



Serve the  
*Lord*  
with your  
*Gifts*



ST. PAUL'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
— HOWARDS GROVE, WI —



**ST. PAUL'S**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

St. Paul's Church & School  
441 Millersville Ave  
Howards Grove, WI 53083  
Office number: 920-565-3780  
www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**REV. AARON MUELLER**  
pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
920-207-2316

**REV. ADAM BODE**  
pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
920-224-2961

**MICHAEL WIETING**  
PRINCIPAL  
michael.wieting@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
715-439-9193

**LUTHER CURIA**  
STAFF MINISTER  
luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
920-287-8575

**ERIN RADUE**  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR  
secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**ERIC EICKHOFF**  
PRESIDENT  
president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
920-838-4064

**ERIC VANT HUL**  
HEAD EIDER  
headelder@stpaulshowardsgrove.org  
920-946-9015

# Welcome to St. Paul's!

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!



We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!



## COMMUNION

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

## FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

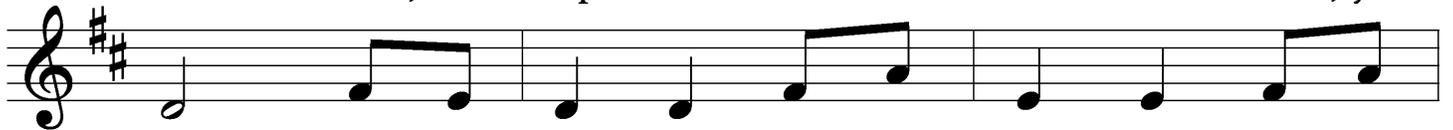
**Worship Focus:** At this time of year, we thank the Lord not only for the many gifts he gives, but also for the different gifts he gives to each of us. Some of us are creative while others are strategic. Some work with their hands while others are gifted with words. Some are musical and still others are brilliant managers of money. Regardless of what God has given you or how much, he expects a faithful record when we stand before him. "Serve the Lord with your Gifts."

## Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

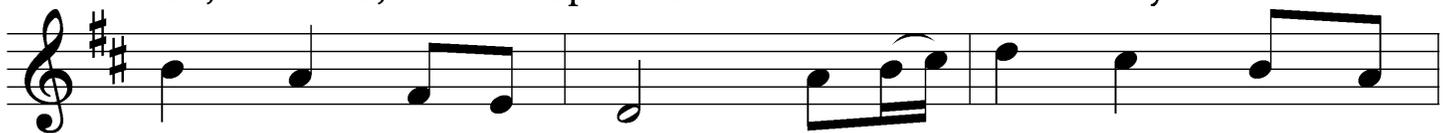
CW 748



1 Broth - ers, sis - ters, let us glad - ly give to God our all, our  
2 By his mer - cy, by his boun - ty, by the gift of Christ, his  
3 Gra - cious Lord, ac - cept our ser - vice for the sake of Christ, your



best: ser - vice heart - y, thor - ough, hon - est, with a  
Son, what great good - ness he has shown us, what high  
Son; lo, our hope a - bides now on - ly in the



liv - ing love im - pressed. All our du - ty, all our  
mar - vels he has done! Let us to him prompt - ly,  
right - eous - ness he won. Bless and save us, help and



striv - ing, all our time to him be - long; praise him,  
free - ly, yield our bod - ies and our souls, thank - ful  
guide us, watch to com - fort and re - store, till in



then, with true de - vo - tion, come be - fore him with a song.  
that his love pro - tects us, that his wis - dom all con - trols.  
heav'n we rest re - joic - ing, prais - ing you for - ev - er - more.

*Please stand.*

O Lord, open my lips.



**C:** And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God.



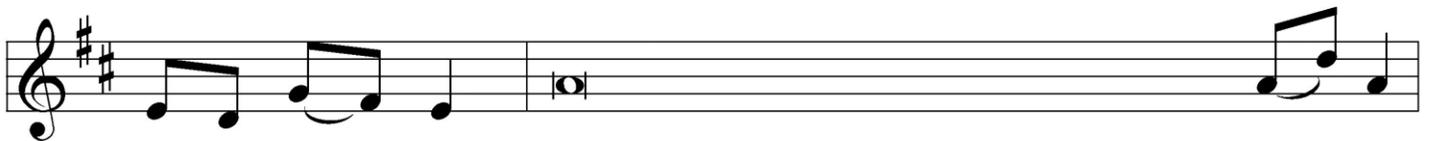
**C:** O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

Praise be to God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: let us worship him.

**VENITE: OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD**



**C:** Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



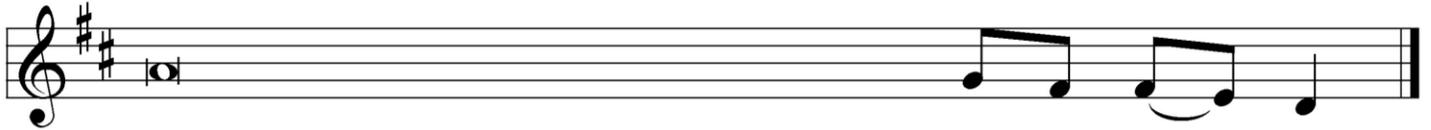
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



**bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,**



**and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated.*

### **First Reading**

*Isaiah 1:10–18*

*The LORD detests abundant offerings of the unrepentant, rather he seeks right living from clean hearts.*

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD,  
you rulers of Sodom;  
listen to the instruction of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah!  
<sup>11</sup>“The multitude of your sacrifices—  
what are they to me?” says the LORD.  
“I have more than enough of burnt offerings,  
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;  
I have no pleasure  
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.  
<sup>12</sup>When you come to appear before me,  
who has asked this of you,  
this trampling of my courts?  
<sup>13</sup>Stop bringing meaningless offerings!  
Your incense is detestable to me.  
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—  
I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.

<sup>14</sup>Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals

I hate with all my being.

They have become a burden to me;

I am weary of bearing them.

<sup>15</sup>When you spread out your hands in prayer,

I hide my eyes from you;

even when you offer many prayers,

I am not listening.

Your hands are full of blood!

<sup>16</sup>Wash and make yourselves clean.

Take your evil deeds out of my sight;

stop doing wrong.

<sup>17</sup>Learn to do right; seek justice.

Defend the oppressed.

Take up the cause of the fatherless;

plead the case of the widow.

<sup>18</sup>“Come now, let us settle the matter,”

says the LORD.

“Though your sins are like scarlet,

they shall be as white as snow;

though they are red as crimson,

they shall be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

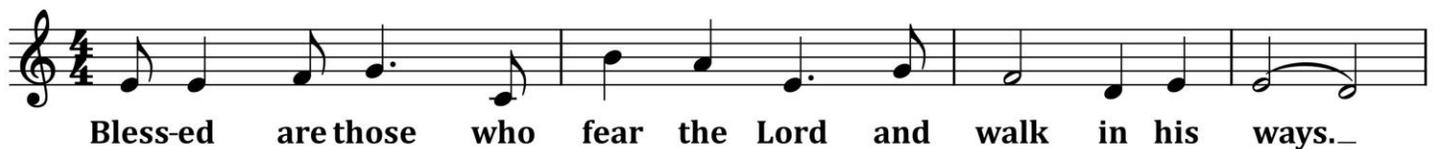
## **Blest Are All Who Fear the LORD**

*Psalm 128A*

*Blessed are those who fear the LORD and walk in obedience to him.*

Soloist: Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

### **All: Refrain**



Soloist: Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

**All: Refrain**

Soloist: Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

**All: Refrain**

Soloist: Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

**All: Refrain**

## **Second Reading**

*Romans 12:1–8*

*In view of God's mercy, offer your bodies as a living sacrifice with your gifts from him.*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## **Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 25:14–30*

*When he returns, the Lord will commend those who faithfully used their gifts from him and give them even more.*

<sup>14</sup>“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his

journey. <sup>16</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup>So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

<sup>19</sup>"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

<sup>21</sup>"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

<sup>22</sup>"The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

<sup>23</sup>"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

<sup>24</sup>"Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup>So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

<sup>26</sup>"His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

<sup>28</sup>" 'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup>For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup>And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

# O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CW 751



1 O God, your hand the heav-ens made and all that they con - tain;  
2 To us are giv - en gifts di - vine, all tal - ents you have sent;  
3 De - liv - er us from self - ish aims, true stew - ards we would be;



the world ap-peared at your com-mand, and in it now you reign.  
in - spire us now to use them well your king-dom to ex - tend.  
en - dow us with a deep de - sire to live un - self - ish - ly.



The rest - less sea, the land, the sky your hand-i - work de - clare;  
We hold each gift a trust from you nor claim it as our own;  
A full ac-count-ing we must give and see you face to face;



the touch of your cre - a - tive pow'r is pres - ent ev - 'ry - where.  
we grate - ful - ly ac - knowl-edge, Lord, all things are yours a - lone.  
let us ap-proach your throne with joy, sup - port - ed by your grace.

## SERMON

*Matthew 25:14-30*

### *Are You Faithful?*

His absence will test it \* His presents will weigh it \* His return will judge it  
*Please stand.*

## TE DEUM: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



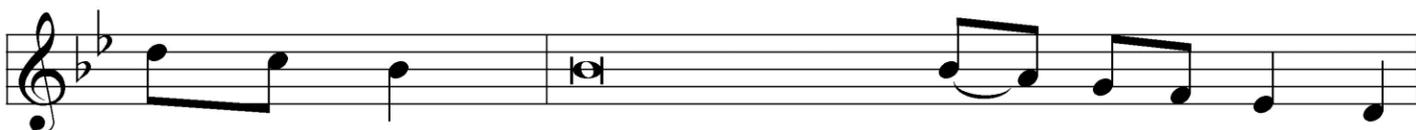
**C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,**



**Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,**



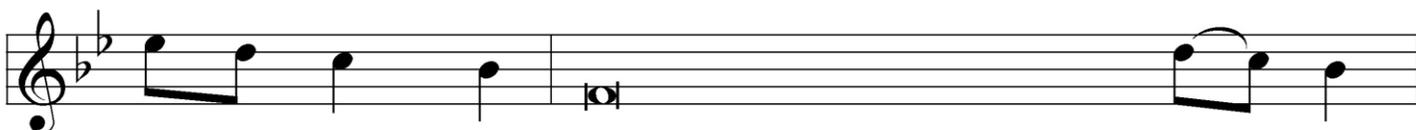
**cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of**



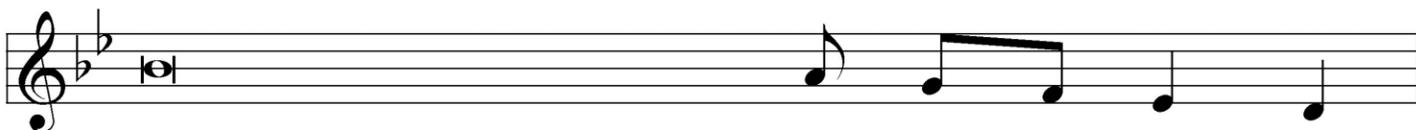
**heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.**



**The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of**



**proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.**



**Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:**



**Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,**



*Be seated.*

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



**C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND LORD'S PRAYER**

O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

**Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

**Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

**Amen.**

**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.**

### **PRAYER FOR GRACE**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.



**C: Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



**C: A - men.**

### **Take My Life and Let It Be**

*CW 695*



- 1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo-ments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau-ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes-sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine,  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Acknowledgments Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

WELS Connection Today!

***If you are visiting us today or would like to update your information, please scan the QR code to fill out our form.***



***SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:***

---

**PREACHER:** Rev. Aaron Mueller

**PIANIST:** Sarah Mueller

**MUSICIANS:** Rev. Adam Bode and Gillian & Luther Curia

**ALTAR GUILD:** Kathy Nack, Lisa Specht, Rachel Rehbein, Christina Sprenger.

**USHERS:** 8:00a.m.- Jeremy Pieper, Jon/Josh Pieper, Jason Pieper, Paul Holzward.  
10:30a.m. – Eric Vant Hul, Loren Reinemann, Mark Kolosovsky, Brad Tinker, Derek Grunwald.

*Online giving options available*

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



**OFFERINGS 11/12 & 11/13 - \$13,900 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,200). \$2,430 GROWING FORWARD. \$250 FAITH FOR THE FUTURE.**

**ATTENDANCE: 11/12 & 11/13 : 8:00 A.M. – 252. 10:30 A.M. – 130. 6:00 P.M. – 36.**

**IN YOUR PRAYERS**

1. Dave and Patti Wehrmann who celebrate 50 years of marriage [Nov 24].
2. Tom Ehrenberg who fell from his hunting ladder on Nov. 15 and as of this writing is at Froedtert.

<b>This Week at a Glance:</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Service, Bible Study, and Class Times</b>
<b>Monday, November 20</b>	<b>6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 22</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED</b>
	<b><u>NO</u> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study</b>
	<b>6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship Adult Choir Sings</b>
<b>Thursday, November 23</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving! NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Worship Adult Choir Sings</b>
<b>Friday, November 24</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>Sunday, November 26</b>	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour</b>

### **Grow with Christ**

**Bible Studies, Worship, and more!**

- Thanksgiving Offering Collection** - As Thanksgiving approaches, we joyfully gather to express gratitude and celebrate the many blessings in our lives, chiefly the gift of free and full salvation found only through Jesus' sacrifice for all people. As an integral part of our worship, we come together to collect offerings, giving of the abundance that the Lord showers upon us. During our Thanksgiving Worship services (11/22 @ 6:30 p.m. & 11/23 @ 9:00 a.m.), we will be collecting offerings as we have done in the past, passing the collection plates.
- Sunday Bible Study** - in September we began a Bible study on the book of Revelation. *Today we will look at chapter 14. Come and grow!*
- Wednesday morning Bible** resumes Nov. 29.
- Women's Advent by Candlelight** - St. John's-St. Peter in Cleveland is hosting Women's Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, December, 3rd at 3:00 p.m.. Please contact Kelly Wall, 920-782-0821 or [kellywalljuneau@gmail.com](mailto:kellywalljuneau@gmail.com), with any questions. Also, please RSVP to Kelly by November 19th.
- German Christmas Service** -- Everyone is welcome to attend the German Christmas Service at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Collins on Saturday, December 9th at 2pm. The service will include familiar hymns sung in their original German, with Gemütlichkeit and Christmas goodies to follow. Knowledge of German is not required. St. Peter's is located at 2501 Collins Road, Chilton, WI 53014. For more information, please contact Pastor Marcus Bode at [bodemarcusprof@gmail.com](mailto:bodemarcusprof@gmail.com) or (989) 274-4668.
- Youth Group Bible Study** - High School Students, we started up a new Youth Group Bible Study on Sunday 11/12 during Family Bible Hour. The 4-week study entitled Gone Fishing will look at our callings in

life and how we can serve as fishers of men! We will also start some planning for the 2024 WELS Youth Rally. We will meet in Room 113 – the classroom that has all the cubicles setup in it now. If you have any questions, contact Mike Leahy – [mleahy@live.com](mailto:mleahy@live.com)

### **In Other News**

1. **Divine Calls Received** - Noah Panzer, husband of our 4K teacher, Emily Panzer, has received a call to Northland Lutheran High School in Kronenwetter, WI, to teach Phy Ed, coach, and recruit. Andy Dais, our 5-6 grade teacher and athletic director, has received a call to Bethlehem in Hortonville, WI, to teach 7-8 grades and be their athletic director. Please keep these called workers in your prayers and encourage them in the coming weeks.
2. **Worship Service Ushers:** Thank you to those who regularly volunteer to serve as ushers for our worship services. As we prepare the usher schedule, please consider serving for at least one month each year. A request for additional ushers in certain months (like July) will soon be sent via Church Community Builder (CCB). Please sign up via a response to this request or by placing your name next to a vacant position on the "Usher List" in the Member Room. Please contact Will Belitz (920-693-8837 or Cellular 920-946-6617) as questions arise. Thank you for serving your congregation.
3. **Living Nativity Posters and Postcards** are available in the member room. Please take some postcards to pass on to your family and friends.
4. **Living Nativity Cookies-** Sign-up sheets are available in the member room. Please sign up if you are interested in baking 3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies or candies. (No bars or cakes please). Cookies may be dropped off beginning Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.
5. **Living Nativity Needs:** The list is getting much smaller! Thank you to all who have volunteered this year. We are so blessed by each of you. We still are in need of a few **women outside greeters on Friday and Sunday**, make up all nights (you don't need to be there all night). Also remember that on Sunday, we are done at 7 p.m..
6. **Nativity Sets** - We would love to display any and all Nativity sets during our Living Nativity weekend for visitors to enjoy. If you have displayed one before, please bring it again. There are always new people who come and others that love to see favorites from years past. If you would like to bring a nativity set(s), please sign-up in the member room and **indicate if you are bringing more than one and what message you want displayed with your set(s)**. Your message can be emailed to [hamannlinda70@gmail.com](mailto:hamannlinda70@gmail.com) or placed in her mailbox (C20) **no later than Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**. New this year, please take a 4x6 picture of your set(s) for identification purposes. Please bring Nativity sets and photos to the commons area on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon or evening or on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> in the morning or afternoon. You may set it up yourself or help will be available to you. Nativity sets will be monitored during Living Nativity weekend. Sets may be taken home Sunday evening after the final performance or Monday morning. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Hamann (920-565-2749).
7. **Forward in Christ Subscription Renewal** - If you are interested in renewing or to start receiving the Forward in Christ magazine, please fill out the half sheet in the member room. Submit your sheet and the \$15.00 payment, exact cash or check made out to St. Paul's Church with FIC in the memo line, in an envelope and place it in the marked drawer in the member room by Sunday, November 19<sup>h</sup>. **Lutheran Pioneers Christmas Cards** will be for sale starting the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Prices are listed on the boxes. There are also greeting cards for all occasions in the library that are available throughout the year.
8. **Service Opportunities:** Currently, two paid positions are available in the St. Paul's Early Childhood wing. We are looking for assistance in serving prepared lunch from 10:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.. We are also seeking someone to provide wrap around care for children (up to 10 students) following our 3K day from 12-3:30 p.m.. Both positions are Monday-Friday. Please see Mrs. Wieting for detailed information.