



Third Sunday in Advent

December 14, 2025
10:00AM

WELCOME, FRIENDS AND GUESTS!

WELCOME! A cordial welcome is extended to all who have come to worship with us today. May God's loving presence fill us with joy and hope as we prepare ourselves to follow Christ. If you are a guest or visitor with us, please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Binz or Pastor Swenson and sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again.

SERVING YOU TODAY

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Rev. Jacob Swenson, Associate Pastor</i>
<i>Liturgist & Celebrant</i>	<i>Rev. Curtis Binz, Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Assisting Elder</i>	<i>Donald Woo</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Amy Kao</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Edward & Rebecca Chan</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Megumi Amano, Rhonda Short, Stanley Tom</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Ernestine Gutter, Darlene Hartman, Rebecca Chan</i>

Divine Service, Setting Four
Lutheran Service Book, page 203

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING HYMN

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

LSB 594

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!

4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 When I die, I leave all sadness
 To inherit paradise!
 Though I lie in dust and ashes
 Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
 Baptism has the strength divine
 To make life immortal mine.

5 There is nothing worth comparing
 To this lifelong comfort sure!
 Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 Even there I'll sleep secure.
 Though my flesh awaits its raising,
 Still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ;
 I'm a child of paradise!

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THE BAPTISM OF *Tabitha Joy Swenson*

Baptismal Rite, Hymnal page 268

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5*

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

P LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.

P Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

C Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, "Cry!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the

purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.
“Cast away the works of darkness,
All you children of the day!”
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all, to be forgiv’n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory
And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy
And with words of love draw near.

Stand

5 Honor, glory, might, dominion
To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit
While eternal ages run!

Public domain

Sit

SERMON “The Coming One”
Text: Matthew 11:2-11

Stand

NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

Sit

TITHES AND OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Choir: *Seek Ye First*

Stand

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

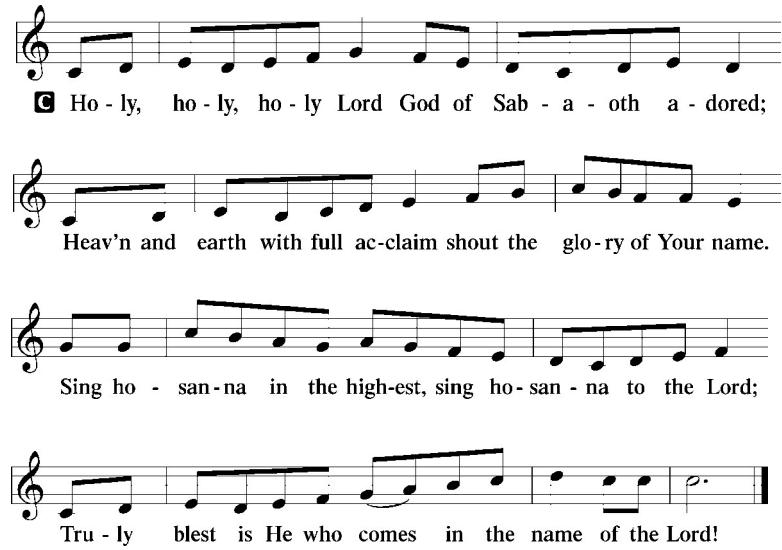
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
- P** In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.
- P** With thankful hearts we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.
- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major, common time, with a treble clef. The lyrics are in Latin and are as follows:

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, O Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, us, Lord, we pray.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Regarding our Holy Communion practices this morning:

- We ask that you who are communicant Lutherans prepare to receive the Lord's Supper by reading the Communion Registration side of our Welcome-Worship Registration Card.
- The consecrated wine may be received by common cup (the chalice) or individual chalices. **Non-alcoholic wine is provided in the chalices in the inner circle of the tray for those who are unable to consume alcohol.**
- If you are unable to come to the altar rail for Communion, please let the usher know, and Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333

- 1 Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
 Came in likeness lowly,
 Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.
- 2 Now He gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
 Precious food from heaven,
 Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.
- 3 Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
 Christ will come in splendor
 And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
 Keep our hearts believing,
 That we, grace receiving,
 Ever may confess You
 Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

LSB 619

1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
 Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
 These are my life and strength forever,
 By them my hungry soul is fed. ***Refrain***

Refrain

Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
 Be for my soul the highest good!

2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
 I live in Thee and Thou in me.
 No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
 It finds its only joy in Thee. ***Refrain***

3 Who can condemn me now? For surely
 The Lord is nigh, who justifies.
 No hell I fear, and thus securely
 With Jesus I to heaven rise. ***Refrain***

4 Though death may threaten with disaster,
 It cannot rob me of my cheer;
 For He who is of death the master
 With aid and comfort e'er is near. ***Refrain***

5 My heart has now become Thy dwelling,
 O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, Thy praises telling,
 Shall live in joy eternally. ***Refrain***

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Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS



1 O Lord, now let Your servant go.
2 All glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Ghost.
For I have seen the glory of the Most High,
 the splendor of the only-begotten God,
 and have had a taste of what salvation is.
It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
 and to sing psalms to the Most High.
The eyes of the poor have been opened,
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
The bound have been freed,
 and the blind given sight.
The poor have heard the glad tidings,
 and the joy of salvation is with us.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now,
 and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347

- 1 “Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;
“Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning ’neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over.”

- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
 Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
 He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many_a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;
 God will change her pining sadness
 Into ever-springing gladness.

3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
 Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

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Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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West Portal Lutheran Church. If you wish to make an online
donation, please use the QR code below. PayPal covers all transaction
fees. You are donating to PayPal Giving Fund, a 501C(3) charity. Your
donation is tax-deductible.





**Praise God for the baptism of *Tabitha Joy Swenson*,
daughter of Pastor Jacob and Faith Swenson.**



Even the smallest bear is
big in God's care.

*After the worship service today, please join us
for the cake reception to give thanks to God and
celebrate Tabitha Joy Swenson's Baptism.*



Altar Flower Donations

The Altar Guild is again planning to purchase poinsettias to help decorate the Church during this Christmas Season. If you would like to help by donating to the flower fund, please complete this form and return it to the Church Office by Sunday, December 14. The suggested minimum donation is \$15.00. Please make the check payable to Altar Guild—West Portal Lutheran Church.

Name of person(s) donating flowers

Name of person(s) honored or remembered

PARISH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**Wednesday Morning Bible Study
In-Person and On-Line**

Pastor Binz is leading an in-person and on-line Bible Study on Wednesday mornings, starting at 11:00AM in the church library. If you would be interested in joining the class on-line, please contact Pastor Binz, pastorbinz@wplsf.com so that he can provide you with the link for joining the class.

Sundays, 9:00AM

Bible Study - Led by Pastor Swenson at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Children Sunday School - Led by Edward & Rebecca Chan at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Library.

ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX:

- *Portals of Prayer* for October—December
- *Advent Devotional Booklets*
- Latest issue of PortaLight
- Current issue of the *Lutheran Witness*
- Bulletin for today—regular size print and large size print

Please help yourself to any or all of the above listed items.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available. If you know of someone who could use one, please ask an usher for a large print bulletin—the order of service, words to the hymns, and the announcements are printed in these bulletins.

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES are now available for your use during the Worship Service. If you would like to use one of these hearing devices, please see an Usher to check one out! There are two choices for the earpiece: an Ear-Bud or an Ear-Cuff. Following the Service PLEASE return the Hearing Aid to the ushers.

Isaiah 35:4 – “Say to those who have an anxious heart, ‘Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.’” The return of our Lord at the Last Day is a cause of joy and anticipation for us believers. We know our Lord and His love, and we look forward to His Second Advent. Indeed, how we live our lives here and now flows from our certain hope of resurrection and eternal life.

Midweek Advent Services Continue in December



In Advent we prepare for the “advent,” or coming of the Lord our Savior. He first came in the flesh at Christmas, the fulfillment of all the prophecies of the Old Testament. More than that, however, He comes to us today in His Word and Sacraments. Then, as at His first coming, we gather now in patient anticipation of His final coming in the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

This Advent we are reminded that Christ is born in us spiritually today and every day. He enters into us daily to strengthen and support us, save us and renew us. We are changed by his presence within us as we become more and more like him in the living of our lives.

We continue to gather for Midweek Advent Service on Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00PM.

Advent Midweek 3 - December 17, 2025
Title: Crèche



The Altar Guild is seeking new members to help with our essential ministry of preparing the church for worship. This is a quiet, behind-the-scenes way to contribute to the beauty and reverence of our services, and we are currently in need of more dedicated members to help with our important work.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can serve, please contact Rebecca Chan at 317-508-3901.

Thank you for considering this vital ministry.

In Christ,
The Altar Guild



Christmas Services

Join with us and invite family and friends to worship the Lord at any of our Christmas Services.

7:00 PM DECEMBER 24TH—CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Scripture lessons, lighting of candles; Christmas music

10:00 AM DECEMBER 25TH—CHRISTMAS DAY - FESTIVAL EUCHARIST
Carols and hymns; Lord's Supper

No SATURDAY DECEMBER 27TH SERVICE

10:00 AM December 28th SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Lord's Supper

No NEW YEAR'S EVE OR NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES

Year-End Reminder from our Finance Committee

THANK YOU for your tithes and offerings for the Lord's Kingdom work. Your contributions are appreciated, including gifts of stocks, bonds, IRA distributions, or corporate matching funds. Remember that contributing securities that have risen in value provides you with a larger tax deduction and avoids capital gains tax. If you wish to donate stock or other securities, or request matching funds from your employer, please contact the Accounting Office at 415-661-0242 ext. 225, or by email at accounting@wplsf.com.

*Gary Presley-Nelson, Vice President Church Council
Chair of Finance Committee
West Portal Lutheran Church & School*

Our Stewardship of Worship Last Week	
Wednesday, 7:00PM Service	
In Person	19
On-Line	55
Saturday, 5:00PM Service	
In Person	101
On-Line	27
Sunday, 10:00AM Service	
In Person	95
On-Line	63
Total.....	360
Communed Sunday	
40	
Sunday Bible Class	
15	
Wednesday Bible Class.....	
10	

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY (12/14)
 9:00AM Adult Bible Class
 9:00AM Children Sunday School
 10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper
 11:15AM Tabitha's Cake Reception
 11:30AM Church Council Meeting
 11:30AM Elders Meeting
 11:30AM Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY (12/17)
 11:00AM Midweek Bible Class
 7:00PM Midweek Advent Service
SATURDAY (12/20)
 5:00PM Worship-Lord's Supper

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY (12/21)
 9:00AM Adult Bible Class
 9:00AM Children Sunday School
 10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper
 11:15AM Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY (12/24) CHRISTMAS EVE
 7:00PM Candle Light Service
THURSDAY (12/25) CHRISTMAS DAY
 10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper
FRIDAY (12/26)
 Church Office & School are closed.
SATURDAY (12/27)
 No worship service this Saturday



LET US PRAY TO THE LORD GOD for those who are ill, homebound, or recovering from recent hospitalization: Dick Bass; Elfriede Bonfert; Charlene Bruggemann-Wong; Angie Cheung, Helen Bok's sister-in-law; Bill Eves, Virginia Ferry's cousin; Virginia Ferry; Jimmy Fong, Evelyn Fong's father; Gilbert Mogyorossy; Bennette Nulph; Sigrid Rogge; Ruth Stresow; Ray Toloski; Nancy Tso; Elise Wen, Patrick Man's friend; Cheryl Wong; Marilyn Wong; Franklin Yee.



Welcome To Our New Business Manager!

Mr. Robert Watson, originally from Great Britain, has lived in San Francisco for 12 years.

He is a Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in central and local government in the UK, having served as the Chief Executive and Director of Finance for the city/county of South Oxfordshire, overseeing a wide range of local government services including the management of 7000 social housing units, environmental health, administration of the local planning and zoning laws, finance, budgeting and tax collection.

Robert, in the past, has also served as Secretary to the Consultative Council on Local Government Finance, where he advised government ministers on matters current at the time including tax issues. He also has worked as a school auditor in Poole Borough Council which had the responsibility for the administration of the State Schools in the area.

He was Chief Accountant in Hastings Borough Council, a town which is famous for its history where the battle of Hastings took place in 1066 and Norman the Conqueror defeated King Harold and established the royal dynasty which still exists to this day.

Robert presents with an extensive academic history in finance, accounting, and economics, as well as post graduate studies in strategic management.

He and his wife enjoy time with his son's family, including an 8 year old grandson, who also live locally.

Robert is a devoted Christian, who comes to us, in his own words and those of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to serve not be served. We are pleased to welcome Robert into our West Portal Lutheran Church and School Community.



Join Us! Pastor Binz's Retirement Reception

The WPL Fellowship Committee is throwing a retirement reception to honor **Pastor Curtis Binz** for his incredible 26 years of ministry and guidance.

Come share your favorite memories and enjoy some fellowship, food, and fun as we send Pastor Binz off to his well-deserved retirement!

When: Sunday, 1-4-2026, 11:15 a.m.

Where: Parish Hall of WPL Church, 200 Sloat Blvd., SF

Details: Light reception and cake will be served.

Please help us get a headcount by letting me know if you can make it by **Sunday, 12/28**.

Contact: 415-661-0242, extension 221 or may.luu@wplsfc.com to RSVP.

Let's make this a memorable send-off!

May Luu
Church Secretary/Administrative Assistant



Worship Services

Saturday, 5:00PM
Sunday, 10:00AM

Bible Classes

Wednesday, 11:00AM
Sunday, 9:00AM

CHURCH

200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-661-0242
www.
westportallutheran.org

SCHOOL

Sloat Campus
200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-665-6330

Sunset Campus
3101 Moraga Street
San Francisco CA 94122
415-731-3000
www.wplsfc.com

Rev. Curtis Binz,
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jacob Swenson,
Associate Pastor

Ms. Sherise Lee,
Principal

Mrs. Sherilyn Jew,
*Director of
Teaching Learning Curriculum*

Ms. Amy Kao
Church Music Director

12/14/25
10:00AM