

Lighting of the Candles

*In a moment, the ushers will light their candles from the Christ Candle. They will light candles from the aisles.
As you light your candle, please hold the lit candle upright, and tip unlit candles to light.*

Prayers of the Church

L: *Lord, in your mercy*

C: *Hear our prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Reading

John 1:1-5, 14 and 1 John 1:5

Silent Night, Holy Night

V1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

V2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

V3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Extinguish Candles

Benediction

L: *Let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God, believing there is light that shines in the darkness, which darkness shall not overcome. And may the love of the Father, the joy of the Holy Spirit and the peace of Christ be with you this Christmas and always.*

C: *Amen.*

Christmas Day

V1. Joy to the world on a night like no other.
Emmanuel, God is with us.

V2. Beggars and kins, let us come and adore Him.
Rest in His peace and bow before Him.

Chorus: Sing all you people! The Lord almighty reigns.
Sing ev'ry creature of God! Come bless His name.
For He is good, for He is good; He was born to conquer the grave.
Light of the world, the reason for Christmas Day.

V3. Stars we have seen over deserts and oceans.
The darkness was deep, but never hopeless.
Redemption came and His name is Jesus! **Chorus**

Bridge: From the mountains, we will shout out for the Lord, our God, almighty reigns.
He is with us, He is with us now, for the Lord, our God, almighty reigns. **Repeat x2**

Chorus

Tag: Light of the world, the reason for Christmas Day.

Sending

L: *Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.*

C: *Thanks be to God.*



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2025

4:30 P.M.

FIRST ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

501 N. Burlington Ave. Hastings, NE 68901

402-463-1329 | info@firststpauls.org

 @firststpauls

Pastor Joel Remmers, Senior Pastor
Pastor Chad Power, Associate Pastor

Prelude

Welcome | Announcements | Greeting

Joy To The World / Unspeakable Joy

V1. Joy to the World! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King. Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

V2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
Joy, unspeakable joy!

Chorus An overflowing well; no tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy! It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

V3. He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love, and wonders of His Love,
and wonders, wonders of His love!

Chorus

Cherub Choir

“King of Kings”
“Angel Band”

Children’s Sermon

Confession

L: Merciful God, always with us, always coming:

C: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.

Reading (Responsively)

Luke 2:1-7

L: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus.

C: He decreed that all the world should be registered.

L: Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David.

C: He went to Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house of David.

L: He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

C: She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Joyful Noises (Handbells)

“Away in the Manger”

Reading (Responsively)

Luke 2:8-14

L: In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them:

C: “Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.”

L: Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

C: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Wise Men Still Seek Him

V1. For years they must have watched the heavens day and night.
How else would they have known a new star was in sight.
It wasn't in the papers, wasn't in the TV guide.
I'm not really sure how they did but somehow they got wise.

V2. They rode their camels 'cross the desert's burden sand.
They couldn't fly you know, there were no planes back then.
Then they met old Herod who was out to steal their joy.
But they brushed old Herod off and found God's Baby Boy.

Chorus: Wise men, still seek Him. Those on earth who realize how much they need Him.
Following Jesus wherever He may lead them. Wise men, still seek Him, Wise men, still seek Him.

V3. Well today they travel different, but they're wise men just the same.
Still talkin' about the Savior and the blessed night He came.
I hear old Harod out there trying to deceive
But a whole worlds full of Herod's can't stop those who believe. Chorus

Bridge: they're lookin' for that river that never will run dry.
The One and only One who can bring meaning to their life.
They're searching for the only way through heaven's open door.
Bringing gifts to offer Him just like they did before. Chorus

Reading (Responsively)

Luke 2:15-20

L: When the angels had left them, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

C: They went with haste and found Mary, Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

L: But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Opening Prayer

L: Almighty God,

C: You have brought us together tonight to celebrate your great love for us, demonstrated in the gift of your beloved Son. Open our eyes to the light of Christ, which shines in the darkness of a world broken by sin. Bring us into the wonder of your presence, so that we may hear the good news of great joy that is Jesus. Amen.

Hallelujah

V1. He is here, the Saviour has been born.
The one we've waited for, surrounded by our praises.

V2. He is here, the promise of the King,
to You our lives we bring, let Your glory be revealed.

Chorus Joy to the world, peace to all who love Him.
The Saviour has been born and all of heaven smiles.
Glory to God, we bring an off'ring to You;
join with all the angels singing, “Hallelujah!”

Repeat V1, V2 & Chorus

Ending Hallelujah! Allelu, Hallelujah! Allelu, Hallelujah! Allelu,
Hallelujah! Allelu.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-2, 11-12

Sermon

Pastor Joel Remmers

Apostles’ Creed

Offering

Offertory by Ava Bonifas

“O Holy Night”



The staff of First St. Paul's wishes the congregation and visitors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are truly blessed to serve you and with you, as United, we live God's will. We look forward to where God will lead us in 2026.

Dates to Remember

December 25th: The Church Office is closed.

December 31st: Gifts and Offerings you would like credited to 2024 should be to the Church Office, Attn: Megan by 5:00 p.m. or may be placed in the offering plate during services on December 27th & 28th.

December 31st: No Ichthus

January 1st: Office will be closed.

January 7th: Wednesday Evening Ichthus resumes.

Emergency Numbers During the Holidays

Pastor Joel Remmers (402) 984 - 6866

Church Office (402) 463 - 1329

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers

Ushers: The Walston and Uhrmacher families

Acolyte: Jenna Grafe

Worship Assistant: Pastor Chad Power

Musicians: Robin Schilling, Jessica Walston, Angie Buhr, Marty & Angie Pinkerman, Ryan Hofmann and Jordon Harms

Media Team: Dennis Fierstein, David Schultz and TBD

Choir Directors: Kim Remmers and Kristen Janda



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