

Love God, Love One Another, Love the World

Advent Hope



Notes:

**Dec 1
2024**

**stpauls@stpaulsefree.org
(314) 993-0015
www.stpaulsefree.org**

**9:30 am
Sunday**

WELCOME AND GREETING

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS/STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Joyce Lindstrom

PRELUDE

Voluntary on STUTTGART

Wilbur Held

(Bill Sullivan, organist)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#56

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - HOPE

Responsive Litany:

Advent is a time to wait.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

We Wait in Hope

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Words and Music by
JOEL RANEY

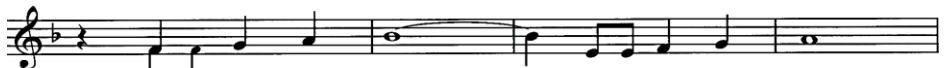
Congregation:
Refrain



(1st Sunday)	We	wait	in	}	hope _____	for the morn - ing	Light,
(2nd Sunday)	We	watch	in				
(3rd Sunday)	We	pre - pare	in				
(4th Sunday)	We	praise	with				
(Christmas Eve)	We	pro - claim	with				



for the love of Christ to il - lu - mi - nate _____ the night. _____



	We	wait	with	}	joy _____	for the Sav - ior's	birth;
	We	watch	with				
	We	pre - pare	with				
	We	praise	with				
	We	pro - claim	with				



	we	wait	in	}	hope	for peace on	earth.
	we	watch	in				
	we	pre - pare	in				
	we	praise	with				
	we	pro - claim	with				

CANDLE LIGHTING

The Roby Family

This morning, we light the first candle. The first candle reminds us that, as we wait upon the Lord, God's light never ceases to shine, God's will never ceases to unfold, and God's grace never ceases to be felt. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait upon the Lord with hopeful expectation by celebrating all God has done and anticipating all he will do.

CLOSING PRAYER

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance, and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through the power of your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. Amen.

OFFERTORY

O Come, Emmanuel, Come Soon

William Byrd, arr. Hopson

(Chorale)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

#70 PUER NOBIS

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

CORPORATE PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

KIDS AGES 3-10 DISMISSED FOR KID'S CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 5, Luke 1:46-52

SERMON

Pastor Marc Castro

The Proud and the Humble

COMMUNION

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (Bread)

FREU DICH SEHR

(Chorale)

Your Name - Christmas Version (Cup)

Baloche, Packiam

CLOSING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#936

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in G, BWV 568

J. S. Bach

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Office Closed

TUESDAY

Quilters 9 am, Prayer call 1:30 pm, Martial Arts 6 & 7 pm

WEDNESDAY

Women's Bible Study 9 am

THURSDAY

Praise Ringers 6 pm, Chorale 7 pm

FRIDAY

Brunch Set-Up 9 am, Martial Arts, 6 & 7 pm

SATURDAY

Glow Brunch 10 am

SUNDAY

Cards for Shut-Ins due, 2nd Advent Worship Service 9:30am,
Sunday School 11 am,



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, DECEMBER 15 WORSHIP SERVICE

LUNCH,
CANDY BAR
& HOT
CHOCOLATE
BAR TO
FOLLOW



Glow Brunch, Dec. 7, 2024

Tickets available TODAY \$15 each

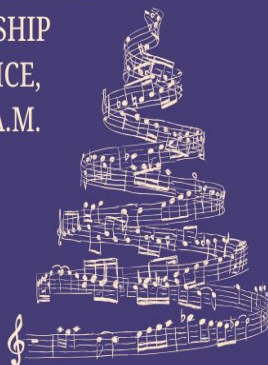


Drop off your 28 signed
Christmas Cards for Shut-ins
in the basket on the
Welcome Center desk

Volunteers needed to deliver
beginning Dec 15. Contact Jody
Graeler or Judy Pfeiffer for details.

ST. PAUL'S PRESENTS CHRISTMAS CANTATA 2024 DECEMBER 22

WORSHIP
SERVICE,
9:30 A.M.



Intercessory Prayer List

Please call the church office to place a prayer request on our list. Prayers will remain on the list for one month unless you call and request an extension or update.

- **Deb Bukoski**, wife of Susan Pollmann's former colleague Tom will be in a skilled care facility for at least three months. For successful healing and rehab.
- **Carrie**, Bill and Nancy Mueller's daughter, speedy recovery from hysterectomy.
- **Chris**, The Pollmann's nephew, speedy recovery from complicated heart surgery.
- **John DeClue**, the Grater's friend sent from hospital to Siteman rehab for his recurring brain cancer; peace and strength for him and the family.
- **Cheryl Emery**, suffering from severe vertigo the last two weeks. For an opening in her doctor's schedule so she quickly gets treatment to alleviate symptoms.
- **Maureen Fowler**, Carol Grater's friend with colon problems; proper treatment.
- **Greg and Kathy**, friends of the Jacksons and van Dyks who lost their son to a drug overdose. For the brother to get custody of his 2-year-old son. Peace for all.
- **Gretta**, 2-year-old neighbor of Joyce Sabine, hospitalized for open heart surgery.
- **John Guffin**, Jane Fischer's grandson and his family. For perseverance, fighting addiction, reliance on God and healing.
- **Charlie Jung**, praise, now home from Mercy. For the right meds for his lungs. Dr's wisdom diagnosing and treating heart issues.
- **Linda Klingebiel**, Mary McDannold's friend with stage 4 brain cancer. Pray for strength and relief of side-effects on her 4th cycle of 6 chemo treatments.
- **Greg Paquette**, speedy recovery from recent knee surgery.
- **Cindy Paul**, Janet Rolle's friend whose son had an unfavorable cancer diagnosis and daughter had her kidney removed now hospitalized with infection.
- **Kim Jung-Ragsdale**, taking chemo treatments; good results and low side-effects.
- **Kathy Ryan**, admitted again to the hospital for platelet transfusions and other complications due to cancer treatments. May be moving to a hospice facility.
- **Ed Rolle**, for brain testing to be done in a timely manner. For patience in waiting.
- **Edith Skaggs**, for relief of shoulder pain; for the right doctor's help at age 91.
- **Doris Smith**, Lynn and Jan's mother, doing well but on hospice. For strength and peace for the family.
- **Kassandra Williamson**, Dave and Mary Smith's granddaughter; making progress with anger outbursts. Still has difficulty being present in school the whole day
- **Missions: Craig and LaDonna Smith, Tribal Rescue**, Praise for Craig's recovery from a serious infection in his pelvic bone. He took a six-week antibiotic treatment to eliminate this life-threatening issue. Pray for no serious side effects, and safe travels back to AZ from MN and for continued blessing on their podcast ministry.

Worship at Home:

By Phone on TurboBridge: dial 314-627-6338, enter code 63141, followed by the "#" sign

By Facebook: search for St. Paul's Evangelical Church

By YouTube: search for St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church STL



ST. PAUL'S PRAYER FOCUS: ADVENT

Advent Prayer Guide - Week 1

What is Advent? Advent is a four-week season dedicated to reflective preparation for the arrival, "advent" of Jesus Christ's Nativity at Christmas time as well and Christ's expected return in the Second Coming. During this important event on the church calendar, each week of Advent focuses on a different theme - hope, peace, joy, and love. Christians from all denominations and backgrounds celebrate Advent in different ways but all focus on the anticipation of waiting for the arrival of Jesus.

The first Sunday of Advent – (Hope) Sets the tone for the season by looking forward to the second coming of Jesus Christ. Through the Scripture passages read and the spiritual practices of lighting the wreath candle, Christians are called to re-orient themselves to a mindset of watching and waiting for Christ's return, while at the same time evaluating their lives based on Christ's first coming.

Scripture Readings for the First Sunday of Advent:

Old Testament Readings - Isaiah 2:1, 2:4, 64:1

Readings from Psalms - Psalms 122:1, 80:1, 25:1

New Testament Readings - 1 Corinthians 1:3, Romans 13:11,
1 Thessalonians 3:9,

Gospel Readings - Matthew 24:6, 24:42, Mark 13:24, 13:33, Luke
21:25, 21:34.

First Sunday of Advent Prayer

Advent is rich with theological significance, and the Scripture readings and spiritually symbolic practices of the season help focus our attention on the first and second coming of Christ. The Advent season is a somber time of personal reflection, hope and longing, and joyful expectation for the coming of Jesus.

Dear God, on this first Sunday as we light the advent wreath, turn our hearts and minds toward your son, Jesus Christ. Fill us with hope as we remember His coming and await His return. As we light the candle of hope, we recall your faithfulness. You are a God who fulfills all promises, and our hope is in you alone. Strengthen us today to live well – serving you and loving others because of all that Jesus has done for us. Amen.

We suggest that each day you add your own prayer for hope.

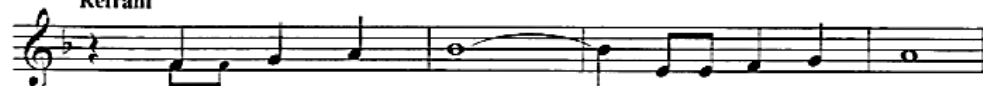
Note: adapted from Christianity.com Page 7.

We Wait in Hope

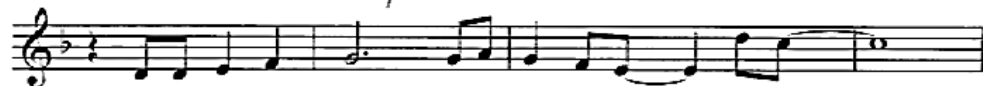
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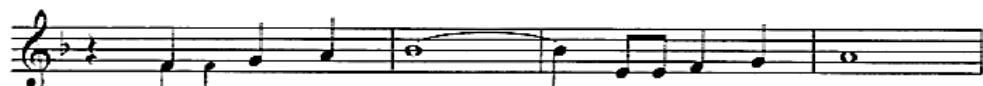
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