

A thrill of Hope

The weary world

Rejoices

'Family'

"You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home.

He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what He is building."

Ephesians 2:19 MSG

Advent 2025: 'Hope for Christmas'

Welcome to St. Paul!

We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. ~ 1-Thessalonians 1:2

Leader: God is good!

Congregation: All the time and I am a witness!

Opening Song “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Prayer

First Advent Candle - Blue

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;

A candle of *Hope* in December’s dark night.

While angels sing blessings from heav’n’s starry sky

Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.

Numbers 24:17 (New King James Version)

¹⁷“I see Him, but not now;

I behold Him, but not near;

A Star shall come out of Jacob;

A Scepter shall rise out of Israel,

And batter the brow of Moab,

And destroy all the sons of tumult.

Old Testament Readings:

Genesis 3:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ And I will put enmity, Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Micah 5:2 (NKJV)

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.”

Gospel Matthew 1:21-2:6 (NKJV)

²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” ²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” ²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus. **2** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” ³ When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ”

P: The Gospel of the Lord
C: Praise to You, O Christ

- Children’s Message Laurie Lentz**
- Message “Hope for Christmas”**
- Worship Song “Light of The World”**
- Prayers / The Lord’s Prayer**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Confession & Words of Assurance

P: Most Merciful God,

C: I confess my sins to You. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbor as myself. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

Holy Communion (*Communion is a time of quiet reflection and prayer.*)

Communion is by continuous table for those who want to come up. Others may take communion at their seat by individual cup available at the entrance. We welcome all believers in Jesus Christ who are baptized into Him. We usually commune children from fifth grade on. Other children will receive a blessing.

Distribution Music: “Come Thou long Expected Jesus”
..... “Great Are You, Lord”
..... “O Come Let Us Adore Him”

Announcements

Closing Song **Doxology**

Benediction

A: Choose this day whom you will serve.

C: As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Postlude

Serving Today

Minister Pastor Beverly Kelling
Ushers Johnette Dixon & Stephanie Laughinghouse
Lector LeeAnn McReynolds
Acolytes Emma & Chloe Callis
Music Team Jeanette Rath, Ben Rath, Rick Brickles

*Altar flowers are given by Derlin & Roberta Hennig
in celebration of Mitchell's birthday!*

*The Sanctuary Lamp shines brightly in honor
of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Savior Jesus Christ!*

RESPONSIBILITIES – December 7th:

Flowers: DeLaCruz & Tellez Families

Sanctuary Lamp: Audrey Moncada

Ushers: Deb Cleary & Jay Reed

Lector: Ayelet Reus

Acolytes: Claire Bowman & Addi Beard



"The Red Brick Church on Avenue M"

Celebrating 116 years of worship & service to our LORD

1303 Avenue M ~PO Box 58 Hondo, TX 78861

(830) 426-3222 or (830) 426-2343

Website: stpaulhondo.org ~ Email: stpaulhondo@yahoo.com

Pastor: Beverly Kelling



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The Red Brick Church Digital Tithing

“And never stop praying.” ~ 1Thessalonians 5:17

Healing & Comfort:

Cynthia Patterson, Dick Eccles, Cassidy Reus, Margaret Reus, Bill Reus, Buffie Rogge, Billie Hustede, Larry Stewart, Lottie Porter, Barry Gear, Dylan Nicoll, Robert H. Reed, Claude Cosgrove, Jeanne Mortillaro, Sandee Cotton & Julie Murphy.

Homebound and Nursing Homes:

Brian Boehle, Gladys Feller, Kathy Feller,
“Pye” Haass, Elaine Eccles, Mario Salazar & Henry Nietenhoefer.

Active Military:

Ben Rath, Ethan Kammer, Will Winchester, Riley Lynch, Andy Lynch,
Larry & Teresa Sullivan, Heath Runnels, Madelyn Acosta, Sean Constante,
Dylan Neuman, Jimmy Rhodes, Jairus Bailon, Les Armstrong, & Collin Bezely.

This Week’s Birthdays:

Santos Contreras, Erik Garcia, Jennifer Sprenger, Hannah Jones,
Angel Tellez, Justin Billings, Kevin Dixon, Cynthia Nester, Annette Billings,
Carynn Jacobs, Eliana DeLaCruz, Alice Mumme & Danica Lopez

Looking Ahead

December 6th – Advent Tea (A/C) 2pm-4pm

December 10th – Children’s Christmas Program 6pm,
Children arrive by 5:30pm in the Annex.

December 24th – Christmas Eve - **Office Closed** 6pm Candlelight Service

December 25th - Christmas Day – **Office closed**

December 31st – New Year’s Eve – **Office open ½ day (9am-12pm)**

January 1st – New Year’s Day – **Office closed**

February 6th - 7th – Rummage Sale

**Upcoming Women’s Advent Tea
Saturday, December 6th ~ 2pm-4pm**

The Women of St. Paul will be hosting a Christmas Advent Tea for the women of the church. The tables will be elegantly set and decorated for an afternoon tea. This is a great way to start the Christmas Season. If you would like to decorate a table or have questions you may call Carol DeHaven (830) 426-7041. We will be revealing the current years’ prayer pals at the advent tea and drawing new names for the upcoming year. We also bring a little something for the pal that you had for the reveal. Also if you are currently in, your name will automatically be in for a new year. If anyone has questions or wants your name added for the upcoming year please reach out to me.

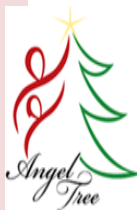
Thank you, Debbie Whitehead (210) 414-1005



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Opportunity to participate and adopt a child for the Angel Tree program is coming soon. There are 10 families with a total of 21 children.

Angel Tree will be up on December 7th and gifts must be returned by the following Sunday, December 14th. If you have any questions please contact Kara Cranfill at (832) 561-1695



Sunday, November 30th

9am Worship
10am Fellowship
10:30 Sunday School

Monday, December 1st

7pm Bible Journaling
7pm Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, December 2nd

7am Prayer Warriors

Wednesday, December 3rd

Tack Quilters
Women's BSF
Highschool BSF

4pm - 5:15pm 4th-6th Bible Study

6pm CAYA Worship Service

Youth following CAYA
7pm Bible Study (A/C)

Thursday, December 4th

Friday, December 5th

Office Closed

Saturday, December 6th


2pm - 4pm Advent Tea

Sunday, December 7th

Angel Tree Pick-up

9am Worship Service
10:00am Fellowship
10:30 Sunday School

5pm-6pm Christmas
Program Practice



We are also a Blue Santa Toy Drive drop off location. (Church Office) This is a project that the Hondo Police Dept. has and services families right here in Hondo as well.

Anjie Clifton is planning to start a new EVENING Bible study in January of 2026 for both men and women alike!

If you have been wanting this kind of class, please let Anjie, Joann or Beverly know which evening would work best for you as we want this to capture as many who are interested!

"COME AS YOU ARE"

6pm Worship Service

December 3rd – Anjie Clifton

December 10th – Children's Program


December 17th – Country Christmas
Celebration

December 24th – Christmas Eve

December 31st – New Years Eve Open Mic

New Topical Study
"Know Your Enemy" will begin in January 2026, Tuesday evenings at 6pm in the Lion's Den Classroom of the LLB. Look in the bulletin for more details or reach out to Cynthia Nester at (210)862-0038.

St. Paul Lutheran Church is looking for a part-time Maintenance/Grounds Steward. If you are interested come by the office and pick-up a job description & drop off your resume to the office.



Poinsettia sign-up is in the Annex, they are \$10. Envelope attached please check off how you paid.

'HOPE FOR CHRISTMAS'

Where are you getting weary? Where or in Whom is your hope?

Christmas is God keeping His promise & providing eternal hope to a lost and broken world.

Hope is a _____
in the _____,
grounded in _____

God's Promises - Made & Kept:

Time to Jesus's birth from Genesis 3:15: _____

from Numbers: _____

from Isaiah 7: _____ from Micah 5: _____

Hope is rooted in _____

Notes: _____

Hope in Christ:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Hope doesn't change God's timing,

Notes: _____

"May the God who gives hope fill you with great joy. May you have perfect peace as you trust in Him. May the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope."
Romans 15:13