



St. Paul's

Celebrating 150 Years
Jesus' Story Still Unfolding

Messenger December 2022

Advent: A Double-Edged Revelation.

Rev. Thomas Parrish

In my many years as a pastor, I have had both long term and new members ask me: “Pastor, what is Advent about and why do we call it Advent? This is a good question that we often take for granted.

Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation. Prayer, penance, and fasting are appropriate during this season as we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. In truth Advent is like a double-edged sword. Both sides of the blade are lethal and overpowering.

Advent is Twofold

We celebrate the first come of Jesus as a baby in the manger. We are reminded of these incredible words in *Philippians 2: 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

We must also keep in mind the second Advent when Jesus will return to this world as the conquering king and judge. *Revelation 11:15– “Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”*

Advent Sundays

First Sunday of Advent: Prophecy Candle - Hope

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the birth of the messiah and a reminder that he is coming again.

Second Sunday of Advent: Bethlehem Candle - Faith

The second candle, also purple, represents faith. It is called the “Bethlehem Candle” as a reminder of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem. This journey was out of sight, humble and noticed by only a few. His second journey will be known by all. *Revelation 1: 7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.*

Third Sunday of Advent: Shepherd’s Candle - Joy

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the “Shepherd’s Candle,” It is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, plus the joy revealed in *Revelation 21:4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”*

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Angel’s Candle – Peace

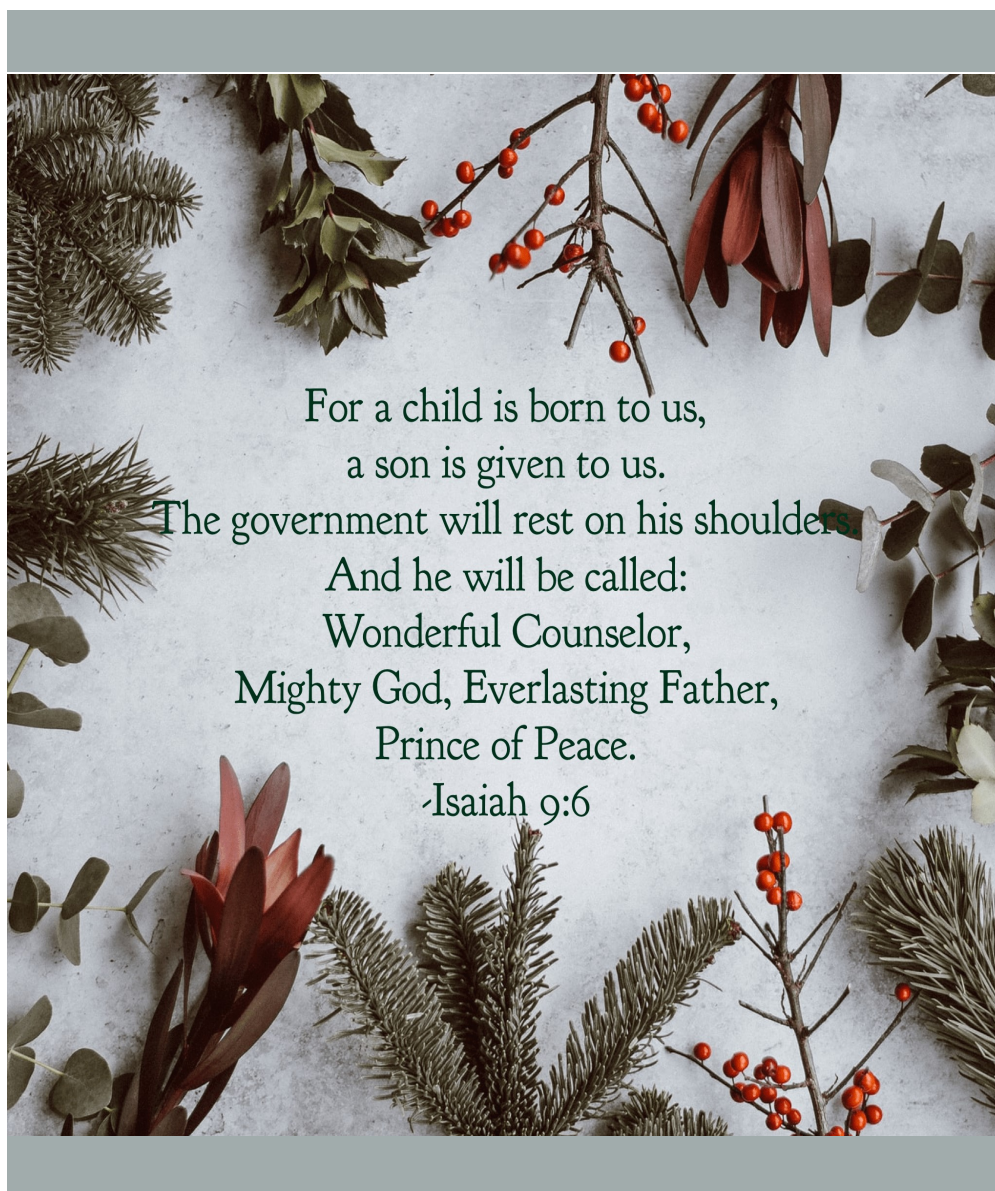
On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of

prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the “Angel’s Candle,” symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.” It also reminds us that the day is coming when, *For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:16*

The Center White Candle

The final candle, the White center candle is lit on Christmas representing that fact that the light of the world has come and is coming again!

We have a great deal to celebrate in Advent. Jesus’ first coming to die for our sins and his second coming when he will be the final ruler and judge of all!





Life Together

When: First Friday Each Month 6:00–8:30 pm

Where: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2nd Floor
1901 Portland Avenue S. Minneapolis, MN 55404

Who: For those who are struggling to grow but feel held back, or who may desire to understand more about spiritual warfare for yourself and for others.

What: Join us for a light meal, teaching, group discussion, worship, and prayer. Together we will explore Biblical truths to help equip us to overcome 'this present darkness' and more fully walk into our Godly destiny.

For Questions or to RSVP, Contact Phyllis
(Email: phyllis7.ndm@gmail.com or phone - 651-330-1913)

Mission: To set captives free in Christ's name; to present a SAFE PLACE
for the vulnerable, wounded, hurting, and oppressed; and
to serve and minister in the Spirit of Unity, Humility, Love & Compassion
(1 Peter 3:8)

Women's Ministries Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 10, 2022



Speaker: Linda Jones

Soup/Chili



Provided

If your last name starts with	Please bring
A-I	Veggie tray, salad
J-R	Bread/crackers
S-Z	Christmas cookies

All women welcome, bring a friend!



Operation Christmas Child Report

Janet French delivered 50 shoebox gifts to the Operation Christmas Child collection center on November 20! This is the most St. Paul's has ever collected! By January we should know the destination of our boxes. Pray for the kids who will receive the gifts and hear the gospel message.

ADVENT APPEAL -- We have a special appeal this Advent and Christmas season in support of a school for disabled children in Arsim, Kenya, where missionary Gloria Sauck worked for many years. Establishing this school is a dream of Jackson Leparsoore, a young man mentored by Gloria and whom Cheryl and Hal Biel also got to know on their visit to Kenya. Information about the project will be shared on each Sunday in Advent.

Men's Saturday Fellowship

Led by Pastor John Spaulding

Saturday, December 17 at 9:00am

Coffee & donuts are Provided!

At St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

Weekly Bible Studies



Mondays Community Bible study 6:15pm

Monday Night at 6:15pm

Contact Kristi Bolson for more information

Tuesdays Afternoon Bible Study 1:00pm

We are studying Who I Am In Christ and please join us when you can. Coffee and cookies are provided.

Holy Grounds Coffee House Fridays 6:15pm

Join us in welcoming our neighbors with conversation, prayer and Bible time. Contact Kristi Bolson or Daniel Olson for more information.

DECEMBER Adult Education

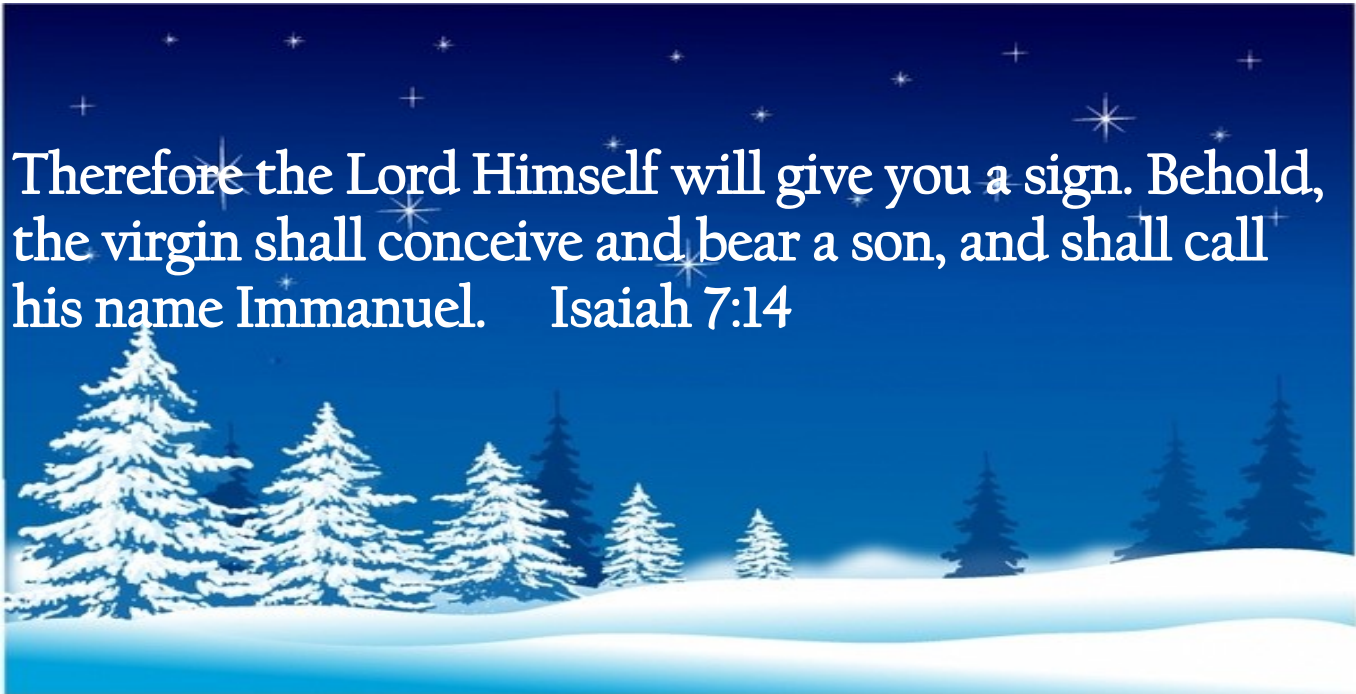
SUNDAYS 9:00AM

Coffee Provided!

FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIANITY is taught by Pastor Kim Stephens Sundays at 9:00am in the Satre Room.

WITH CHRIST IN THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER is taught by Jan Parrish Sundays at 9:00am in the fellowship hall.

STRANGE NEW WORLD is taught by Pastor John Spaulding Sundays at 9:00 am in the Pastor's office.



Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



CHILDREN'S
Sunday School



Kids Sunday School upstairs at 9:00 am.
All ages are welcome!

Good News Club every Wednesday

Bible Lessons. Songs. Memory Verses. Snacks!

When: Every Wednesday

Time: 6-7pm

Where: St. Paul's Church at 1901 Portland Ave

Who: For Children Ages 5-12 & parents
and older siblings

Contact: Cheryl Rich @ 651-333-0119



Ardelle Chelmen
9850 163rd Street W #337
Lakeville, MN 55044

Virgil & Mavis Showalter
9829 325th Avenue NW
Princeton, MN 55371

Marilyn Nordman
Catholic ElderCare
817 Main Street NE #318R
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Jim Bodurtha
Arbors at Ridges #6
Burnsville, MN 55337

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Yimesgen Ware
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Apple Valley Villa Senior Apts.
14610 Garrett Ave Apt #325
Apple Valley, MN 55124

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Redeemer Health & Rehab Center
625 W 31st Street #218
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Marjorie Rudi
2520 37th Ave south
Minneapolis, MN 55406

DOKKEN, Janet
Bethany at Silver Crest
2235 Lake Heights Dr. #106
Everett, WA 98208

Dennis Lokke
1468 Lametti LN
Arden Hills, MN 55122







Name	Date
Daniel Olson	12/04
Jamil Kojo	12/04
Benjamin Bopp	12/05
Richard Bopp	12/07
Tyler Haer	12/11
Nataley Beawin	12/12
Vicki Schroder	12/16
Vernon Ballou	12/17
Joel Aarsvold	12/18
Anthony Dubra	12/18
Donald Long	12/21
Rece Seufert	12/25
Patricia Jevning Augst	12/29

Missionary Birthdays

Name	Date
Gloria Sauck	12/01
Carol Lackey	12/08
Sara Panzo	12/31

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JOIN US
Online Or In-Person!
Sundays 10:30 A.M.