



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul Lutheran Church



## The Third Petition

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

*What is this? OR What does this mean?*

In fact, God's good and gracious will comes about without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may also come about in and among us.

*How does this come about?*

Whenever God breaks and hinders every evil scheme and will—as are present in the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; that would not allow us to hallow God's name and would prevent the coming of his kingdom, and instead whenever God strengthens us and keeps us steadfast in his word and in faith until the end of our lives. This is God's gracious and good will.

Have you noticed yet that when it comes to making God's name holy, or bringing in the kingdom, or doing God's will, it is not dependent upon our help or our prayer. "God's good and gracious will comes about without *our* prayer" but we ask that it goes to work in our lives. It goes about to break in us every **evil** scheme and will of three things. For Luther and the Lutheran confessions, Evil comes about in three forms, is known as the "Trinity of Evil", and is as indivisible as the Holy Trinity. It isn't as we often say, "The devil made me do it." Rather, it is the whole trinity of evil at work in our lives.

**The Devil** John 8:44 says, "when he lies, he lies he is speaking his native language, He is a liar and the father of lies." He tells us lies about who God is, he tells us lies about who we are, and he tells us lies about who our neighbor is. Through these constant lies, the devil wants us to doubt God's Good and gracious will. He also wants us to doubt who we are as God's beloved children and that we need to find ways to separate from our neighbor.

**The World** comes to us with a cornucopia of things and opportunities, some are good and some are bad. The world tells us that through what is offered, it is there that you will find true happiness and meaning. Just look at our advertisements that offer us this or that and or tell us that if we have them, we will be truly happy. And yet, these things never seem to deliver complete happiness or meaning.

**The sinful self** is nothing other than the old Adam and the old Eve deep inside of us that says I want to be my own God, I want my name to be holy, I want my will done, I want my Kingdom to Come, I want my Authority to be honored, and just keep piling on the I's and the devil and the world will cheer you on.

At his point, Paul says in Romans 7:24-25, "O wretched man that I am! Who will save me from this body of death? Thank God for Jesus Christ our Lord!"

God goes to work, strengthens us and keeps us steadfast in his word and in faith until the end of our lives. This is God's gracious and good will. Have you noticed how many times His Word is mentioned in Luther's explanations? John:1 tells us that God's Word became flesh (Jesus the Christ), that his word is in the Holy scriptures, and that it is proclaimed in community as we gather Sunday after Sunday to hear God's good and gracious will for us in Jesus Christ. He invites us to find ways to be neighbors. God gives us His good a gracious will Sunday after Sunday by giving us Jesus Christ and his salvation in water and in word, and in bread and wine. We ask in this prayer that it may also come about in and among us.

Pastor Wayne



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

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### December Birthdays

December 1 – Tom Harms  
December 4 – Ethan Schumm  
December 4 – Tate Hendershott  
December 4 – Ethan Schumm  
December 6 – Jeff Dixon  
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 30 – Cory Schott

### December Anniversaries

December 23 – Louis & Lucy Kehinde (1978)

### Rebecca Circle

The Rebecca Circle will meet on Thursday, December 15, at 1:30 p.m. at Edinger's Filling Station and have lunch. We will go to the church after lunch for our regular meeting. We will all participate for the lesson, "Advent Devotional, Good things come in small packages." Devotions will be given by Jean Harrison. Mildred Girard will give the offering meditation. All women of our congregation are invited and welcome to attend this meeting.

### Bibles & Bagels

The Bibles & Bagels group will meet on Thursday, December 8 at Edinger's Filling Station at 9:30 a.m. Any woman who would like to participate in an informal Bible study is welcome to attend this meeting.

### LEO for 2022

LEO (Let's Eat Out) gathers St. Paul members and friends on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy dinner. All are welcome to attend! This month LEO will meet at Bernardi's on December 21.

## Health & Wellness Sunday

Health & Wellness Sunday is the third Sunday of each month. Mary Leach or one of our parish nurses will be on hand before and after worship on these Sundays to check blood pressures and blood sugars, and to help you form questions for your health professional if needed.

### Please sign up for St. Paul's Texting Service!

If you would like to receive text messages with reminders and special announcements, please sign up for the St. Paul Texting Service by completing the following:

1. Send a text to 81010
2. Text the message: @stpaul210



St. Paul Lutheran  
December Christmas Calendar

December 4 after service: Advent lunch & crafts  
December 18 during service: Children's Program  
December 24 at 6:30 pm: Christmas Eve Service  
December 25 at 10:30 am: Christmas Day Service

All are welcome as we celebrate the  
birth of Jesus!

### Communion by Intinction

We will return to communion by intinction on November 28, the first Sunday in Advent. You will dip your bread into either the wine or grape juice during communion.

### Sunday Pastoral Schedule

December 4—Pastor Wayne  
December 11—Marcia Buchs  
December 18—Marcia Buchs  
December 24—Pastor Wayne  
December 25—Pastor Wayne

## Poinsettia Sign-Up

There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk for Christmas poinsettias. The price for this year is \$8.99 per plant. Please note on the sign-up for whom the poinsettia is given in honor of or in memory of. The deadline to sign up is December 16th.

## Advent Family Lunch Sunday, December 4

Join your church family for lunch and Advent activities immediately after worship on Sunday, December 4. There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk.

## Children's Christmas Program

The Children's Christmas Program will be during the service on Sunday, December 18. *The Greatest Birthday Party Ever* will feature the children of St. Paul, but additional volunteers from the congregation will also be invited to participate. There will be treats for all at Jesus's birthday party following worship.

