



SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025  
9:00 A.M.

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# Order of Worship

ENGAGE: Worship—Holy Baptism

January 12, 2025 † 9:00 a.m.

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## Prelude

## Welcome, Announcements & Prayer Concerns

## Confession & Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,

**All: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving-kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

Pastor: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**All: Amen.**

## Gathering Song

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized "

*(hymn)* **442**

<sup>1</sup>All who believe and are baptized shall see the Lord's salvation;  
baptized into the death of Christ, they are a new creation;  
through Christ's redemption they will stand among the glorious heav'nly band  
of ev'ry tribe and nation.

<sup>2</sup> With one accord, O God, we pray, grant us your Holy Spirit;  
help us in our infirmity through Jesus' blood and merit;  
grant us to grow in grace each day by holy baptism, that we may  
eternal life inherit.

## **Greeting & Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**All: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **Special Music**

“I Will Dwell in You”

*Vocal Choir*

## **First Reading**

**Isaiah 43:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— <sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

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

## **Second Reading**

**Acts 8:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

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

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

## Children's Sermon

### Sermon

### Sermon Song

"Shall We Gather At The River"

(hymn) 423

<sup>1</sup>Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

#### *Refrain*

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

<sup>2</sup>On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. *Refrain*

<sup>3</sup>Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;  
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. *Refrain*

<sup>4</sup>Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

## Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

## Offering

### Offering Music

“Come, Behold the Newborn King”

*Bell Choir*

### Offering Prayer

Leader: Let us pray ... God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always

**All: Amen.**

### Prayers of The People

Leader: Lord, in your mercy ... **All: Hear our prayer.**

### Great Thanksgiving

*(page) 152*

### Words of Institution

#### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### Communion Distribution

*A member of our prayer team will be available during communion distribution for individual and private prayer.  
Please meet them in the prayer room in the back of the sanctuary.*

### Communion Blessing

#### Prayer after Communion

Leader: Let us pray...Nourishing God, you give us new life in the water and continually refresh us at your table. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

**All: Amen.**

## Benediction

### Sending Song

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

(hymn) 543

<sup>1</sup>“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love’s baptismal river, I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

<sup>2</sup>“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

<sup>3</sup>“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

### Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace! Share the risen Christ’s love, with Joy!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

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# Welcome & Thank You!

We aim for your time with us to be both enriching and spiritually fulfilling. If you're new, please feel free to introduce yourself to the pastors and fellow worshippers. We value the opportunity to connect with you and hope to see you again soon. At St. Paul Lutheran, everyone is sincerely welcome to partake in Holy Communion. Should you require a gluten-free option, simply inform the pastor when you approach. Worshipers are encouraged to bring a bible to worship. If one is needed there are bibles available at the prayer station in the rear corner of the sanctuary by the soundboard. Additionally, gender-neutral restrooms are accessible in our education/preschool wing, ensuring a comfortable experience for all.

We look forward to seeing you again!

## Thank You to All Involved in Worship Leading!

<b>Pastors:</b>	Dale & Carrie Stiles
<b>Reader:</b>	Kristina Stoyke
<b>Prayers of the People:</b>	Nova Kroschel
<b>Offering &amp; Post Communion Prayers:</b>	Piper Pederson
<b>Usher:</b>	Bruce Spangler, Sam Kroschel
<b>Prayer Corner:</b>	Zella Oswald
<b>Organist:</b>	Jeanne Richards, Kim Clark
<b>Tech Team:</b>	Chris Timmons
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Claudia Nelson
<b>Counters:</b>	Rosie Quale, Katie Edwards

Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Paul Lutheran today, where it is our mission *"To Share Christ's Love, With Joy!"*

### Please keep in your prayers this week:

Our partners in Tanzania, the Migoli and Mtera parishes, Ruth Koehly, Marty (nephew of Frank Edwards), Jeremy Robinson and all other women and men serving in the military, Steve (friend of Kathie Marabella), Tom (brother-in-law of Kathy Mills), Jerome (brother-in-law of Doug & Pat Miska), Donald Morency (brother of Lisa Fashner), Marvin (Jen Rauner's Father), Jean Reed, Pastor Agripa Mgaya at Migoli, Janice (friend of Darlene Petrey).

**Flowers** today are provided by Eli Tilly in honor of his baptismal birthday and Cindy Gruett in honor of her great grandson Ethan's 17 birthday. The flower sign up form is on the wall in the narthex. Thank you for signing up!

**Refreshments** today are provided by Darla Peterson. The sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Thank you for signing up!

**Annual Meeting & Potluck**—Join us on Sunday, January 26 after worship for our Annual Congregational Meeting with a potluck lunch to follow. **The written Congregational Report is available for pick up TODAY** on the table in the narthex. Please only take one per family. It is also available as a downloadable PDF on the home page of our church website.

**West of 55**—Join us TOMORROW, Monday, January 13, join us as we serve and share in fellowship at the Zion Lutheran Community Meal hosted by Zion Lutheran Church in Chisago City. Meet at Zion at 3:30. If carpooling, meet at St. Paul Lutheran at 3:10 p.m. Please wear a hat to cover your hair. We also need to provide 16 dozen individual desserts. Sign up sheet in on the table in narthex.

**Faith Formation Programming has resumed! Adult Bible Study** is Tuesdays, at 1:00 p.m. in the Library. **The Table** is Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m. We will continue to explore the 2024-2025 theme of "SHAPED: By God's Promises". This week we will explore the theme "Jesus Fishes for People" from Luke 5:1-11. Join us as we reflect on how Christ's call to follow Him SHAPES us to live out God's promises by sharing His love with others. Come and experience worship, learning, and community!

**Youth Mission Trip 2025: Milwaukee, WI!** - St. Paul Lutheran youth (grades 7-12) and their friends, are invited to join in an unforgettable week of service and adventure in Milwaukee, WI, next Summer! Dates: August 3-8, 2025. Milwaukee is a vibrant city with unique needs. We'll serve communities tackling homelessness, "food deserts," and more while experiencing the heart of this incredible city. Oh, and Lake Michigan! Service Opportunities Could Include: Supporting local food banks and community gardens, Serving meals and providing support for those experiencing homelessness, Preserving Milwaukee's rivers and improving water quality, Supporting congregations that serve worshippers in need, Helping organizations that assist women affected by trafficking, Reading with children to support their education and families, Improving homes for those who cannot afford repairs. This trip is a chance for our youth to grow in faith, serve with love, and make unforgettable memories. Contact Pastor Dale or Pastor Carrie for more information or to sign up! Let's be the hands and feet of Christ and Share Christ's Love With Joy, in Milwaukee!



# The Sandwich Project

## MINNESOTA

*An All-Congregation Service Project in Partnership with our Discovery Center at St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall*



**Wednesday, January 22**

**6:00 p.m.—Pizza Supper**

**6:30 p.m.—Service Project**

The mission of the Sandwich Project of Minnesota is *to serve those with food insecurity through bringing community volunteers and community partners together to serve those in need.*

All ages are invited to help make sandwiches this night to be delivered to a location in the Twin Cities Metro to be made available to those in need. This will be the second time we've offered this partnership event with The Discovery Center and look forward to another fun and meaningful night for all. Contact one of the Pastors for more information. Any free-will financial donations are welcome to help with minimal expenses for supplies. *(use QR code)*

## Weekly Financial Stewardship Update

2025 General Fund	Actual	Budgeted	Over/(Under) Budgeted Giving
YTD Totals	\$ 6,146.99	TBD	TBD
2025 Total Revenue Received	Actual	Budgeted	Over/(Under) Budgeted Revenue
YTD Totals	\$ 10,364.13	TBD	TBD

*The Total Revenue Received includes ALL revenue received by SPLC (including Bridge the Gap funds). General Fund Revenue is the portion of Total Revenue Received through undesignated offerings from members and guests. Please contact Chris Timmons or Andy Buccanero, with any questions.*

**Today! Sunday, January 12**

Gather for a Special Film & Discussion!

**12:30 a.m.—2:30 a.m.**

Faith Lutheran Church, 886 North Shore Drive, Forest Lake

We're participating in a free screening of *Screenagers*, a powerful film tackling critical issues kids, parents, and educators face today: phones, smartwatches, video games, social media pressures, online bullying, and more. Everyone is invited! Bring the kids—let's work together to support their well-being in this digital age.

**Event Schedule:**

12:30 p.m.—Lunch provided

1:00 p.m.—Film screening

2:00 p.m.—Q&A and discussion

**No ticket needed—it's FREE!**

*Hosted by Faith Lutheran, Cherish All Children, and the Forest Lake Lions. Let's explore solutions to help our kids thrive—see you there! Learn more at [screenagersmovie.com](http://screenagersmovie.com)*





# The Week Ahead

at St. Paul Lutheran

## **ENGAGE: Worship—Holy Baptism, Sunday, January 12**

Worship, 9:00 a.m.

Vocal Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.

## **Monday, January 13**

The Humble Bees, 12:30 p.m.

“West of 55” @ Zion, 4:30 p.m.

Boy Scouts, 6:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, January 14**

Adult Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts, 6:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday, January 15**

The Table, 5:45 p.m.

## **Worship Sunday, January 19**

Worship, 9:00 a.m.

Vocal Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.

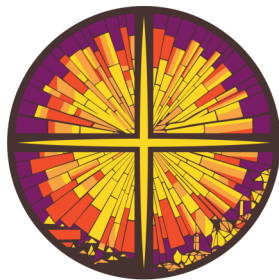
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

January 26—Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck

February 2—ENGAGE: Worship—The Lord’s Prayer

March 5—Ash Wednesday



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— CHURCH —

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