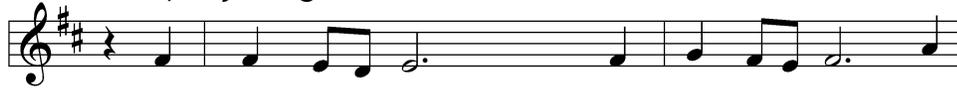


**St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel**  
**St. Stephen, Martyr**  
**December 26, 2021**

Lutheran Service Book, Service of Prayer and Preaching, page 260

**372 O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is**



1 O Je - sus Christ, Thy man - ger is My  
 2 He whom the sea And wind o - bey Doth  
 3 Thy light and grace Our guilt ef - face, Thy  
 4 Thou Chris - tian heart, Who - e'er thou art, Be



par - a - dise at which my soul re - clin - eth.  
 come to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.  
 heav'n - ly rich - es all our loss re - triev - ing.  
 of good cheer and let no sor - row move thee!



For there, O Lord, Doth lie the Word Made  
 Thou, God's own Son, With us art one, Dost  
 Im - man - u - el, Thy birth doth quell The  
 For God's own Child, In mer - cy mild, Joins



flesh for us; here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.  
 join us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.  
 pow'r of hell and Sa - tan's bold de - ceiv - ing.  
 thee to Him; how great - ly God must love thee!

- 5 Remember thou  
 What glory now  
 The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.  
 The angel host  
 Can never boast  
 Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.
- 6 The world may hold  
 Her wealth and gold;  
 But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.  
 To Him hold fast  
 Until at last  
 A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

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 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001899

*Stand*

**Opening Versicles**

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** **Teach me Your paths.**
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** **Your Word is truth.**
  
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
  
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

- C** **The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

**With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.**

**And you will say in that day:**

**“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,  
make known His deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that His name is exalted.”**

**The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

**Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;**

**let this be made known in all the earth.**

**Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

**The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

*Sit*

## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Reading

*2 Chronicles 24:17–22*

- L** A reading from 2 Chronicles, the twenty-fourth chapter.

<sup>17</sup>Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. <sup>18</sup>And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. <sup>19</sup>Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD. These testified against them, but they would not pay attention.

<sup>20</sup>Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, “Thus says God, ‘Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.’” <sup>21</sup>But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. <sup>22</sup>Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah’s father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, “May the LORD see and avenge!”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

**L** A reading from Acts, chapters six and seven.

*Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51–60*

8And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. 9Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. 10But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. 11Then they secretly instigated men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” 12And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, 13and they set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, 14for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” 15And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

1And the high priest said, “Are these things so?” 2And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

51You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. 52Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, 53you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

54Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 55But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” 57But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 58Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapter twenty-three.

*Matthew 23:34–39*

34[Jesus said:] “Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, 35so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. 36Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

37“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! 38See, your house is left to you desolate. 39For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Responsory

**L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

*Stand*

## Ten Commandments

- ☐ You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Apostles' Creed

- ☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

## 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.

*Sit*

**Sermon: Rev. Michael Wagnitz**

## 661 The Son of God Goes Forth to War



1 The Son of God goes forth to war A king - ly crown to gain.  
2 The mar - tyr first, whose ea - gle eye Could pierce be - yond the grave,  
3 A glo - rious band, the cho - sen few, On whom the Spir - it came,  
4 A no - ble ar - my, men and boys, The ma - tron and the maid,



His blood - red ban - ner streams a - far; Who fol - lows in His train?  
Who saw his mas - ter in the sky And called on Him to save.  
Twelve val - iant saints—their hope they knew And mocked the cross and flame.  
A - round the Sav - ior's throne re - jice, In robes of light ar - rayed.



Who best can drink His cup of woe, Tri - um - phant o - ver pain,  
Like Him, with par - don on His tongue In midst of mor - tal pain,  
They met the ty - rant's bran - dished steel, The li - on's gor - y mane;  
They climbed the steep as - cent of heav'n Through per - il, toil, and pain.



Who pa - tient bears his cross be - low— He fol - lows in His train.  
He prayed for those who did the wrong— Who fol - lows in his train?  
They bowed their necks their death to feel— Who fol - lows in their train?  
O God, to us may grace be giv'n To fol - low in their train!

Tune and text: Public domain

## Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Collect of the Day

**L** Heavenly Father, in the midst of our sufferings for the sake of Christ grant us grace to follow the example of the first martyr, Stephen, that we also may look to the One who suffered and was crucified on our behalf and pray for those who do us wrong; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Collect for the Word

**L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Morning Prayer

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

## New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.  
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.  
Death has no more dominion over Him.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.  
Living, He lives to God.**

**Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C** Amen.

## Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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## Announcements

**In our prayers** we pray for Evelyn Waterman who is dealing with chronic illness.

**Upcoming Events!**

**Sunday Service, Sunday School and Bible Class Changes.** Beginning Sunday, December 19 upto and including Sunday, January 16 – Bible study and Sunday school will be on break and we will have one service at 9:00 AM

Wednesday night Bible class has concluded for the year. We will be beginning again on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

Conducting the service and preaching is Rev. Michael Wagnitz. Pastor Mons is on vacation. He will return to the chapel on Sunday, January 2, 2022. If you are in need of pastoral assistance during this time, please contact Rev. Terry Small 319-594-6392.

### **Service Times**

- Sunday at 9:00 AM
- The YouTube livestream will continue on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM.

We will continue to live stream the service at 9:00 AM Sundays, via our YouTube page. Bulletins will be emailed to you, and, in time, on our website <https://stpaulic.com/>

### **General Information**

**Cry Room:** If you are in need of a place to go with your children during the service, please feel free to use the bell tower. You will still be able to hear the service from there. Also, there is a changing station in the women's bathroom.

**Bulletin Announcements:** If you are in charge of an announcement for an event, please have it to the administrative assistant by 9:00 AM on the Thursday before the first Sunday you would like it to run. E-mail it to [stpaulschapel.iowacity@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulschapel.iowacity@gmail.com)

**Lost and Found!** In the student center is a wicker storage cube which is the Chapel's Lost and Found. Any items left in the Chapel will be placed in this container. At the end of each month, the bin will be emptied and its contents will be donated to Good Will. All Chapelites are strongly encouraged to check the Lost and Found periodically so we don't donate something of yours!

**Auto Debit Offering Option:** If you would like to automate or update your existing auto-offering please visit <https://stpaulic.com/giving/> or speak with Chapel Treasurer Carly Gosch [treasurer.stpaul@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.stpaul@gmail.com)

### **Calendar**

**26 Today**      Divine Service at 9:00 AM  
Happy Hour

**2 Sunday**      Divine Service at 9:00 AM  
Happy Hour

Private absolution is available by appointment.

**Contact Information:**

St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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