

ESV **1 Kings 3:4-15** And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" ¹⁰ ¶ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." ¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

ESV **Ephesians 1:3-14** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

ESV **Luke 2:40-52** And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹ ¶ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² ¶ And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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The Second Sunday after Christmas – January 3, 2021

The Opening Prayer by the Pastor

The Opening Hymn – 92 (Red Hymnal)

"Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

The Order of Service – Supplement page 12ff. (Brown Hymnal)

The Scripture Lessons: (Printed on the back page of this bulletin)

The Old Testament Lesson: (1 Kings 3:4-15) While the idea of a genie and three wishes is obviously fictitious, God did actually grant Solomon one wish – anything he wanted. This lesson tells us what Solomon picked and God's reaction. Make this lesson personal by asking yourself what you would have chosen. As we begin a new calendar year, pray God that your priorities might be realigned to conform not with the world around us, but with those of the God who created and saved us.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 8, Supplement page 27

The New Testament Lesson: (Ephesians 1:3-14) As we continue to thank our God for the gift of our Savior Jesus, our New Testament lesson lists some of the gifts for which we ought to give thanks. What a tremendous inheritance we have received in Christ Jesus, and how incredible to realize that we were chosen even before we were born.

The Confession of Faith -

The Apostolic Creed – page 15. (Brown Hymnal)

The Pre-Sermon Hymn – 2 (Red Hymnal)

"To Thy Temple I Repair"

The Sermon – Text: Luke 2:40-52 (Printed on the back of this bulletin)

"The Boy Jesus – Atypical Adolescent"

1. His growth was atypical.
2. His Abilities were atypical
3. His goals were atypical

(- Prof. Paul Naumann, Guest Speaker)

The Offertory – (Supplement page 16 insert)

The Post-Sermon Hymn – 133 (Red Hymnal)

"Within the Father's House"

The Installation of the 2021 Church Council

The Prayers

The Benediction

The Closing Hymn – 97 (Red Hymnal)

"Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"

Silent Prayer

Welcome! - We warmly welcome any visitors who might be with us this morning and invite you to join us every Sunday at this time. St. Paul is a congregation in fellowship with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) – a conservative Lutheran synod with churches and missions throughout the United States, as well as Canada, India, and Africa. We are glad you are here. Thank you for letting us share the Word of God with you. Please record your visit in our Guest Book, and come again!

Attendance – Sunday (22) Average (30)

This Week at St. Paul:

Today	-9:00 a.m.	–Sunday School and Bible Class
	-10:00 a.m.	– Worship Service
	-11:00 a.m.	– Fellowship Hour
Wednesday	-6:00 p.m.	– Confirmation Class
	-7:00 p.m.	– Midweek Bible Study
Next Sunday	-9:00 a.m.	–Sunday School and Bible Class
	-10:00 a.m.	–Worship Service w/Holy Communion
	-11:00 a.m.	– Fellowship Hour
	-11:15 a.m.	– Church Council Meeting

CLC News – Pastor Michael Eichstadt is considering the call to Living Savior of Eden Prairie. Pastor David Ude is considering the call to Redeemer of Cheyenne. The CLC Call Committee for Educational Institutions has postponed their call meeting to fill the upcoming vacancy at Immanuel Lutheran College until January 18.

Our Thanks – We extend our thanks to Professor Paul Naumann for bringing us the Word of God again this morning. Professor Naumann serves on the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI and is the current Editor of the Lutheran Spokesman.

Regular Schedule Resumes – Parents and students please note that Confirmation Class is scheduled to resume this Wednesday at 6pm, followed by Midweek Bible Study at 7pm.

Church Council Installation – The members of the 2021 Church Council are scheduled to be installed during the service this morning. Please remember these faithful servants in your prayers as they use their time and talents in service to their Lord and this congregation.