



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul Lutheran Church



**The Fourth Petition Of the Lords Prayer “Martin Luther”**

Give us today our daily bread.  
*What is this? OR What does this mean?*

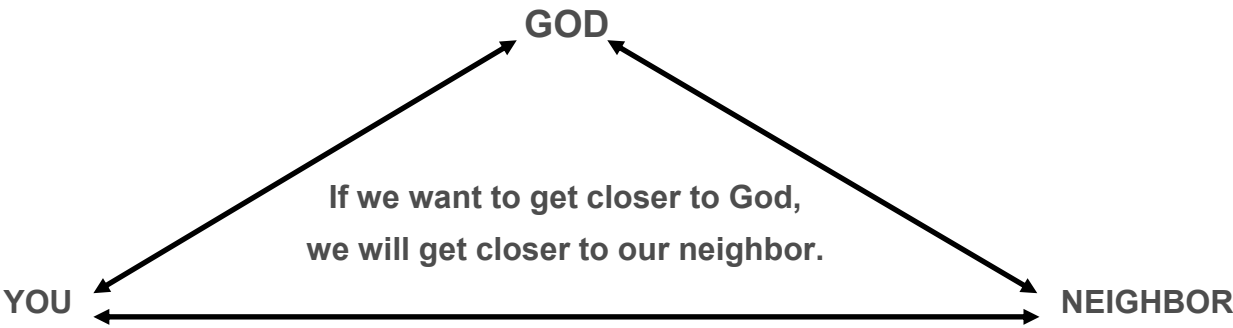
In fact, God gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that God cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving.  
*What then does “daily bread” mean?*

It is everything included in the necessities and nourishment for our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, houses, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

What is it that we expect to receive when we bow our heads and ask God to give us “today” our daily bread? Do we expect to be told God gives us “daily bread” without our asking for it? God gives “daily bread” to all, even in our evil state. Remember the trinity of evil tells the lies we hear about who God is, who we are, and who our neighbor is. Is it the belief that we get our daily bread because we deserve it? Is it the belief that the world will fulfill our real hunger? The prayer is simply that we stop and recognize what our “daily bread” is and where it truly comes from.

**What is the daily bread that we recognize?** It is not just food and drink at our table, but the clothes we wear to the table, the house that surrounds us, and our food (does our homeless hungry neighbor come to mind?). Check out who’s hidden beneath robe of the ghost of Christmas Present. It is two children called ignorance and want. We recognize the farm and field, the livestock, the dollar bills in our pocket, the yard we play in, the spouse we live with, the joy of children put into our trust, the leaders we have, the republic we pledge our allegiance to, the rain, snow, wind, heat and cold that we either rejoice in or curse. It is the peace we desire, and the decency that we are called to bring out from our inner being and see in our neighbor even when we don’t think they have any decency. God’s “daily bread” is the honor we are called on to bring to the world. And when we ask who are the people in our neighborhood, do we see them as our good friends and faith-full neighbors? Do we want to get close to God? Tonight as you pause before the first bite you might want to ask, “How do I get closer to my neighbor?”

Pastor Wayne



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

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### January Birthdays

January 1 – Joel Rapp  
January 4 – Tenley Westergreen  
January 8 – Tonya Wilcox  
January 8 - Remington Wilcox  
January 13 – Steve Rapp  
January 15 – Lori Hyde  
January 15 – Gladys Knudson  
January 15 – Peggine Schneeman  
January 18 – Shelly Heller  
January 18 – Jessica Mills  
January 19 - Judy Sykes  
January 20 – Scott Bauknecht  
January 21 – Mary Lou Bevers  
January 25 – Brooklyn Armetta  
January 27 – Greg Putnam  
January 30 – Don Bevers  
January 31 – Roger Austin

### January Anniversaries

January 1 – Jimm & Becky Edinger (1999)  
January 13 – Sam & Ellen Lambert, (1952)  
January 24 – Joe & Dawn Boitnott (2008)  
January 25 – Sam & Kris Lambert, Jr. (1975)

### Rebecca Circle

The Rebecca Circle will meet on Thursday, January 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Lucy Kehinde will lead the Bible Study from the January *Gathering* magazine. Jean Harrison will be the hostess and give a devotion. All women of our congregation are invited and welcome to attend this meeting. Please join us!

### Bibles & Bagels

The Bibles & Bagels group will not meet in January and February.

### LEO for 2023

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 on January 18 at Monical's at 5:30 pm.



## 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



### Thank you!

Thank you to all who gave me gifts and well wishes this Christmas. Blessing to all for a safe and Happy New Year!

*Pastor Wayne*

### Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers in memory of or honor of someone, please sign your name on the flower chart located on the kiosk. Flowers are \$25. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church, noting "altar flowers" on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your donations!

### Sunday Pastoral Schedule

January 1—SAM Marcia Buchs  
January 8- Pastor Wayne Shelksohn  
January 15—SAM Marcia Buchs  
January 22—SAM Marcia Buchs  
January 29—Pastor Wayne Shelksohn

### Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the Christmas season special at St. Paul. The season was filled with activities—church decorating, Advent Family Day, the Christmas Program, Jesus's birthday party, gift buying for high school students, and Advent and Christmas worship services. Thanks to all who participated in any way—your gifts are much appreciated!



Celebrating Christmas  
at St. Paul

