

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S
DECEMBER 14-20**

Sunday	Colossians 1-4, Philemon (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
9:00am	Worship Service - Special Guest Lincoln Way East Madrigals
10:30am	Adult Bible Study
10:30am	Sunday School/Confirmation Class
11:45am	Rejoicing Ringers Practice
Monday	Exodus 19 (Daily Bible Reading)
	Ephesians 1-3 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
12:30pm	Prayer Shawl
6:00pm	Stephen Ministry Training
7:00pm	No Men's Bible Study
Tuesday	Exodus 20 (Daily Bible Reading)
	Ephesians 4-6 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
6:00pm	Grief Share
Wednesday	Exodus 21 (Daily Bible Reading)
	Philippians 1-4 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
9:30am	Bible Study – Midweek Advent Bible Study
11:00am	Midweek Advent Service with lunch to follow
6:00pm	Sr Choir practice
7:00pm	Midweek Advent Worship/Bible Study
Thursday	Exodus 22 (Daily Bible Reading)
	1Timothy 1-6 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
7:00pm	Men's Fire & Fellowship
7:00pm	Praise Team Practice
Friday	Exodus 23 (Daily Bible Reading)
	Titus 1-3 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
Saturday	Exodus 24(Daily Bible Reading)
	1 Peter 1-5 (Chronological Daily Bible Reading)
7:00am	Men's Bible Study



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Matteson, Illinois 60443

708-720-0880

www.stpaulsonline.org

Pastor Matthew Troester (708-772-3685)

Pastor Larry Ruger (630-742-7824)

Paul Szymanski – Youth Director

A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

“Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!” Luke 11:28

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SPECIAL GUEST – LINCOLN WAY EAST MADRIGALS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

Our 9:00am Service is from LSB, Divine Setting 3, page 184

Hymn of the Day

#346 “When All the World Was Cursed”

Distribution Hymn

#341 “Lift Up Your Heads. Ye Mighty Gates”

#349 “Hark the Glad Sounds”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 p757

Epistle Reading

James 5:7-11 p1291

Holy Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-15 p1036

Altar Flowers are given in thanks and praise to God and in memory of Ray Dahlman given by Randy & Kathy Dahlman.

We welcome the Madrigal Singers from Lincoln Way East High School, as they sing for us the songs of Christmas.

SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Elder – Mike Najewski

Acolyte – Asher Huber

Ushers – Rich & Ruth Treichel

Organist – Pam Reinke

Tech Team – Tyler Burnett, Mitch Troester & Bob Coen

Altar Guild – Sharon Hart & Amy Najewski

Counters – Ruth Treichel & Don Blume

Sacred Grounds – The Troesters

Church Mailboxes – If you haven't picked up your 2026 Offering Envelopes you can find them in your church mailbox. If you do not see your envelopes or you would like your own, please contact the church office. We will be re-alphabetizing the mailboxes after the first of the year. If you could, please pick up anything that is in your mailbox before the first of the year; we would appreciate it. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who were a part of the Christmas Gift Giving Tree this year. It was a great success! **A Special thank you** to Scott Schulz for taking the Angel gifts down to St. Matthew's.

Thank you to all who participated in sending the 100 stockings to the military. That includes those that helped cut the stockings and fill the stockings with candy, a prayer square and 2 cards. We also appreciate all who donated cards, wrote some out and donated enough to be given to the Veteran's home in Manteno. There were 216 veterans last year, and a home where homeless vets have a place to stay, as well as various programs to help them in their future. Your kind acts will make Christmas brighter for many who have given part of their life or us, as well as reminding them that Jesus is the reason for the season.

Midweek Advent Service "Peace Came to Earth" – Wednesday, December 17th, at 11:00 am with a lunch to follow. If everyone would only listen to us and do what we say, there would be peace. We think of Jesus as the Messiah, the Prince of Peace. Jesus brings peace by stepping into the center of our troubled world, letting Himself be the focus of the world's anger. Therefore, Peace is finding our Purpose. All this work to get ready for Christmas—why bother? What will bring us peace when so much is still undone? We find our peace rests not in our work but in following Him, the Prince of Peace. He filled the manger and the cross and there we find our peace.

Men - You are invited to join other men this **Thursday, December 18th at 7:00pm** for Fellowship and Fire as we get together to relax, celebrate our victories, and support each other around a fire. You only need to bring your favorite outdoor chair and your favorite campfire consumables (beverage, snacks, etc.). We will gather behind the Education Building – just look for the fire.

John Crist – On January 23rd, we will be taking a trip to see comedian John Crist at the Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet. There are 15 tickets available but there is a possibility of getting more if we exceed that number. **Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you would like tickets. As of now this event is limited to our youth members and their families and friends.** If there are tickets leftover we will expand to our members of the congregation. Transportation will be available/provided if necessary. See Paul Szymanski with any questions.

Online Pictorial Directory – In order to update and complete the Online Directory for St. Paul we need your updated digital pictures. Please email a digital picture to Diane Norcutt, at sec3@stpaulsonline.org. If you don't have our Online Directory, go to our St. Paul webpage and look for the Church Directory link to get started.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church – Chicago – When we took the Christmas gifts to St. Matthew last week, we learned from Pastor Sifuentes that they need a snow blower to help clean their parking lot out back where they get deliveries. **If you have a snow blower that you could give them, or you want to help them purchase one, please contact the church office or talk with Pastor Troester.**

IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Peggy Smutny, Diane Hattendorf, Dale Johnson, Steve Siezega, Bill Tucker, Paul Szymanski, Ethel Habel, Linda Lee Howe

TOGETHER BEING CHURCH

Weekly	Needs	Receiving
Current	\$8,852	\$6,412.40
Building Fund	\$577	\$1,930
Mission	\$327	\$850

College Students – Kyle Stege & Logan Szymanski

Discretionary-\$95; St. Matthews-\$40; Returning Citizens-\$48; Troops Care Packages-\$15; LCC Comfort Dogs-\$120; St Paul Alaska Mission Trip-\$325; Sacred Grounds-\$19; Voice of Care-\$50; LCC-\$800; Thanksgiving-\$30; Feed My Starving Children-\$80; National Youth Gathering-\$25; Women's Ministries-\$25; Advent - \$651

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MARY'S CORNER

If you look for me at Christmas you won't need a special Star, I'm no longer just in Bethlehem, I'm right there where you are. You may not be aware of Me amid the celebrations; you'll have to look beyond the stores and all the decorations. But if you take a moment from your list of things to do and listen to your heart, you'll find I'm waiting there for you. You're the one, the reason that I came. And you'll find Me in the stillness as I'm whispering your name. Love Jesus