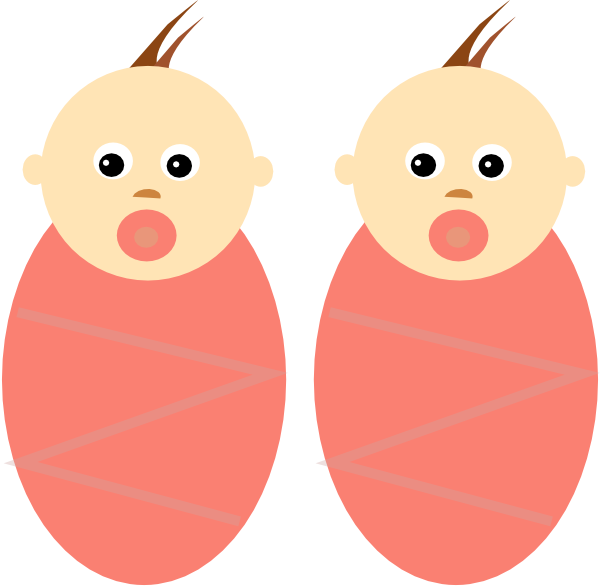


Confirmation Class students – We will be leaving after services on Sunday, November 24th to go to the Altitude Trampoline Park in Bloomington, IL. Anyone 18 years and older must fill out a waiver to jump, and those 17 years and younger must have a parent or guardian accompany them and fill out a waiver. You must bring a valid form of identification and the parent or guardian signing for the younger children must also offer some form of identification. The price for 1.5 hours will be $22.00 and this price will include special socks which are required to jump.

While it has always been the desire of St. Paul to celebrate and support the congregation as members celebrate marriage or the arrival of a new baby, the council also recognized the need for changed as we continue to grow and welcome new members. In order to be a more inclusive community of believers, the council has decided that wedding and baby showers are best handled privately by an individual in the congregation rather than having church-sponsored showers. If an individual would like to use our facility to host a private shower, he or she should contact the administrative assistant to confirm a date on the church calendar and complete a facility-use sheet.



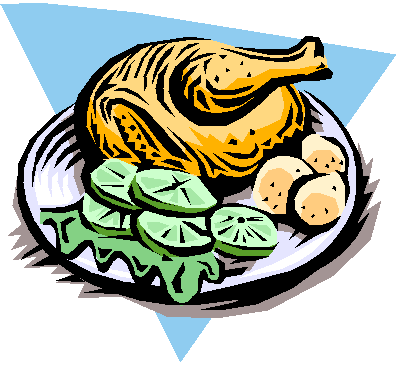
We would like to congratulate Wendy and John Boch on the birth of their twin boys, on November 2nd, James Frederick (Jack) and Owen Christopher. Also a big congratulation to Grandma Pat Lund! We wish God’s blessings on this family.

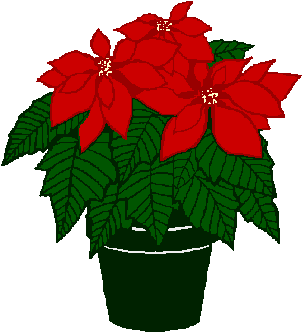


We will be putting up and decorating the church Christmas tree on Friday, November 30th at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to help. We will enjoy pizza after the decorating is completed.



There will be a Chicken Supper planning meeting on Sunday, December 16th following Church service.





***Time to sign up for Poinsettias***!

There will be a sign-up sheet and envelope for your check on the kiosk for anyone wanting to order poinsettias. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet if it is in honor or memory of someone. They are priced at $6.99 each. The deadline to sign up is December 8, 2018

**St. Paul Church Council**

**Council President: Marty Heller (815) 674-0768**

**Council Vice-President Sara Solberg (309) 507-3027**

**Bldg. Community Liaison: Mary Leach**

**(815) 674-8428**

**Secretary Lori Bristow**

**(815) 674-5103**

**Bldg. & Grounds Liaison Janice Schmidt**

**(815) 674-1985**

**Finance & Stewardship Liaison: Jake Dixon**

**(815) 674-1986**

**Lifelong Learning Liaison: Tonya Wilcox**

**(815) 848-2545**

**Worship and Music Liaison: Julie Mehlberg**

**(815) 844-6255**

**Financial Officers**

**Treasurer: Dennis Leach**

**(815) 674-7043**

**Financial Secretary: Marian Brown**

**(309) 825-1338**

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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