



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road
Riverside, Illinois 60546
Telephone: (708) 442-5250
Parsonage: (708) 442-0238
Fax: (708) 442-5264

Web page: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org
Email address: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org/service

Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 6th, 2020 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Panis Angelicus

César Franck

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts. *Silence is observed for reflection and self-examination.*

Faithful God, we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved. **Amen.**

God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God. **Amen.**

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

*GREETING

The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God, and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace be with you all.

And also with you.

*LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Holy are you, God of righteousness and peace; you promised to wait with patience for all to come to repentance, and to send your prophet to cry in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. As we light these candles, open our ears to hear you speak tenderly to your people; open our hearts to welcome you as a shepherd who gently leads the flock. Comfort us, O God, and forgive the sin of your people.

Reveal your glory to us, and speak to us your word of peace. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark...
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Immanuel has come, is here, and is coming soon. Let us join in prayer for the church, the earth, and those who are in need, that all receive what God promises to give.

O God, our hope of unity, come to your church around the world. Purify your people and give to all the wisdom and courage to proclaim your word of forgiveness and renewal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our Savior, come to the earth that you made. Nurture the health of lands and seas. Give to plants and animals favorable weather. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of peace, come to all the nations. Inspire heads of state and regional leaders with a passion for justice. Bring peace throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of love, come to everyone in need. Heal the sick. Answer the cries of those who are poor, those without housing, and those who have fled from violence or famine. We pray especially for... . Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of compassion, come to our congregation and our community. This Advent, help us to prepare for your coming. Make us gifts to one another, that no one remains destitute or despairing. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered in silence or spoken softly.

O Lord of hosts, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful, especially... Bring us with them to your feast of eternal compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and make us ready to receive you when you come through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

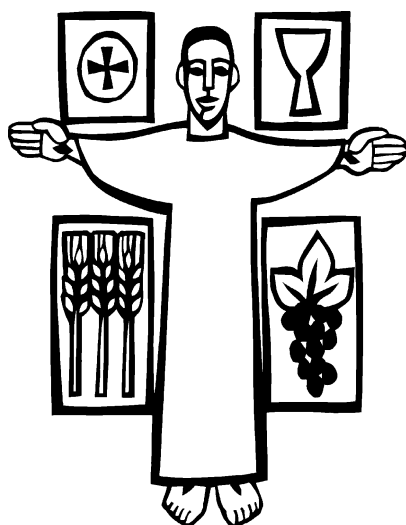
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



*DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Spoken softly by the congregation.

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

**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**

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

DISTRIBUTION

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

May God, whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
(Sung by leader.)

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

- 2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Finlanda

Sibelius



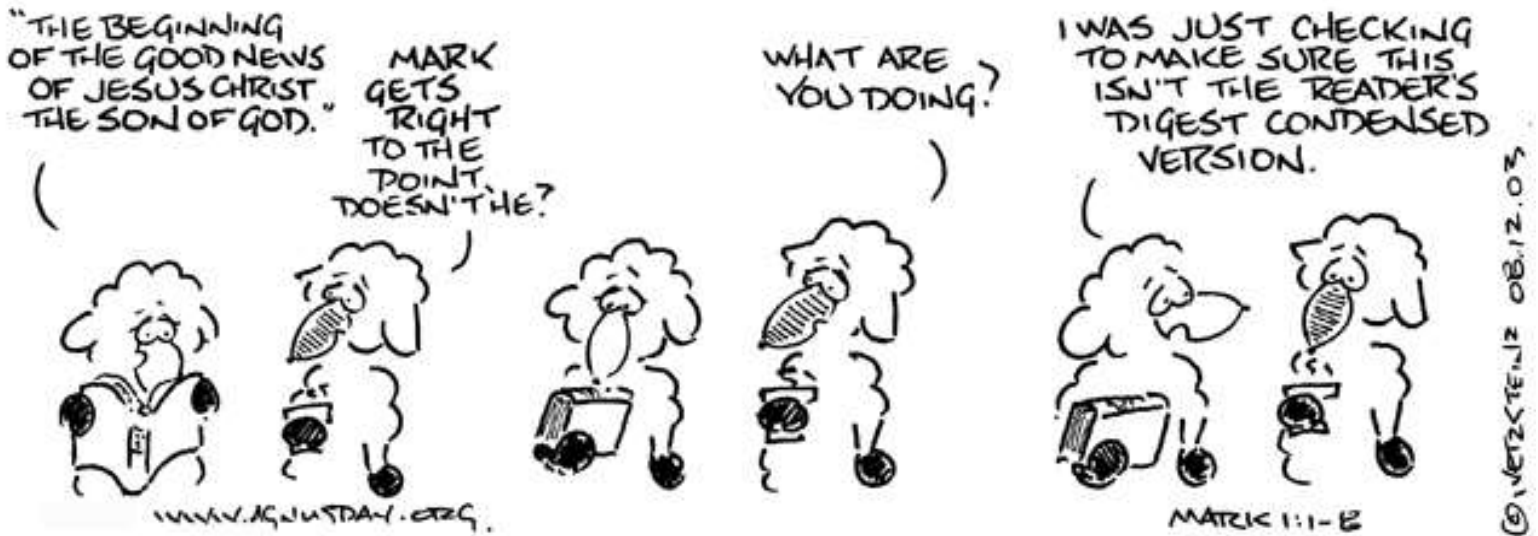
UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, died around 342
Sunday, December 6th

Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, died 397
Monday, December 7th

While a governor of northern Italy, Ambrose was elected bishop of Milan on the same day he was baptized. He was a famous preacher, a writer of hymns we still sing today, and helped lead St. Augustine to faith.



SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

John Broussard

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

LECTOR

Fred Kuzel

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

USHER

Janet Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Jane Lauritsen and Fred Kuzel

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation:

Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Shirley Kostelny, Luddy Kovalsky, Robert Melnyk, Dot Myers, Steve Podzamsky, Mary Sasuta, Bob Skudrna and Olga Zavodny

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:

Kelly Alvey, Paul Bakke, Wally Bisping, Mary Costello, Ramona Daus, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Sharon Hicks, Jacob Kavicky, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Daryle Lauritsen, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Rev. Kenneth Michnay, Donald Neal, Danny Orozco, Pat Pileggi, Dolores Pollitz, Alice Puglise, John Racek, Dr. Craig Reckard, Dale Renville, Sandy Rossella, Kyle Schardt, Ben Smith, Rev. Dave Stefanson, Jim Sward, Harvey Swenson, Jacob Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Ralph Thompson, Mark Van Scharrel, Kyle Schardt and Taz Zajac.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering November 29th, 2020

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|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2020:</i> | \$2,597.00 |
| <i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i> | \$.00 |
| <i>Shortage:</i> | \$.00 |