



# Monthly Messenger

## St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

### December 2022

*"We are God's servants, saved by grace, through faith, commissioned to share the Word of Christ to all."*

#### A Message from Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Why did we see hints of the Christmas season start already in late October? Consider this possible explanation. The Christmas season apparently started earlier because people wanted the joy and peace of the season to replace the frustration and exhaustion they have endured so far this year. They hope they can escape their unpleasant circumstances.

What about you? Do you find yourself hoping that the "season" will change the world and fill you with a good feeling?

Maybe it could, but there is a problem. We sabotage the season. We don't have the strength to keep ourselves from ruining it. This is how it really goes: I try to follow Jesus, hold my family close, and love others more than myself, but I know I fall short (no matter how early I start in the season or year).

Is there any hope of a solution? There is only one way – *Jesus*. Jesus intentionally came into this world of disappointment and suffering to bring us peace. Despite our own weaknesses; regardless of our circumstances, we can have the peace *of* God, because we have peace *with* God. Jesus came to set us free from this fallen and dark world. As a man, Jesus was able to relate to us. "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin" (Heb. 4:15). The Incarnate Son of God was able to be our Savior from sin. Through His suffering, death and eventual resurrection, He made peace with God on our behalf. "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by mak-

ing peace through His blood, shed on the cross" (Col. 1:19-20). There is nothing that can "separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:39), and that is why we can have the peace *of* God all year long.

Peace is available to us because of the first "Silent Night." Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and He can lead us to a feeling of peace. My prayer is that we can know and feel His peace every day and not just for a season.

Remember – you matter to God and you matter to me,

Rev. James R. Bruner

*"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."* 1 John 4:10-11

*Thank You*

It is an honor and joy to serve you as your pastors. We want to be faithful shepherds who lead, feed, and protect God's flock. **Thank you** for your expressions of appreciation to us during the Pastor Appreciation month. You are all dear to our hearts.

-Pastor Jim Bruner & Pastor Tim Martinal

#### St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

4941 W. Center St.  
Millington, MI 48746  
989-871-4581

stpaul-millington.org

Email:

church.office@spsmill.org

School Website:

school.stpaul-millington.org

Rev. James Bruner  
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Tim Martinal  
Associate Pastor

**Worship Services**  
Saturday 7PM

Sunday 8:30 & 11AM

(11AM Also live-streamed)

**Bible Study/Sunday School**

9:45AM

+++++

**In this Issue:**

Spiritual News  
Upcoming Events

Lectionary

Memorials

School News

Area News

Birthdays



*The December Messenger is sponsored in thanksgiving to God for the birth of Jesus, from Jim & Jan Kríbs.*

## Worship Times / Scripture / Faith on Fire

### St. Paul Worship Times

Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 8:30 & 11AM  
Livestream at 11AM

Bible Study/Sunday School  
Sundays at 9:45AM

\*Contemporary 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

\*Communion 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 8:30AM  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 11AM &  
Sat. eve of that weekend

\*Matins 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Weekend

If you would like to be added to our email list, please  
go to [stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html](http://stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html).

### Scripture Readings

#### Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>

*Isaiah 11:1-10*  
*Romans 15:4-13*  
*Matthew 3:1-12*

#### Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>

*Isaiah 7:10-17*  
*Romans 1:1-7*  
*Matthew 1:18-25*

#### Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>

*Isaiah 35:1-10*  
*James 5:7-11*  
*Matthew 11:2-15*

#### Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

*Isaiah 52:7-10*  
*Hebrews 1:1-6*  
*John 1:1-14*

### Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday from 10AM-3PM

### Contact Information

If you need to speak to one of the pastors or someone in the church office outside of office hours call 871-4581 #3 and leave a message or email [church.office@spsmill.org](mailto:church.office@spsmill.org). We will reply as soon as we can. In case of emergency, call Pastor Bruner 989-233-1994 or Pastor Martinal 402-672-9817.

### Children's Bulletins

**Children's Bulletin Drawing** - If your **child completes and turns in their children's bulletin** in the marked box in the lobby, they are entered into a drawing for a gift to strengthen and encourage their faith. Once a month, one (1) bulletin will be drawn at random for the gift. Please include a name and contact information. Every week is another opportunity to enter. This is a great way to encourage your child to participate in worship.

### Advent Devotion Books

Large or small print Advent Books are on the table in the narthex.

# FAITH ON FIRE

Sundays at 9:45AM

**Preschool-Grade 2 Faith Spark:** Discover Leaflets have interactive coloring and drawing activities.

**Grades 3-5 Faith Flare:** Bible Guidebooks have colorful images to draw in students.

**Grades 6-8 Faith Ignite:** Defend Journals have thought-provoking questions to encourage critical-thinking skills.

**Grades 9-12 Faith Flame:** More in-depth Defend Journals help students defend their faith to those who may challenge them.

**Adults Faith Blaze:** Will study God's Word in Pastor's Bible Studies.

We will also offer adult supervised toddler care in the nursery for children too young to attend the early childhood program.

**Coffee Hour** between services in the Parish Hall. Grab a cup of coffee and a snack before heading to "Faith on Fire." Volunteers needed to keep Coffee Hour going. Sign up in the Parish Hall.

### Messenger Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor the Messenger for a month in 2023, please call the church office. The cost is \$75.00 per month.

### Altar Flowers

The 2023 Flower Chart is hanging in the hallway between the church mailboxes. If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please add your name, phone number, and center or side vases. Call the church office for bulletin wording and call the florist of your choice for ordering.



### Lutheran Ministries "Worship for Shut-Ins"

Sundays at 11:30AM on  
TCT Net. (DirecTV 377)  
Sundays at 11:30AM on WAQP 49

### The Lutheran Hour Radio

1400 AM Sunday at 8:30AM

# Upcoming Events / Meetings

## Upcoming Events

### Zumba

Zumba Saturdays at 10AM in the Activity Center.  
\$1 at the door!

### Quilting

**Quilters:** There will be NO Quilting Dec. 20 or 27. We will quilt on Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 from 1-3PM in the Parish Hall. No skills necessary. Everyone is welcome. Come and see how God can use you to help those in need. See you there. Remember – if school is closed for bad weather, there is no quilting. Quilting will go back to every week beginning Jan. 3, 2023.

### Men's Bible Study

Sat., Dec. 3rd at 8AM in the Library.

### Scrapbooking

Sat., Dec. 3rd from 9AM-7PM in the Projects Room.  
\$6.00 per person. Bring a dish to pass.  
Call the school office to RSVP.

## Toys and Joys Event

Sat., Dec. 3rd from 10PM-2PM in the Parish Hall

This event is for area families who need a little help, love and joy this CHRISTmas season. All are welcome to attend. We shop throughout the year to find items at a discounted price to pass on that savings to families who may be struggling financially this CHRISTmas season.



If you are able to help us share a little joy, we will be collecting new or like-new toys, books, teenager gifts, monetary donations, etc. for Toys and Joys. Please drop off any items at the church or school offices until Fri., Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Blessings, Peace & JOY! For more information call 989-871-4581.

*Please join us for*

## **Cocoa & Carols - A Community Event**

St. Paul Lutheran School

Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> from 2-4PM (Open House)



Families of all ages welcome to join us for Cookie Decorating, Games, Crafts, The Christmas Story Reading, Christmas Music, Hot Cocoa & more!

Unfrosted Sugar Cookies are needed for the children to decorate.

Please bring to the school on Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> or Sat., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> after 1PM. Thank you!

## Area News

**Living Nativity** – A Journey to Bethlehem at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Frankentrost Fri., Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7-9PM; Sat., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8PM; and Sun., Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-8PM. Experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem on that blessed night when Jesus Christ was born. This is a free 30 minute outdoor walk, so dress for the weather. Fellowship and refreshments will follow in the school.

**Millington Arbelo District Library Craft Night** every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 4:30-6PM. Tweens through adult ages can participate in making a different craft each week. Watch the Facebook page or go to millingtonlibrary.info for more details and to see the craft.

**Lunch with Santa** Sat., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11AM-1PM at the Millington Community Center. Children can make a craft and decorate a cookie. Lunch \$5.00 per person – choice of hot dog, sloppy joe, or slice of pizza with a bag of chips, brownie and drink. Santa hope to see all the good little boys & girls!

**Valley Lutheran Concert** - On the first Christmas, in a tiny town, the greatest miracle the world has ever seen was taking place: the God of the universe came to Earth as a simple baby. And the world was changed forever. On December 11 at 3:00pm, join the Brass, Handbells, and Choirs of Valley Lutheran High School at St. Michael's Lutheran Church - 3455 South Van Buren Road, Reese, MI - as we celebrate the Savior who was born in a manger. We hope you will join us!

Merry  
Christmas

## Meetings

### **Social Concerns**

Tues., Dec. 6th at 5:30PM in the Council Room

### **Stewardship**

Tues., Dec. 6th at 7PM

### **Council**

Wed., Dec. 7th at 7:30PM in the Library

### **\*\*\*Voters' Meeting\*\*\***

Sun., Dec. 11th at 1:30PM in the Church  
All are encouraged to attend.

### **Stephen Ministry**

Mon., Dec. 12th at 7PM in the Gathering Room

### **Board of Education**

Tues., Dec. 13th at 6PM

### **Elders**

Wed., Dec. 28th at 7PM in the Gathering Room

# Daily Lectionary / Serve & Volunteer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>December Daily Lectionary</b>						
<b>5</b> Is. 11:1-12:6 2 Pt. 2:1-22	<b>6</b> Is. 14:1-12 2 Pt. 3:1-18	<b>7</b> Is. 24:1-13 1 John 1:1-2:14	<b>8</b> Is. 24:14-25:12 1 John 2:15-29	<b>9</b> Is. 26:1-19 1 John 3:1-24	<b>10</b> Is. 26:20-27:13 1 John 4:1-21	<b>11</b> Is. 28:14-29 1 John 5:1-21
<b>12</b> Is. 29:1-14 Jude 1-25	<b>13</b> Is. 29:15-30:14 Rev. 1:1-20	<b>14</b> Is. 30:15-26 Rev. 2:1-29	<b>15</b> Is. 30:27-31:9 Rev. 3:1-22	<b>16</b> Is. 32:1-20 Rev. 4:1-11	<b>17</b> Is. 33:1-24 Rev. 5:1-14	<b>18</b> Is. 34:1-2, 8-35:10 Rev. 6:1-17
<b>19</b> Is. 40:1-17 Rev. 7:1-17	<b>20</b> Is. 40:18-41:10 Rev. 8:1-13	<b>21</b> Is. 42:1-25 Rev. 9:1-12	<b>22</b> Is. 43:1-24 Rev. 9:13-10:11	<b>23</b> Is. 43:25-44:20 Rev. 11:1-19	<b>24</b> Is. 44:21-45:13, 0-25 Rev. 12:1-17	<b>25</b> Is. 49:1-18 Matt. 1:1-17
<b>26</b> Is. 49:22-26, 50:4-51:8, 51:12-16 Matt. 1:18-25	<b>27</b> Is. 51:17-52:12 Matt. 2:1-12	<b>28</b> Is. 52:13-54:10 Matt. 2:13-23	<b>29</b> Is. 55:1-13 Luke 1:1-25	<b>30</b> Is. 58:1-59:3 Luke 1:26-38	<b>31</b> Is. 60:1-22 Luke 1:39-56	

## Opportunities to Serve, Volunteer and Donate

### Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the altar, sign up on the glass case in the narthex by Sun., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to add your name, bulletin wording, number of plants, and payment info. Plants are \$18.00 each and can be picked up after the service on Christmas Day. Please make checks payable to Pam Hanlin.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Stewardship has set up a **SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE BOARD**. The board is located in the hallway across from the mailboxes. Special use envelopes for several different funds are available at the board. If you are interested in supporting any of these funds please use the envelopes provided. Some of the envelopes are taking the place of special envelopes no longer included in the 2023 offering envelope box. If you are involved with a special fund within the congregation that you would like to see included in the board please request that through the Church Council.

### Mission Lunches

Anyone wishing to **help prepare sack lunches** to take to the mission are asked to come to the St. Paul kitchen on **Fri., Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30PM. Monetary donations are welcomed and needed for the lunches. Contact Paul Schoenknecht 871-2280 if you are willing to help.

### Candy Bags

Every year, candy bags are given to the children after the Children's Christmas service. Monetary donations are welcome to help defray the cost of the candy, peanuts, and oranges. Please place donation in an envelope marked "Candy Bags" and place in the offering or bring to one of the offices.

### Altar Guild Help

**Ladies:** The **Altar Guild** is very much in need of additional help. This is an excellent way of serving your Lord. Please sign up for this in the narthex or see Fay Carmona.

### Staff Christmas Gift

Every year our St. Paul staff goes above and beyond daily for the work of the kingdom. To show your appreciation, please consider giving to the **"Staff Christmas Gift."** Cash donations can be placed in an envelope marked "Staff Gift" and put in the offering box, mailed to the office, or brought to the church office before Sun., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. No checks please. Remember, this is not a tax deductible gift and will not be recorded on your statement. Thank you for remembering our staff this Christmas.

### Oxford Relief

We are approaching the anniversary of the tragedy at **Oxford High School** last November 30<sup>th</sup>. Since last year, Journey Lutheran Church in Oxford has been actively helping provide resources for counseling to anyone who needs it. Our Dorcas/LWML chapter is going to be gathering funds to help as the need continues, especially since painful memories may arise as the anniversary approaches. If you would like to help, place your gift in the offering box or bring it to the office in an envelope marked "Oxford Relief." We will send it all together to Journey Lutheran Church in Oxford.



Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Was Born


# St. Paul Lutheran School

## December 2022

St. Paul Lutheran School is committed to engaging students with a comprehensive education grounded in God's Word to prepare them for a life in Christ.

As we begin December, let's prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of our Lord; not only His first coming as a baby but also for His second coming when He shall reign forever!

### Important December Dates

	Dec. 2	½ day of classes with bussing, dismissal at 11:15 a.m.	
	Dec. 4	Church Christmas Concert	4:00 p.m.
		followed by Songs of Praise dinner/Silent Auction	
	Dec. 7	Advent Service	6:30 p.m.
	Dec. 9	PTL Family CHRISTmas Movie	5:00 p.m.
	Dec. 11	Book Fair	
	Dec. 14	Advent Service/ Preschool CHRISTmas	6:30 p.m.
	Dec. 16	Last Day of classes	
	Dec. 17- Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation	
	Dec. 18	K-8 CHRISTmas Service	4:00 p.m.
	Dec. 24	CHRISTmas Eve Service	6:30 p.m.
	Dec. 25	CHRISTmas Service	10:00 a.m.

If there is a school delay or cancellation, you will see notifications on any of the major television or radio stations and through our school notification system.



### School Musical Opportunities



Dec. 4	Church Christmas Concert: all school choirs, Band	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 15	Advent/ Preschool CHRISTmas Service	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 18	K-8 grade CHRISTmas Service	4:00 p.m.



**Spartan Sports** Our basketball season for boys and girls on the B-teams finishes up this month. The girls start play followed by the boys. Come and support the children as they use their God-given talents.



### Girl's & Boy's B-team Basketball ( girls play first followed by the boys)



Dec. 2	at Christ the King, Sebawaing	5:00 p.m.
Dec. 6	with St. Paul United	4:45 p.m.
Dec. 9	at St. Michael's, Richville	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 13	at St Lorenz, Frankenmuth	4:30 p.m.



*Blessings to you and your family from the St. Paul Lutheran Church and School faculty and staff!*

*Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*

*I Corinthians 10:31*





## December Birthdays - Happy Birthday!!

Andrew Weber	1	Lorine Edler	11	Paul Rogers	19
Taylor Wirsing	1	Jeffrey Johnston	11	Taren Webster	19
Kamden Keinath	1	Janette Keinath	11	Steven Holmes, Sr.	20
Deborah ILL	1	Dana Earl	11	Allen Marks	20
Judith Snover	1	Terry Reinbold	11	Chester Petzold	20
Delores Reinert	2	Jason Stewart	11	Norma Taylor	20
Tyler Rude	2	Judy Grulke	11	Alexis Hudie	20
Logan Myers	2	Logan Wirsing	12	Holli Johnson	20
Jodi Torrey	2	Linda Windt	12	Seth Sundberg	20
Ella Chapman	2	Cameron Loomis	12	Trudie Mohr	20
Zachary Simon	2	Michelle Stewart	12	Julie Rude	21
Kara Polk	3	Fran Carnet	13	Megan Curtis	21
Jeremy Corrigan	3	Gerry Smith II	13	Trenton Weber	21
Brooklyn Ewing	3	Ashtyn Stewart	13	Nicholas Schultz	21
Dawn Knoll	3	Harper Koeltzow	13	Jackie Petzold	22
Kara Stevens	3	Lisa Bach	14	Collin Strouth	22
Melissa Sandusky	3	Dennis Schmidt	14	Connor Simon	22
Sarah Waterman	3	Alison Reinig	14	Larry Kammer	23
Daniel Petzold	4	Amy Casto	14	Alex Kern	23
Lori Kowitz	4	John Allard	15	Sheila Peche	23
Holly Leach	4	Karen Bruner	15	Sarah Campbell	23
Brad Sayles	4	Melissa Hager	15	Marlene Keipinger	23
Deb Hazel	4	Cherri Herrick	15	Rhonda Nielson	23
William Woodward	5	Doris Meier	15	Arnie Petzold	24
Eric Galant	5	Lincoln Keinath	15	Gary Wagner	24
Daniel Karcher	5	Dylan Horning	15	Christine Jaruzel	24
Lucas Dobis	5	Jonah Horning	15	Finnlee Lowrey	24
Scott Jensen	6	Nicolas Horning	15	Jena Giardini	25
Kari Johnston	6	Cheryl Anderson	16	Kassandra Mills	26
Connie Keinath	7	Denise Miller	16	Anna Reinig	26
Faydra Myers	7	Reagan Hoard	16	Gerald Higgins	26
Rylyn Roth	7	Lexie Swink	16	Lucas Hoard	26
Elizabeth Selich	7	Andy Rosebush	16	Larry Jensen	26
Candice Tatro	7	Susan Washburn	16	Melody Payea	27
Molly Wolfington	7	Elaine Bickel	16	Marie Ross	27
Carol Weber	8	Sarah Pobocik	17	Tamera Dreher	27
Mary White	8	Carter Stevens	17	Robert Fall	28
Grace Adamic	9	Shelby Jesberg	18	Lynnette Keinath	28
Matthew Allen	9	Adam Polk	18	Aiden Koch	28
Kaitlyn Burton	9	Carol Burchett	18	Hannah Cain	28
Danielle DeOrnellas	9	Karri Smith	18	Matt Ayotte	29
Lillian Sergent	9	Brody Willson	18	Floyd, III Harsen	29
David Janowski	9	Angelique Babcock	18	Cameron Henderson	29
Joshua Keinath	9	Aidan Bach	19	Alexis Sutton	29
Joshua Petzold	9	Sandra Brow	19	Jeff Staple	30
Michelle Sayles	9	Taren Ewing	19	Donna Torrey	30
Elizabeth Goodhue	10	Marie Trinklein	19	Shannon Keinath	30
Violet Myers	10	Nicholas Borchering	19	Teresa Walter	31
Chy Rueckert	10	Dane Coleman	19	Brody Germain	31
Geri Blue	11	Karrie Colman	19	Dean Mason	31
				John Osborn, Jr	31

# Financial Summary / Memorials / The Church Year

## October 2022 Income & Expense Summary

October General Fund Income:	\$195,707.29
October General Fund Expenses:	\$99,107.58
October surplus (deficit)	\$96,599.71
Overall surplus (deficit) to date	\$359,247.14
Gen Fund Checking Balance, including Child Care grants	\$478,246.85
Child Care grants available	\$343,030.00
Gen Fund Checking Balance, without Child Care grants	\$135,216.85
<b>RESTRICTED Cash Accounts Summary**</b>	
School Designated Accounts balance:	\$100,687.90
Church Designated Accounts balance:	\$100,077.91
All Memorials balance:	\$19,449.44
** This money is RESTRICTED***	\$220,215.25
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
Contributions to Grantparent Fund October	\$960.00

## Memorials & Special Gifts

In Loving Memory of Victor Schwab on His 90th Birthday	General Fund	\$100.00
In Memory of Mrs. Ann Petzold	General Fund	\$5.00
In Memory of David Bradley	General Fund	\$50.00
In Memory of Leonard Ross	General Fund	\$810.00

## The Time of Christmas - Advent

*Begins on the fourth Sunday Before December 25, or the Sunday closest to the Festival of St. Andrew (Nov. 30), and ends with midday prayer on Dec. 24.*

The Savior's birth is second in importance only to His resurrection on Easter Sunday. During the Time of Christmas, Christians reflect on God's great and gracious gift of Himself.

The Church Year begins with Advent (from Latin *adventus*, which means "coming into"), a four-week period of preparation before Christmas. The story of Jesus during Advent is the story of hope coming into the world. When the time was just right, God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. The Advent season teaches us to prepare to receive Jesus, the hope of the world.

### In Advent, we wait for our coming King.

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 11:1-2; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

### Advent Practices and Traditions

- ◆ The color for Advent is blue, which symbolizes anticipation and hope in our coming King. Violet can also be used during Advent as a symbol of our repentance in preparation for our coming King.
- ◆ We do not sing the Gloria in Excelsis in the Divine Service during Advent. This is the angels' song at Christmas, so during Advent we pass over this traditional Hymn of Praise in silent anticipation.
- ◆ It has become common to use an Advent wreath to mark the season. This wreath has four candles – one for each week in Advent. As these candles are lit each week, our anticipation mounts as we look forward to Jesus' coming.
- ◆ We gather for midweek services. These services heighten our awareness and anticipation for the celebration of Christ's coming in the flesh.

## The Time of Christmas - Christmas and its Season

*Begins with evening prayer on Christmas Eve and ends with midday prayer on Jan. 5th.*

Christmas tells the story of Jesus as the long-awaited King who has finally come to save us. Jesus, God's Son, the King of heaven and earth, is born in Bethlehem-the Son of God is a baby lying in a manger.

The evening services of Christmas Eve mark the beginning of the Church's celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord. The season continues after Dec. 25th over a period traditionally known as the twelve days of Christmas. This season includes a number of lesser festivals: The Festival of St. Stephen, the first martyr, occurs on Dec. 26th. St. John, apostle and evangelist, is remembered on Dec. 27th. The death of the babies in Bethlehem (Matt. 2:16-18) is observed on Dec. 28th as the Festival of the Holy Innocents. The circumcision and naming of Jesus on the eighth day after His birth (Luke 2:21) is celebrated on Jan. 1st.

### At Christmas, we worship our God made flesh.

Luke 2:1-24; John 1:1-18; Galatians 4:4-5

### Christmas Practices and Traditions

- ◆ We sing the Gloria in Excelsis and join the angels at Christmas in their Hymn of Praise: "Glory be to God on high: and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men."
- ◆ The color for Christmas and its season is white, symbolizing the divinity, eternity, purity, light, and joy of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Many Christians celebrate with special services during the Christmas season. A special Divine Service late on Christmas Eve reminds us how the angels announced the birth of Jesus to shepherds who were "keeping watch over their flock by night." On Christmas Day, we celebrate the Word of God made flesh and receive Him in the Means of Grace. And on Jan. 1st, eight days after His birth, we gather in worship to begin the year in His name, Jesus, which means "the Lord saves," for He has come to save His people from their sins.



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School  
4941 W. Center St.  
Millington, MI 48746

# December 2022



## Upcoming Special Services

*Christmas Choir Concert: Sun., Dec. 4th - 4PM*

### *Advent Services*

*Wed., Nov. 30th - 6:30PM*

*Wed., Dec. 7th - 6:30PM*

*Wed., Dec. 14th - 6:30PM - Preschool*

*Wed., Dec. 21st - 6:30PM - Hymn Sing*

*Children's Service: Sun., Dec. 18th - 4PM*

### *Christmas Eve Services:*

*Candlelight - 6:30 & 9PM*

*Christmas Day Service: 10AM +Communion*

*New Year's Eve: 7PM +Communion*

*New Year's Day: 10AM +Communion*