



S66 W14325 JANESVILLE RD • MUSKEGO WI 53150 • WELS • 414.422.0320 • WWW.STPAULMUSKEGO.ORG

CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD INEXHAUSTIBLE HOPE

November 27, 28, and December 1, 2021

For a child, Christmas is a season of hope. "What will be in the presents I open on Christmas?" Perhaps, as an adult, you have had your hopes dashed too many times. How can we reclaim the inexhaustible hope of a child?

BELLS AND WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us knows what day that will be.

We hear his call to watch.

We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

One Advent candle is lit.

OPENING HYMN 1, vv. 1, 4, 5

The Advent of Our King

**The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.**

**As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And his true members all unite
With him in heav'n to reign.**

**Before the dawning Day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.**

In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

We keep watch until Jesus comes as we live lives of repentance, savoring anew each day the joy and peace of God's forgiveness.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come.

Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening danger of our sins;

for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10, Bible page 690

Throughout all history God's people have waited with eager expectation for the salvation and restoration that only Jesus can bring.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says: "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)



GOSPEL

Luke 1:5-25, Bible page 1024

God's people had been told that the coming of the Messiah would be preceded by the appearance of a prophet like Elijah. Imagine the wonder Zechariah and his wife experienced when they were told their child would be that prophet.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN 8, vv. 1, 2, 4

Come, O Precious Ransom, Come

**Come, O precious Ransom, come, Only Hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to you all portals.
Come, your beauty let us view; Anxiously we wait for you.**

**Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine When you are my guest divine!**

**Hail, hosanna, David's Son! Help, Lord; hear our supplication!
Let your kingdom, scepter, crown Bring us blessing and salvation
That forever we may sing Hail, hosanna! to our King.**

SERMON

Luke 1:5-25, Bible page 1024

Pastor Pete Panitzke

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

**My hosannas and my palms Graciously receive, I pray you.
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay you,
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, your merit through your grace.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

DISMISSAL OF ONLINE WORSHIPERS (*Sunday 9:15 am*)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT *(see Communion practice on next page)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 15

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding;

"Christ is near," we hear it say.

"Cast away the works of darkness;

You are children of the day."

Lo, the Lamb, so long-expected,

Comes with pardon down from heav'n.

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,

One and all, to be forgiv'n,

That, when next he comes with glory

And the world is wrapped in fear,

He may shield us with his mercy

And with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, dominion

To the Father and the Son

With the everlasting Spirit

While eternal ages run!

CLOSING PRAYER

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion Practice

The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith. We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes to provide an overview of our teachings. We invite you to register for this class on the back of your Connection Card or by contacting Pastor Nathan Strobel at nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org.

If you are a member of St. Paul's or a member of a WELS or ELS congregation, we invite you to express our common confession by communing with us. You may wish to use the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on page 156 of Christian Worship to examine yourself. Please register your intent to commune as a member or guest by filling out the Connection Card. The light colored cups contain non-alcoholic wine. If you need a gluten-free wafer, you will find them individually packaged at the communion rail. The first pew in the right center section (lectern side) is reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail.