

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 2021

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist

OPEN DOORS. OPEN HEARTS. OPEN HANDS.

*WE WILL WELCOME ALL TO LIVE GOD'S MISSION, TEACH CHRIST'S LOVE AND
TRANSFORM OUR COMMUNITY BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.*

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 163 years of service and worship in Wilmington.

*Our worship service can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP).
The hymns can be found in the blue 1982 Hymnal. Other hymns will be marked accordingly.*

Please silence all electronic devices before the liturgy begins.

Voluntary *Of the Father's Love Begotten* *Wilbur Held*

Introit *Ave Maria* attr. Jacob Arcadelt

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
now and in the hour of our death. Amen

Processional Hymn 59 *Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding* *Merton*

THE WORD OF GOD

The Acclamation and Response **BCP 355**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
Celebrant: Restore us, O Lord God of Hosts;
People: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
Celebrant: Will you not give us life again,
People: That your people may rejoice in you?
Celebrant: Show us your mercy, O Lord.
People: And grant us your salvation.
Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
People: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

The Liturgy of the Advent Wreath

Each Sunday of Advent a new candle is lit with prayer, until all four are lit on the Sunday before Christmas. A fifth candle, always white, is placed in the center of the wreath for Christmas. This Christ candle is lit until the Epiphany, when the wreath is put away.

Reader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
All: Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.
Reader: The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus."

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, and he will be the king of the descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!" (Luke 1:30-33)

We light this candle to remind us of Mary, who was willing, first of all people, to let the light of the Lord shine through her and bring the Savior to the world. Because of her faithfulness and love, Jesus, the Messiah, was born to us.

The fourth candle is lit.

Reader: Let us pray.
Father, you called Mary to be mother of your Son, so that the world could be saved and brought to new birth. Help us also bring the light of Christ to birth wherever there is darkness and despair, and to work for the coming of your kingdom.

All: Amen.

Advent Refrain

Wait for the Lord (sung three times)

Taizé

The musical score is written for piano in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has four measures with the lyrics: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second system starts with a measure rest (marked with a '5' above the staff) and continues with four measures: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" The score uses a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a simple accompaniment in the bass clef.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the prophet Micah

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15

BCP 91

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1: 46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

The Second Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 265

The angel Gabriel from heaven came

Gabriel's Message

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 1: 39-45

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of our greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

The Nicene Creed *(please stand)*

BCP 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Lord our Savior, our hope is in you: no one is beyond your love, no one is beyond your saving power. Give us grace to recognize you and welcome you as you come to us. We pray to you saying “be known among us.”

Intercessor: Open our eyes that we may behold your glory, open our minds to know that you are with us, open our hearts to the love that you give us. We give thanks that in Christ you share in our humanity and open for us the gate of glory. We pray for the Church’s work among children, in nurseries, in schools, and in church. We pray for those who seek to proclaim the sacredness of all life. Give your church the courage to proclaim that you come among us. We pray for Michael, our presiding bishop, Rob, our bishop, and our clergy at St. Paul’s. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Trinity in Chocowinity.
God of love, God of glory,

People: *Be known among us.*

Intercessor: We pray for all who seek to support family life, all who care for homeless or unwanted children, all children taken into care. We remember homeless children of the world and all who are used as cheap labor. Bless the work of all institutions and agencies that help children.
God of love, God of glory,

People: *Be known among us.*

Intercessor: We rejoice in the love of our homes. We pray for all who have enriched our lives by their goodness, all who have accepted us and cared for us. We pray for all who are separated from loved ones at this time, all who are lonely. We remember all who will come together for Christmas as families and all who are alone.
God of love, God of glory,

People: *Be known among us.*

Intercessor: We pray for all who are hungry for acceptance, who are hungry for love, all who long to be needed. We remember all who are in the hospital and loved ones who are anxious. We pray especially for those who are burdened with the coronavirus this holiday season. We pray for those in our parish and all those we love who are sick or suffering, especially (*the intercessor reads the names of those in our parish who need our prayers*).
God of love, God of glory.

People: *Be known among us.*

Intercessor: Lord God, you came to earth that in your power and love we might ascend into heaven, bless our friends and loved ones who are departed this life with the gift of life and love eternal, especially John Ciriello.
God of love, God of glory,

People: *Be known among us.*

The Advent Collect (*said together*)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;

that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Offertory Anthem

A Maiden Most Gentle

Arr. Andrew Carter

Members of the congregation will present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. If you would like to give electronically, please turn to page 13 for the QR code.

Advent Presentation Hymn

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Puer Nobis

The image shows a musical score for the Advent Presentation Hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heay'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The score is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Picardy

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord, Lord God of power and — might, heav'n — and earth are — full, full of your glo - - - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Our Father, who are 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Cantor or Choir
My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
deed, says the Lord. *All* My Lord. *All* Those who eat my
flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. My
flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God

St. Botolph

O Lamb of God who takest away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us, and grant to us your peace.

Communion of the People

Communion Anthem

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary

Charles Wood

Communion Hymn 73

The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The people stand or kneel.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Processional Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Arr. Andrew Carter

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Refrain

3. O come, thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

4. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did'st give the Law,
In cloud, and majesty and awe.

Refrain

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of the Christ who is to come.

People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Allegretto

G. F. Handel

† † †

Service Participants at 8:00 a.m.

Celebrant and Preacher

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Vergers and Altar Server

Spencer Weig

Lector

Spencer Weig

Greeter/Usher

Linda Collette

† † †

Service Participants at 10:30 a.m.

Celebrant

The Reverend Catherine Powell

Preacher

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Vergers

Herb Gant

Crucifer

Don Brainard

Altar Server

Carol Field

Gospel Book Bearer

Carolyn Demorest

Lectors

David Heath

Jenny Callison

Intercessor

Kathryn Hedgepeth

Greeters

Dawn Wilson

Midge Silberman

Ushers

Jay Stewart, Jeanne Stewart, Jeff Jones
Happy Jones, Ron Miller

Advent Wreath Leaders

Julie and Steve Martin

Flower Guild

Marie Ashworth, Beth Richards

Altar Guild

Anne Freeling, Zona Tounsley
Sally Pope

ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

In our parish

Earl Craig	Tammy Pollock
Fr. John Cawthorne	Lyle Sullivan
Anne Laudati	Pat Baker
Judy Farri	William Murphy
Joe Farri	Sherry Mulhollen
Harriet Fowler	Peggy McCaleb
Alice Calder	Wayne Fowler
Rus Kirk	Jenny DuBois
Leigh Coudriet	Lynda Miller
Larry Wright	

People requesting prayer

Tracy Calhoun Sorrenti	Bryce Harrelson
Tammy Tilghman	Michael Justice
Sharon O'Rourke Berry	Ken Crawford
Richard O'Rourke	Gina Lewis
Glenda Snowa	Carol Findlay
Kim Brafford	Chervonne Miller
Velma Farrior	Ann & Rodney Strickland
Michelle Miller	Eugenia Gretz
Alice Meeks	

For the departed

John Ciriello

About the Prayer List

Included in our prayers are the names of those for whom prayer has been requested by a parishioner or family member. The reason for being listed is kept confidential. If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list please reach out to Fr. Caleb Lee or make a prayer request online at our website, www.spechurch.com.

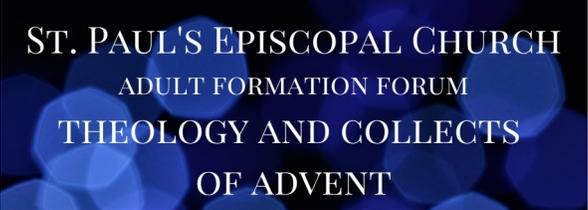
Hospitalization or Pastoral Issues

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. Please speak with Fr. Caleb or call the church office at 910-762-4578.

Sharing Holy Communion

If illness prevents you or a loved one from joining us for regularly scheduled services, Fr. Caleb or a Lay Eucharistic Minister can share Holy Communion either in your home or at a health care facility. Please speak to Fr. Caleb or contact the church office at 910-762-4578.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ADULT FORMATION FORUM
THEOLOGY AND COLLECTS
OF ADVENT

Today, December 19th at 9:30 AM in the parish hall
Forum on the theology and collects of Advent

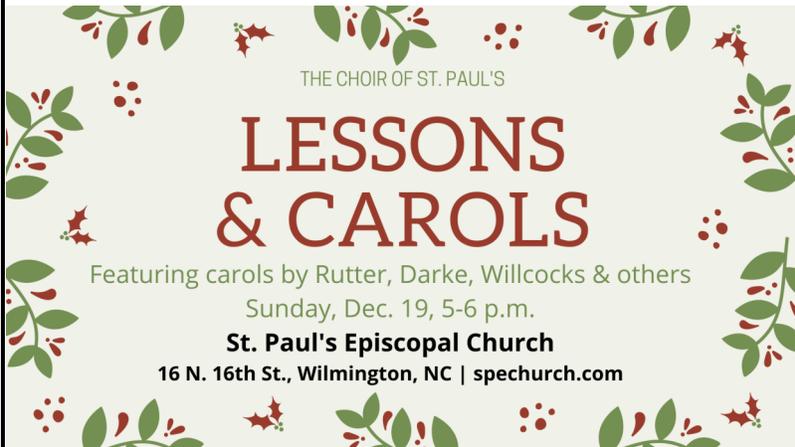


CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today, December 19th from 9:30 - 10:15 AM
Up the red stairs



Today, December 19th from 9:30 - 10:15 AM
in the library



THE CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S
**LESSONS
& CAROLS**
Featuring carols by Rutter, Darke, Willcocks & others
Sunday, Dec. 19, 5-6 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC | spechurch.com

Tonight, December 19th from 5-6 PM



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
FESTAL EUCHARIST

Tuesday, December 21, 12:10 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC
(910) 762-4578
www.spechurch.com

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presentation of the Nativity on Christmas Eve!

All children and youth are invited to participate in the Presentation of the Nativity at the 5:30 PM service on Christmas Eve. We will have a rehearsal on 12/23 from 10-11 AM. Let Martha know if you plan to be there! Can't make the rehearsal, but want to participate? Email Martha so she knows to give you a special role. All are welcome! Contact Martha Whitesides at speckids@spechurch.com.

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23rd at 9:00 AM. We will thank our outgoing Vestry members as well as elect four new ones for a three-year term. We will hear all about the good things happening at St. Paul's and more about Fr. Lee's vision for 2022 and beyond, as well as get a highly anticipated update from the Facilities Committee, including our architect Gray Hudson..

The Vestry Nominating Committee, consisting of the outgoing members of the vestry, is presenting the following members of the parish to stand for election: *Bill Anyan, Chip Carter, Ashley Eason, and Anne O'Dell*. Any member of the parish may nominate additional qualified nominees, provided that the nomination is received by the Chair of the Nominating Committee (Joan Rosko Miller) at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Stay tuned for more detailed information about our current nominees.

Sunday, January 23

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

9:00 AM Annual Meeting in the Church

10:30 AM Choral Eucharist for the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul

Festive reception to follow

Summer 2022, already!?

That's right! It is time to start thinking about SUMMER CAMP! Camp Trinity is our amazing diocesan summer camp on the banks of the Bogue Sound in Pine Knoll Shores. Campers (rising 2nd-12th graders) participate in a variety of fun and fellowship, with Christian formation, cabin activities, sailing, swimming instruction, and more. Members of churches in our diocese get preferential registration in selecting a camp session until January 1, so if there are dates that work best for you, sign up now! Visit <https://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org/registration-camp-trinity/> for more information and to register. Questions? Contact Martha speckids@spechurch.com.



Helping Tornado Victims

Many at St. Paul's have asked how we can help the victims of the tornadoes that swept through the mid-Mississippi Valley last week. The best way to help at this point is to give to the Disaster Fund through Episcopal Relief and Development. They are on the ground there, working with local partners and dioceses and can channel the funds appropriately. If you would like to donate money please include make a check payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) in the memo line.

Thank you St. Paul's faithful!

This year's Stewardship Campaign invited you to consider how God's abundant generosity has transformed your life and how, through you, it will transform our community and our world. Your response has been remarkable, and we are truly grateful. As of December 12, 2021, we have received 131 pledges amounting to \$467,668. We have officially matched the total number of pledges received during the 2021 campaign and increased the total dollars pledged by almost 10%. Through your generosity, St. Paul's will continue to grow and flourish, serving as a beacon of God's love and light at the corner of 16th and Market. Thank you.

We wish you, our St. Paul's family, a very Merry Christmas. Together, let us welcome, delight, and rejoice in the wondrous presence of the Christ Child.

In faith and thanksgiving,
Your Stewardship Team

Office Hours

The office will be closed from Friday, December 24th through Sunday, January 2nd.

Breakfast & Christian Formation

There will be no breakfast or Christian Formation after the 8 AM services on December 26th and January 2nd. The receptions after the 10:30 AM service will continue.

From the Archives: A Church Walk

Church walks will resume in the new year on the first Sunday of each month following the 10:30 AM service.

Vanco Online Giving Platform





Tuesday, December 21

Holy Eucharist at 12:10 PM for the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle

Wednesday, December 22

Holy Eucharist at 12:10 PM with lunch to follow

Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve Services

5:00 PM – Pre-service music begins

5:30 PM – A Children's Presentation of the Nativity with Holy Eucharist

8:00 PM – Pre-service music begins

8:30 PM – The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord
Choral Eucharist

Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:30 AM - The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord
Festal Eucharist

Sunday, December 26 – The First Sunday in Christmas

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM – Choral Eucharist

Christmastide Weekday Services

Monday, December 27 – St. Stephen 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, December 28 – St. John the Evangelist 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, December 29 – Holy Innocents 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 2 – The Feast of the Holy Name

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Choral Eucharist

Cover Art: Mary and Eve by Sisters of the Mississippi Abbey

The Abbey sells Christmas cards with this image and the inside greeting is as follows:

My mother, my daughter, life-giving, Eve,

Do not be ashamed, do not grieve.

The former things have passed away,

Our God has brought us to a New Day.

See, I am with Child,

Through whom all will be reconciled.

O Eve! My sister, my friend,

We will rejoice together

Forever

Life without end.

May you share in the Christmas joy of the angels and saints!

ST. PAUL'S WELCOMES YOU

We are glad you are with us today. If you are new to St. Paul's, please fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter or an usher. Here are some quick facts that may be helpful.

Welcome: All are welcome to receive communion. If you prefer not to receive, you can remain seated, or come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. If you are allergic to wheat products, gluten-free communion bread is available. Please let your request be known to the priest as you approach the altar rail.

Help: Please see any of our ushers for assistance when you enter the worship area.

Handicapped Parking: Our facility is handicapped accessible with multiple handicapped parking spaces available in the lot off Market Street and the lot off Princess Street. Handicap ramps serve both parking lots.

Live-Streamed: Our service is live-streamed on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Please subscribe to St. Paul's on YouTube to view live-streamed services and concerts.

Masks: All may, none must, some should.

Worship: St. Paul's follows the services outlined in the Book of Common Prayer 1979. The services include Old and New Testament readings, a reading from the Gospel, a sermon and traditional communion.

Children: All children are welcome and encouraged to attend any of our services.

Worship Kits: Bags and boxes are located in the back of the church for different ages to use in the pew, including our children's worship bulletin, *The Sunday Paper*. Please return when church is over.

Nursery: The nursery is open every Sunday from 9:15 a.m. to Noon upstairs in the Children's wing. The nursery is for infants to age 5.

Sunday School: Most Sundays from 9:30-10:15 a.m. upstairs in the Children's Wing for ages 4-11.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Most Sundays from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the library for 6th grade and older.

Welcome to St. Paul's!

We are delighted that you have joined us to worship and have expressed an interest in St. Paul's. Please fill out this card. You may drop it in the offering plate or give it to one of our greeters.

Date: _____ Greeter: _____

Mr: _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Children/Youth Names and Ages:

Please check all applicable spaces:

_____ First-time Visitor _____ Returning Visitor _____ A Newcomer's Ministry Member may call me

_____ Add me to the mailing list



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

16 North Sixteenth Street

Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

www.spechurch.com (910) 762-4578

Bulletin submissions: bulletin@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 p.m.)

E-news submissions: e-news@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 p.m.)

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, Rector

The Reverend Catherine Powell

Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist

Richard Rhoads, Assistant Director of Music and Organist

Diane Matz-Kane, Bookkeeper

April Cook, Parish Administrator

St. Paul's Vestry

Layne Dupree | Sally Pope

Ruth Gates | Teresa Singer, Sr. Warden

Angela Green | Tom Sramek, Jr. Warden

Matt Langley | Rhonda Stroud

Steve Martin | Meaghan Thomas

Joan Rosko Miller | Merry Ann Wright

Denise Sheehan, Clerk

Judy Wilson, Treasurer

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