

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**  
**Making the Truths of Christmas Less Hidden**  
**I – A Light Has Dawned**  
**Pastor Kal Waetzig**  
**November 28, 2021**

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; 1 John 1:5-10; John 1:1-13

**Welcome & Invocation:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introit – Based on Zechariah 9 & Psalm 25**

P: See your King comes to you,

**C: righteous and having salvation.**

P: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

**C: in you I trust, O my God.**

P: Do not let me be put to shame,

**C: nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

P: No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame,

**C: but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**C: and to the Holy Spirit;**

P: as it was in the beginning,

**C: is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: See your King comes to you,

**C: righteous and having salvation.**

**Collect**

Stir up, we implore you, your power, O Lord, and come that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and be saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**10:00 a.m. - Opening Songs: Stacey Minor**

*Here I Am To Worship*

*Great Are You Lord*

*Goodness Of God*

**The Old Testament Lesson ... Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7**

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone....<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. ESV

**The Second Lesson ... 1 John 1: 5-10**

Walking in the Light

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ESV

**The Holy Gospel according to St. John**

**Chapter 1, beginning at verse 6**

**John 1:6-13**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any

thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ESV

### **The Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary;  
suffered under Pontius Pilate;  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian church,  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

**Young Time** – Marybeth Muldowney

## **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent Making the Truths of Christmas Less Hidden I – A Light Has Dawned Pastor Kal Waetzig**

Isaiah 9:2, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.”  
ESV

**I. Some of the first indicators that Christmas is C \_\_\_\_\_**

**II. For Christians, Lights are S \_\_\_\_\_**

**III. Darkness D \_\_\_\_\_**

The bible defines darkness as both evil and ignorance

**IV. So, Where is Our Hope?**

The message of Christianity is that:

**“Things really are d \_\_\_\_\_, nevertheless, there is h \_\_\_\_\_!”**

**V. So Where Does Our Hope Come From?**

Isaiah 9:2, “those who dwelt in a land of darkness, on them has light shone...”  
ESV

John 8:12, “Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”  
ESV

Conclusion

John 1:5, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

**(Notes: Coming, Symbolic, Defined, dark, hope)**

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those that 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, For ever and ever. Amen.

## Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you  
May the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you  
May the Lord, lift up his countenance upon you  
And give you peace. Amen.

**10:00 a.m. – Closing Song – Stacey Minor**  
*O Holy Night*

Join us as a church body as we **read through the scriptures**. Here is our reading schedule (Year 2) for the week of November 29:

*Monday, November 29*  
**Luke 13 & Micah 4**

*Tuesday, November 30*  
**Luke 14 & Micah 5**

*Wednesday, December 1*  
**Luke 15 & Micah 6**

*Thursday, December 2*  
**Luke 16 & Micah 7**

*Friday, December 3*  
**Luke 17 & Nahum 1**

*Saturday, December 4*  
**Luke 18 & Nahum 2**

*Sunday, December 5*  
**Luke 19 & Nahum 3**

## Announcements

Join us as we **decorate the Church for Christmas** TODAY following the close of the 10:00 am worship service.

Join **BVCA & the Stockton Heat for Faith Night** on Friday, December 3 at 7:00 pm. \$10 per person. There will be a postgame concert featuring Mike Donehey of Tenth Avenue North. Pick up an order form in the entryway. Return form & payment to Admin office by 11/29.

**Just in time for Christmas! Bella Vista's Scrip program is both an electronic and physical gift card option** that provides an opportunity to support our school and earn cash back toward a student's tuition. Gift cards can be purchased online and instantly credited toward your account for use as you pay for your items! One can place an order for the physical cards once per month, to be picked up in the Church office around the 15th. We will place Christmas gift card orders on 11/30 & 12/10. Encourage friends and family to help our school by purchasing Scrip. Contact Pam McCain for info at pmccain@stpaulstracy.org.

Our next **Mite Box Sunday** will be on December 5. Bring your filled Mite Box to church & empty it into the large mite box in the church entryway after each service. We will be collecting mites the first Sunday of each month. Checks are accepted, please make out to St. Paul's.

Save the date...**BVCA Crab Feed** on January 15, 2022 in our gym. \$50 per ticket until 11/30 on 12/1, \$65 per ticket. Join us for a fun night of live/silent & dessert auctions, raffle prizes & crab! Tickets on sale now in the office or online at [www.bellavistaca.com](http://www.bellavistaca.com). Flyers available on entryway table.

**St. Paul's / Bella Vista Christian Academy is looking to hire** for a couple positions:

Part-time lunch duty staff - we are looking for a person 2 - 5 days a week from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. \*School days only.

Preschool afternoon teacher - we are looking for 1-2 teachers to work up to 20 hours a week. This candidate would need 6-12 Early Childhood Credits.

If you are interested or know someone who would be interested, please contact our office at 209-835-7438. You can speak with Dave Schnurstein, Lori Waetzig or Pam McCain.

### **This week at St. Paul's**

#### Sunday, 11/28

8:30 am & 10:00 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church  
11:00 am - Decorate the Church for Christmas - Church  
11:00 am - Youth Group - Youth Room

#### Monday, 11/29

6:30 pm - Grief Share - Parish Hall

#### Wednesday, 12/1

10:00 am - Loomis/Alvarez Bible Study - Parish Hall  
6:00 pm - ESL Class - Parish Hall  
7:00 pm - Mellick Bible Study - Admin Conference Room & Zoom

#### Friday, 12/3

7:00 pm - Faith & Family Night - Stockton Ports

#### Sunday, 12/5

8:30 am & 10:00 am - Worship Service - Church  
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church  
11:00 am - Youth Group - Youth Room

### **Remember in Prayer**

James Broadwater - Healing (son of Broadwaters)  
Robert Brown - Healing & recovery  
Darralee - Healing (friend of Jo Culberson)  
Carol Devine - Recovery  
Edgar Esteban - Healing  
Kelly Ferree - Treatments (brother of Janis MacDonald)  
Gale Heinrich - Healing  
George Horne - Restored health  
Vi Kramer - Healing  
Megan Krause - Treatments (wife of Matt Krause)  
Dennis Maddix - Bone cancer, strength & healing (husband of Martha Maddix)  
John McLaughlin - Recovery  
Joan Mehring - Upcoming procedure  
Lola Lee Mohr - Peace & comfort (mother of Laura Mohr)  
Alletta Parker - Transition to assisted living (mom of Lorraine Hall)  
Maggie Pedersen - Healing (mother of Aimee Gates)  
Joyce Pulliam - Recovery  
Sue Renner - Chronic neck pain  
Maria Rhodes - Recovery  
Quentin Rios - Successful treatments for cancer (extended family of Gamaches)  
Jon & Debbie Schmidt - General prayers  
Rolly Skarloken - Restored health  
Barbara Vierra - Healing (friend of Jo Culberson)