St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel
Second Sunday in Advent
December 8, 2024

Divine Service Setting One, Lutheran Service Book, page 151.
Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

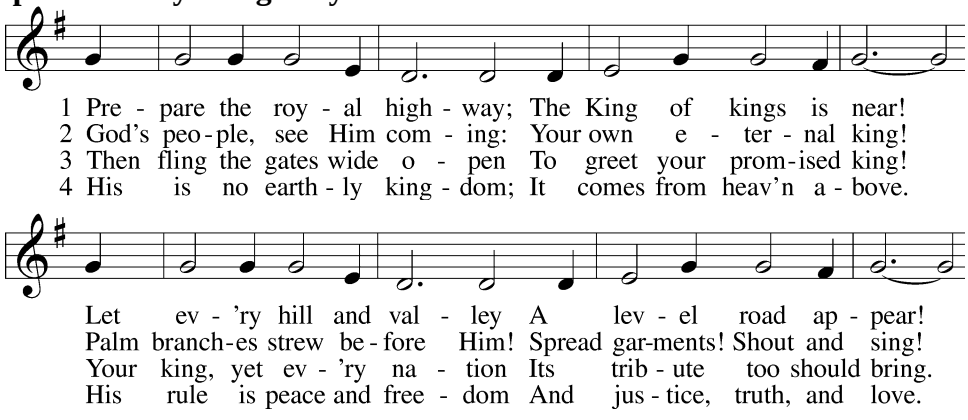
P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

343 Prepare the Royal Highway



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001899
Tune: Public domain

Kyrie *LSB 152*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Malachi 3:1–7b*

[1]"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. [2]But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. [3]He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. [4]Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

[5]"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

6 “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. 7 From the days
of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

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

Psalm *Psalm 66:1–12; antiphon: v. 12b*

1 Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*
2 sing the glory of his name;
give to him | glorious praise!
3 Say to God, “How awesome | are your deeds!*
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing | to you.
4 All the earth worships you
and sings prais- | es to you;*
they sing praises | to your name.”

5 Come and see what | God has done:*
he is awesome in his deeds toward the chil- | dren of man.
6 He turned the sea into | dry land;*
they passed through the riv- | er on foot.
There did we rejoice in him,
7 who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the | nations—*
let not the rebellious ex- | alt themselves.

8 Bless our God, O | peoples;*
let the sound of his | praise be heard,
9 who has kept our soul among the | living*
and has not let our | feet slip.
10 For you, O God, have | tested us;*
you have tried us as sil- | ver is tried.
11 You brought us in- | to the net;*
you laid a crushing burden | on our backs;
12 you let men ride o- | ver our heads;*
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a place of a- | bundance.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen

Epistle *Philippians 1:2–11*

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making
my prayer with joy, 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 And I am
sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers
with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God
is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And it is my prayer that your
love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what
is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness
that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 156*

C **Alleluia.**
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Luke 3:1–20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[1]In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and
Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis,
and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, [2]during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God
came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. [3]And he went into all the region around the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. [4]As it is written in the book of the words
of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
[5]Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
[6]and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

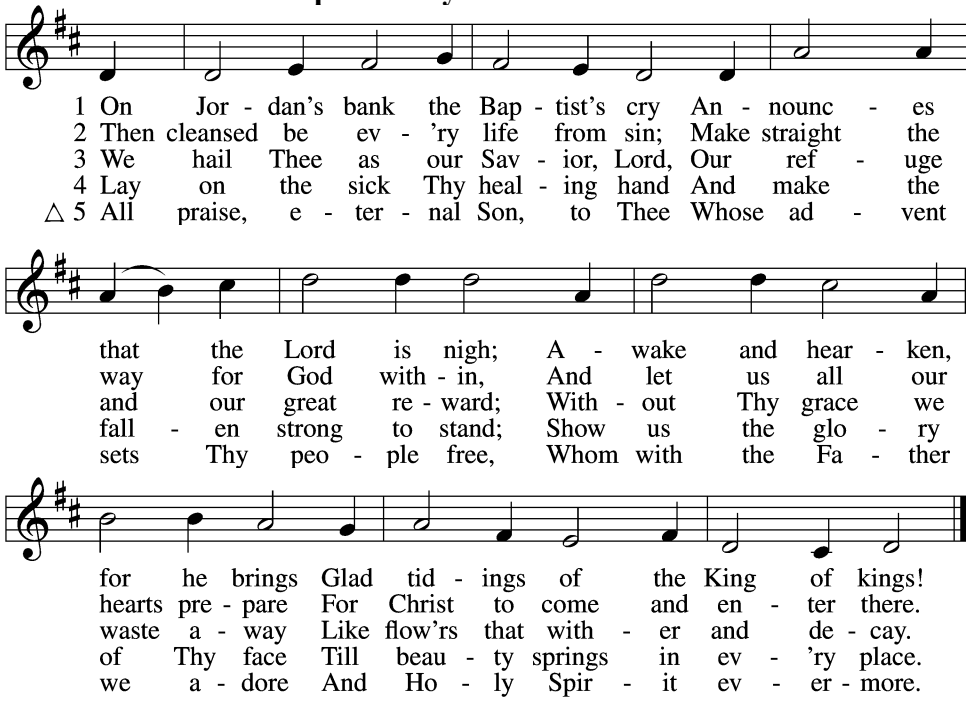
[7]He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who
warned you to flee from the wrath to come? [8]Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to
say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to
raise up children for Abraham. [9]Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that
does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."
[10]And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" [11]And he answered them, "Whoever has two
tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." [12]Tax collectors also
came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" [13]And he said to them, "Collect no
more than you are authorized to do." [14]Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he
said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with
your wages."
[15]As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether
he might be the Christ, [16]John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is
mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with
the Holy Spirit and with fire. [17]His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to
gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
[18]So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. [19]But Herod the tetrarch, who
had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had
done, [20]added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon "I the LORD Do Not Change" - Malachi 3:1–7a

Stand

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T **of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church
Stand

Offertory *LSB 159*

C **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 160*

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C **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.

Pax Domini *LSB 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Concerning the Holy Communion

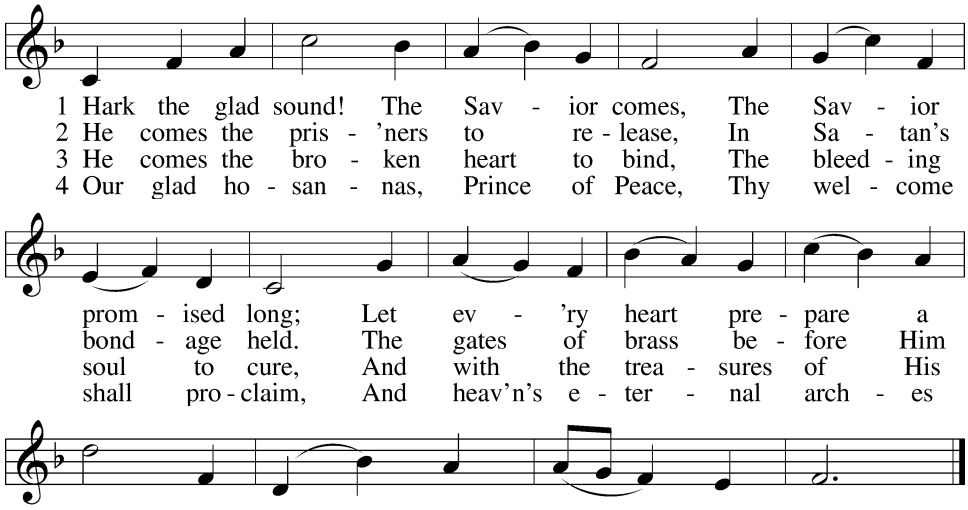
We ordinarily offer the Lord's Supper only to those who are communicant members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or of congregations which are part of a church body which is in altar or pulpit fellowship with the LCMS. The Scriptures teach that Holy Communion is to be a confession of a common faith (1 Cor. 10:17, Acts 2:42) and that those who are unprepared may even do themselves spiritual harm (1 Cor. 11:23-32). We do not hereby presume to question another's faith in Christ, but hold this historic position out of love for God's Word and in care for souls. Inviting all Christians to Communion would imply a oneness which does not yet exist but for which we must all pray. Even as we try to respect the practices of other Christian denominations so we ask others to respect our practice. Those who would like to discuss this practice at more length may make an appointment with our pastor to do so.

If you are unable to receive Holy Communion, but wish to receive a blessing, please feel free to come forward. Please stand with your hands behind your back to indicate that you would like a blessing.

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

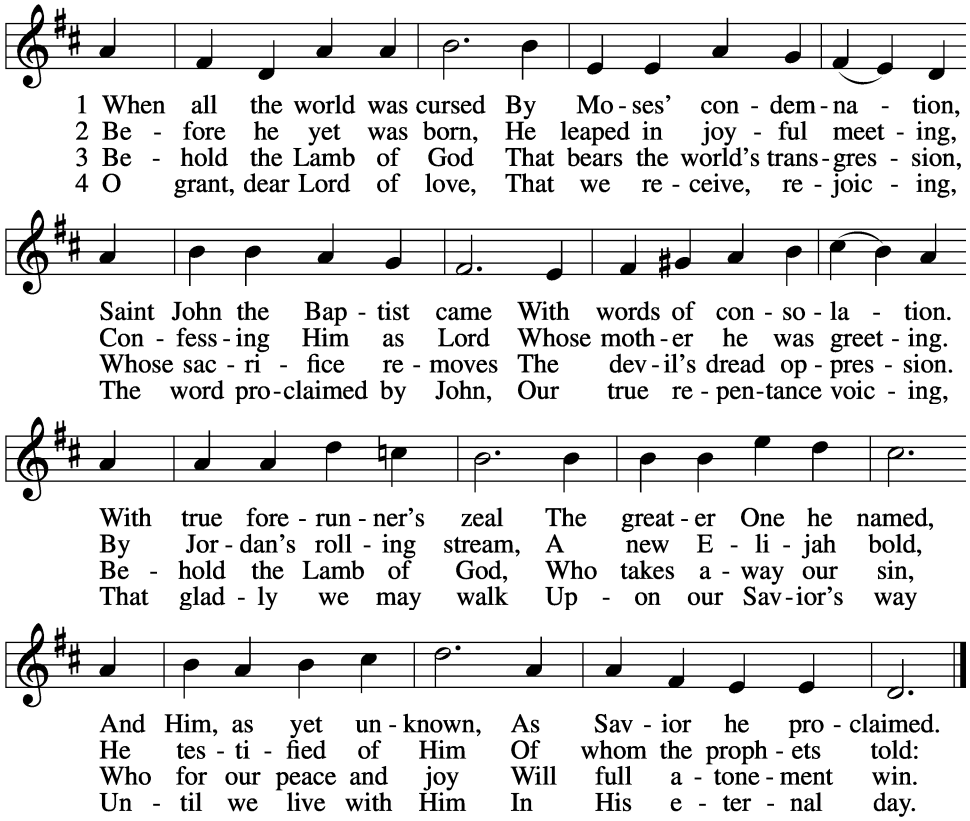
Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

349 Hark the Glad Sound



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51
Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820
Text and tune: Public domain

346 When All the World Was Cursed



Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001899
Tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 165*

C **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.**
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.
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.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Benediction *LSB 166*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

In our prayers we pray for Donna Heilman who is undergoing treatments for cancer.

Upcoming Events!

The Over 21 Crowd meets on Saturday, December 7, at 7:00 PM at The Sanctuary, 405 S Gilbert St., Iowa City.

Student Christmas Party. Friday, December 13, at the chapel at 6:00 PM. Dinner is included. Christmas sweaters are encouraged.

Pastor Vacation. Pastor Mons will be on vacation December 16-January 1. He will be at chapel for midweek Advent, Christmas Eve, and Sunday Divine Service. If you are in need of pastoral services, please contact Rev. Sean Hansen at 319-210-4660.

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

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 Trent Dickerson, treasurer.stpaul@gmail.com

Calendar

8 Today	Divine Service at 9:00 AM Happy Hour Bible class
11 Wednesday	Mid-Week Advent at 7:00 PM NO Bible study
13 Friday	Student Christmas Party at chapel at 6:00 PM
15 Sunday	Divine Service at 9:00 AM Happy Hour Bible class

Private absolution is available by appointment.

Contact Information:

St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
404 East Jefferson, Iowa City, IA 52245, (319) 337-3652 www.stpaulic.com
Rev. W. Max Mons, S.T.M.: wmaxmons@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: stpaulschapel.iowacity@gmail.com