

# ***ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)

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**4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
DECEMBER 20, 2020**

## **ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)  
[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)  
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD**

*(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)*

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 72 (pew bible, p.517)
- ◆ The Hymns: 331, 356, 349, \*705 (*\*tan hymnal*)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: 2 Samuel 7:8-16, Romans 16:25-27
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 89

**Sermon Text – Luke 1:26-38**

#### ***WHAT KIND OF A CHILD WILL HE BE?***

1. A human child, born of Mary.
2. A divine child, conceived by the Holy Spirit.

- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (705, tan hymnal)

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*Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by  
the tract rack or by request from an usher.*

*You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by  
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.  
There will be no offering collection during the service.*

**A CORDIAL GREETING AND WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS.** We are pleased to have you worshiping with us today and invite you to come often. Please take a few moments to sign our guest book. If you have no church home in the community and are seeking a fellowship in which you might worship and serve your Lord, we invite you to speak with the Pastor who will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

**SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY**

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler

Ushers: Mark Hartmeister, Bob Rankin

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL**

Today (12/20)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Children's Christmas Eve Service Practice
Thu	6:00 pm	Choir Practice
	6:30 pm	Children's Christmas Eve Practice
Fri	9:30 am	Christmas Day Worship
Today (12/27)	9:30 am	Worship Service

**NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNION SERVICE:** Thursday, December 31, 7:00 pm. Due to Covid concerns there will be no gathering at the parsonage afterwards. Perhaps we could have a New Year's Eve gathering in the spaciousness of the church fellowship hall with coffee and refreshments? Thoughts or suggestions about this? Please share with pastor.

**CALL NEWS:** David Ude, currently serving as the pastor of Living Hope, Appleton, WI has received the call to be the pastor of Redeemer, Cheyenne. <> Redeemer of Bowdle and Zion of Ipswich, SD have called Pastor Emeritus John Klatt to serve as their vacancy pastor, beginning in 2021. Pastor Klatt has accepted their calls.

**OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** is scheduled for this Thursday at 6:30 pm. Feel free to invite friends (we will practice social distancing). A choir practice will be held starting one-half hour before the worship service at 6:00 pm.

Now praise we Christ, the Holy One,  
The blessed virgin Mary's Son,  
From east to west, from shore to shore  
Let earth its Lord and King adore.



He who Himself all things did make  
A servant's form agreed to take,  
That He as man mankind might win  
And save His creatures from their sin.

The grace and power of God the Lord  
Upon the mother was outpoured;  
A virgin pure and undefiled  
In wondrous way conceived a child.

The noble mother bore a Son —  
For so did Gabriel's promise run —  
Whom John confessed and leaped with joy  
Before the mother knew her boy.

Upon a manger filled with hay  
In poverty content He lay;  
With milk was fed the Lord of all,  
Who feeds the ravens when they call.

The heavenly choirs rejoice and raise  
Their voice to God in songs of praise.  
To humble shepherds is proclaimed  
The Shepherd who the world has framed.



All honor unto Christ the Lord,  
Eternal and incarnate Word,  
With Father and with Holy Ghost,  
Till time in endless time be lost.

*Christian Worship #39, public domain*

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

### First Lesson – 2 Samuel 7:8-16

8 “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. 10 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning 11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. “The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: 12 When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”

### Psalm for the Day – From Psalm 89

P I will sing of the LORD's great love forever:  
C **With my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**  
P I will declare that your love stands firm forever:  
C **That you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**  
P The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD:  
C **Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.**  
P O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?:  
C **You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**  
P Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you:  
C **Who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.**  
P They rejoice in your name all day long:  
C **They exult in your righteousness.**

### Second Lesson – Romans 16:25-27

25 Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, 26 but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him— 27 to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

### **Sermon Text – Luke 1:26-38**

26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. 37 For nothing is impossible with God." 38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

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**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS**  
**DECEMBER 14-19**

**Mon 2 Samuel 7:8-16** Via His spokesman Nathan, God vowed to continue His program of blessing David personally (8-9), planting Israel in safe harbor (10-11), and making a house for David via his son Solomon (12-13). Now, since God promised that David's house, kingdom, and throne would be established forever—it sounds like He is predicting Jesus' arrival and successful mission.

**Tues Luke 1:26-38** It was Gabriel's turn to announce that Jesus would arrive in due time via the twin miracles of divine conception and birth from a virgin mother (26-31), thus implementing His divine destiny (32-33). How can all this be possible? Well, God is good at miracles (as Elizabeth was discovering), for *with God nothing can ever be impossible* (37). Case closed (38).

**Wed Romans 16:25-27** How do these miracles impact upon our narrowing circumstances? *God is able to establish* us via His potent method of accessing our human hearts, has set His mind to our salvation and told us about it, (25-26)--thus enlarging our narrow lives. Since *God alone is wise* enough to boomerang Satan via Jesus Christ, *to Him be glory forever more*. Amen!

**Thurs Isaiah 9:2-7** God's Christmas Light shined into humanity's darkness (2) (a greater miracle than any of Israel's earthly successes 3-5) when God sent Jesus to our planet as its Governor and as loving Magistrate (6) over His people—once and for all (7). Praise the Lord!

**Christmas Day! John 1:1-14** It's no longer top secret that Jesus has always been a member of the Holy Trinity/Godhead (1-2); He functioned as co-Creator of the Universe (3) and He continues to be our power-plant (4-5)--as John the Baptizer has made crystal clear (6-8). Although He doesn't manage to enlighten everyone (9-11), as many as received Him, to them (us!) Jesus has granted the privilege to become children of God (12-13). Christmas is glorious because Jesus is glorious (14)--and we share in His glory.

**Sat Hebrews 1:1-12** The subject is still Jesus, whom some misidentified as an archangel. Just to clarify: Jesus is divine and Co-Creator, but He lowered Himself to *purge our sins* before He returned home (1-3). Secondly, He is superior to angels in every way imaginable (4-7)--especially in authority and privileged responsibilities (8). In addition, the Universe is not meant to last forever but will perish by the direct order of Jesus, its Supervisor (10-11). In contrast, Jesus will continue in good health and strength—for the good reason that He is Creator of the laws of nature and therefore is not subject to (but superior to) the laws of nature. An angelic creature He is not! Stay tuned for more good news.