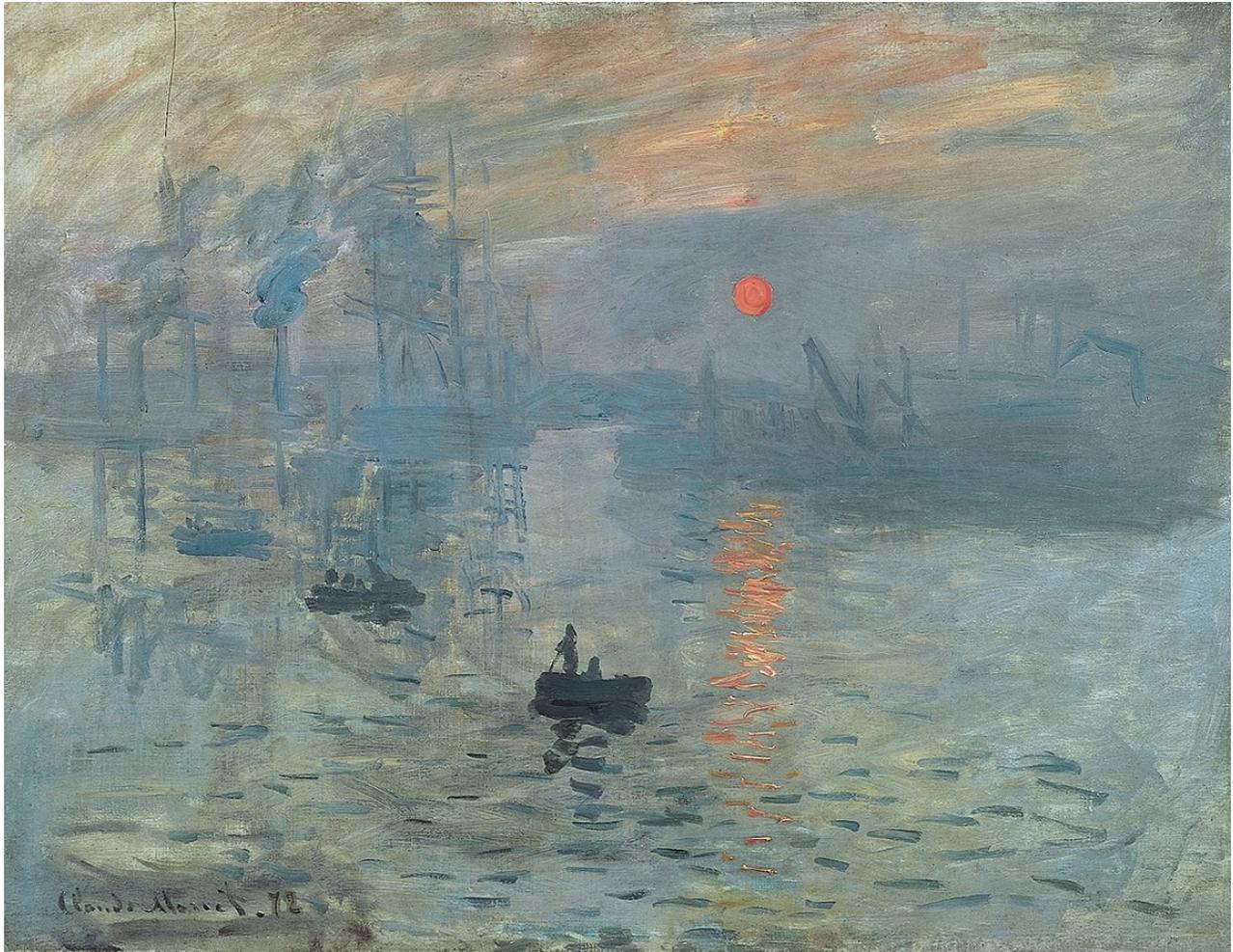


ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

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

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

8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Please silence all electronic devices before the liturgy begins.

THE WORD OF GOD

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Lord have mercy	
<i>Christ have mercy</i>	
Lord have mercy	
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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS at 8:00 AM

Celebrant & Preacher	Assisting	Altar Server/Lector	Greeter/Usher
The Reverend Catherine Powell	The Reverend Caleb J. Lee	Carol Field	Tom Gerow

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST RITE II ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

*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.*

Advent: The New Year in the Church

*Today we begin Year A in the Revised Common Lectionary
The Gospel readings in Year A are taken primarily from the Gospel of Matthew*

The season of Advent is above all a time of watching and waiting for the coming of the kingdom of God in power. It shares with Lent a certain spirit of restraint, preparation and penitence, but it is one shot through with confident joy as Christmas approaches. The readings reflect this dual aspect. In the early part of Advent they focus upon the coming of Christ as Judge at the Last Day. As the season progresses, the readings in company with the lectionary look towards the birth of the promised Messiah, and reflect upon the unique roles played by John the Baptist, the Lord's forerunner, and of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in the plan of salvation.

From Celebrating the Seasons

Voluntary	<i>Es ist ein 'Ros' entsprungen (Behold, a rose is blooming)</i>	Johannes Brahms
Introit	<i>Arise, the Kingdom Is At Hand</i>	Christopher Tye
Processional Hymn 57	<i>Lo! he comes, with clouds descending</i>	Helmsley

THE WORD OF GOD

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant:	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People:	And blessed be his 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 people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them. (Isaiah 9:2)

Reader: We light this candle to remind us of the hope of all people for a Savior who will bring us freedom and peace. This hope was promised by the prophets of the Old Testament, who shared their vision of justice coming to the earth by the mighty acts of God.

The first candle is lit.

Reader: Let us pray. Father, you awaken in us the desire for the coming of your Son Jesus. May he kindle in us the light of his love, and bring the kingdom of peace and justice you promise for the whole earth.

All: Amen.

Advent Refrain

Wait for the Lord (sung three times)

Taizé

The musical score is written for piano and voice. 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 number '5' and has four measures with the lyrics: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a clear melody line and a supporting bass line.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5

Reader: A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
 2 Now our feet are standing
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.
 3 Jerusalem is built as a city
 that is at unity with itself;
 4 To which the tribes go up,
 the tribes of the Lord,
 the assembly of Israel,
 to praise the Name of the Lord.
 5 For there are the thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the house of David.
 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
 "May they prosper who love you.
 7 Peace be within your walls
 and quietness within your towers.
 8 For my brethren and companions' sake,
 I pray for your prosperity.
 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God,
 I will seek to do you good."

The Second Reading: Romans 13: 11-14

Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn 66

Come thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 24: 36-44

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please stand.

The Apostles Creed *(Please stand)*

Picardy

1 We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
Earth and heaven sprang to being
All created things began.
We believe in Christ the Savior,
Son of God in human frame.

2 Virgin-born, the child of Mary
Upon whom the Spirit came.
Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
Like a lamb to slaughter led,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
He descended to the dead.

3 We believe in Jesus risen,
Heaven's king to rule and reign,
To the Father's side ascended
Till as judge he comes again.
We believe in God the Spirit;
In one Church, below, above.

4 Saints of God in one communion,
One in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Savior, Lord and friend
We shall rise with him in glory
To the life that knows no end.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: As we begin this season of anticipation of the Christ who comes to us in great humility, we pray for our own needs and the needs of the world saying "Lord, show us your way and teach us your paths."

Intercessor: Holy and Mighty God, we long for you and your love. Fill your Church with your grace and goodness, that we may grow in holiness and in hospitality, that we may reach out in mission in love, that we may reveal your light in your glory. Lord, make us active in service and joyful in praise. 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 Church of the Servant in Wilmington, Christ Church & Galilee Mission in Creswell and St. Luke's and St. Anne's in Roper. In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Nippon Sei Ko Kai. Lord, show us your way

People: *and teach us your paths.*

Intercessor: We pray for the nations of the world and for righteous dealings. May the resources of the earth be neither hoarded nor squandered, but used to the benefit of all in the relief of those in need. Strengthen all who strive for justice and integrity in world trade; may vulnerable peoples be freed from oppression and abuse. May we all have compassion and concern for the poor. We pray especially for all those who benefit from our Community Ministries; that they may see in us the hands and feet of Jesus. Lord, show us your way

People: *and teach us your paths.*

Intercessor: Come, Lord, fill our homes with your light and love. Make us sensitive in our dealings and gentle in our actions. Keep us alert to the needs and hopes of others, that our homes may reflect your presence and your glory. Lord, show us your way

People: *and teach us your paths.*

Intercessor: God of freedom and peace, we remember before you all who are captive to sin, vice, or addiction, all who are damaged by oppression, violence, or abuse. We pray also for friends and loved ones who are ill, especially *(the intercessor reads aloud the names of those in our parish that need our prayers)*. Bless all who seek to rescue and restore those who are in need or distress. Lord, show us your way

People: *and teach us your paths.*

Intercessor: We give thanks for all who have passed beyond trouble and darkness and are now at peace in your Kingdom. We rejoice in the fellowship of the Saints and pray we may follow their way of holiness and love. Lord, show us your way

People: *and teach us your paths.*

The Advent Collect *(said together)*

O God, you make us glad with the yearly expectation of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully prepare to receive him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come again in glory, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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.

Offertory Anthem

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

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 10 for the QR code.

Presentation Hymn

Doxology

Puer Nobis

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

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 S-129

Holy, holy, holy

Robert Powell

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

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,

All: 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, reconcile all things in Christ and make them new 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 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Be known to us, our promised Lord

Conditor alme siderum
Text by CJL +

Be known to us, our promised Lord,
in broken bread and wine outpoured.
May we receive it thankfully,
and feast with you eternally.

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

Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God

Adrian Batten

O Lamb of God who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Grant us thy peace.

The Communion of the People

Communion stations are available at the altar rail and in the baptistry. To receive the consecrated Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please assist the chalice as it is offered; or, having consumed the Bread, you may return to your seat. We believe Christ fully present in either element. If you prefer not to receive the Sacrament, you may ask for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please speak to a priest when you come forward for Communion.

Communion Anthem

In Night's Dim Shadows Lying

George Guest

The congregation is invited to sing the communion hymns

Communion Hymn 73

The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

Communion Hymn 615

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee

St. Flavian

Please stand.

If Eucharistic Visitors are being sent forth today to take the Sacrament to people at home, the following prayer is said after Communion.

Prayer for Eucharistic Visitors

Priest: In the name of God, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer *(said together)*

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 (vs 1-4)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni Emmanuel

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Veni Emmanuel

Wilbur Held

Vanco Online Giving



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS AT 10:30AM

Celebrant

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Preacher

The Reverend Catherine Powell

Gospeller

The Reverend Michael Singer

Verger

Leon Tillery

Crucifer

Jeffrey Hughes

Hazel Lee

Gospel Book Bearer

Ruth Gates

Altar Server

Carolyn Demorest

Eucharistic Ministers

Carolyn Demorest

Dot Erway

Cheryl Wagoner

Lectors

Lindsay Joines

Katie Rose Sanders-Park

Intercessor

Sue Sramek

Ushers

Marshall Foster

Bill Petry

Royster Hedgpeeth

Kathryn Hedgpeeth

Don Bobo

Greeters

Gary and Janet Dillon

Flower Guild

Brian Sanders-Park

Louise Joyner

Altar Guild

Anne Freeling

Zona Tounsley

Sally Pope

Advent Wreath Leaders

Rob Nipper

Allison Nipper

Charlie Nipper

Mary Jeffreys Nipper



THE CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S
ADVENT LESSONS
& CAROLS
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, Nov. 27 @ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC | spechurch.com

A Word from the Rector

Wait.

Christmas is coming. It is not yet here.

I vowed long ago not to be a member of the Advent police. You know, that church person who makes it known to everyone this time of year that it is not yet Christmas? I won't do that. Reflecting on my own experience, there has never been a period in my lifetime when the secular world didn't start with Christmas immediately after (if not before) Thanksgiving. It is a part of who we are as Americans to be pummeled by radio jingles, excessive sweets, shopping, unrealistic expectations and a heavy dose of capitalism all before we loosen our belt after Thanksgiving Dinner.

That is why Advent is such a gift.

Advent invites us into a period of preparation, of contemplation, of waiting. Advent invites us to acknowledge the darkness of our world and our lives so we can more deeply appreciate the light.

I hope you will consider coming to St. Paul's tonight for Advent Lessons and Carols. This is not the same as Christmas Lessons and Carols. While the concept is similar, the themes, readings and music are focused on the season of Advent, not Christmas. We will begin in the darkness and move towards the light. We will hear the old salvation story that points to our hope found in Jesus. We will sing together. Our choir will offer anthems. It is a part of our "getting ready."

**Advent Lessons and Carols
A Candlelight service of Readings and Music
Tonight at 5:30 pm**

Advent Blessings,

Caleb+

ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

In our parish

Earl Craig Tammy Pollock
Fr. John Cawthorne Dale Curran
Judy Farri JoAnn Summey
Joe Farri Barbara O'Rourke
Alice Calder Katherine Ramsey
Merry Ann Wright Diane Trubia
Larry Wright Susan Carter
Tom Freeling Barbara Bucci
Karen DeJarld Elaine Francis
Norman LaSalle Linda Morgan
Karen Smith

People Requesting Prayer

Tracy Calhoun Sorrenti Sherry Herman Patricia Noble
Tammy Tilghman Greyson Chapman Susan Richards Frederick
Richard O'Rourke Kathy Keagy Sandy Veale
Major Jennifer Jantzi Tom Gonzalez Dennis Traina
James Graham Barbara Holland Kristen Keen
Stacy Neal Carroll Joines Rebecca Eagen
Bryce Harrelson Dr. Everette Cameron Liz Duckrow
Michael Justice James Mary Barto
Gina Lewis Lena & Ryan Lindsay Peterson
Carol Findlay Shirley Joseph
Gracie Sage Tim Harrison

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today, Sunday, November 27

The First Sunday in Advent

8:00 am Holy Eucharist with

Breakfast to follow in the parish hall

9:15 am - 12 pm Nursery open

9:30 am Advent Wreath Making for Everyone (*parish hall*)

10:30 am Choral Eucharist

Reception to follow in the parish hall

5:30 pm Advent Lessons and Carols

Monday, November 28

Tuesday, November 29

7:30 am *Early-Bird Book Group

9:00 am Morning Prayer

6:00 pm Wilmington Boys Choir Rehearsal + Dinner

Wednesday, November 30

12:10 pm St. Andrews the Apostle Festal Eucharist

Lunch will not be served today

7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, December 1

11:00 am **Rector's Bible Study

5:00pm Nourish NC Packing Event

Friday, December 2

8:00 am Mensgroup

12:10pm Midday Organ Recital

Saturday, December 3

10:00am Create Advent Greenery (*parish hall*)

Next Sunday, December 4

The Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Holy Eucharist with

Breakfast to follow in the parish hall

9:15 am - 12 pm Nursery open

9:30 am Adult Faith Formation (*parish hall*)

9:30 am Children's Sunday School (*upstairs in children's wing*)

10:30 am Choral Eucharist

Reception to follow in the parish hall

11:30am Tour of St. Paul's

*Join the Early Bird Book Group as we begin a new book, "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale Hurston, Tuesdays, 7:30am via Zoom. Contact Julie Martin (itsjuliemartin@gmail.com) for details.

**Join Fr. Lee in the Parish Hall for a look at the upcoming readings from our Sunday lectionary. Bring your lunch, your perspective, and your Bible.

COMING UP AT ST. PAUL'S

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLUE CHRISTMAS:
A SERVICE OF HEALING,
HOPE & LIGHT

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC | spechurch.com

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

MIDDAY ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Join us for "Three Fridays in Advent" Midday Organ Recital Series starting Friday, December 2 at 12:10pm. This is a free series with lunch to follow in the parish hall.

Sara Bryant | December 2
William Weisser | December 16
Ronnie Wise | December 23

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Thursday, December 8 or Friday, December 9 at 7:30pm
Featuring the Choir of St. Paul's, Soloists, and the NC Baroque Orchestra.
Tickets are \$15 and are available at the door or online at Eventbrite.

WBC CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The Wilmington Boys Choir invites you to gather at St. Paul's for an afternoon of Christmas caroling in the neighborhood on Sunday, December 11 at 5pm.

WBC HOLIDAY POPS DINNER & CONCERT

A concert by the Wilmington Boys Choir featuring Christmas Carols and Holiday favorites on Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30pm. Dinner included. Tickets available at the door or online at Eventbrite.

CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS

The Choir of St. Paul's presents Christmas Lessons and Carols, a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 18 from 5:30-6:30pm.



ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN UPDATE FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP TEAM

We wish you a Blessed Advent and Godspeed to all returning from Thanksgiving celebrations with family and friends. May God's radiant love fill our hearts with gratitude this holiday season and inspire us to shine our light in service to God and our neighbor.

As we enter the final phase of the Annual Pledge Campaign, we wish to express our deep appreciation to everyone who has pledged their support to St. Paul's mission and ministries for 2023. Your faithfulness and generosity are truly remarkable. As of November 22, we have received 117 pledges totaling \$468,873, which is an increase of 2 pledges and over \$55,000 compared with the same period last year. Thank you.

As a community of faith, we are stronger when we work together *Shining Our Light*. If you have not yet made a pledge to the 2023 Annual Campaign, we ask you to do so as soon as possible. Our goal is to exceed last year's total of \$506,000 and provide Fr. Caleb and the Finance Team with the necessary resources to develop a comprehensive, responsible plan to address the expanding needs of our church. Imagine the impact your pledge could have.

You may return your pledge form by mail or place it in the offering plate on Sunday. If you need a new form, please print one at <https://spechurch.com/annual-pledge-giving/> or even easier, submit your pledge electronically using the same link. Additionally you may send an email to Judy Wilson (treasurer@spechurch.com) with the total pledge amount and the details of your payment plan (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.). If you have any questions, please contact Karen Day at (917) 913-3609 or karencday@aol.com.

FLOWER GUILD HELP NEEDED

On December the 3rd we will be making swags in the parish hall to hang on the church doors for Advent. COME ONE! COME ALL! We will begin at 10:00am. Starting Sunday, November 27 there will be tarps in the parish hall for any greenery you can bring as we are making nine swags. Thank you for your help.

CREATIVE CARD MINISTRY

Calling all card makers and paper crafters. St. Paul's invites you to join other parishioners for camaraderie and card making for our Card Ministry. The ministry is intended to create cards to uplift a troubled heart, bring a smile to someone's face or to celebrate a joyful occasion. There is always someone in our world who would appreciate a little TLC. This ministry is for anyone interested in learning how to make basic handmade greeting cards. No prior experience or specific skills are necessary. Just a desire to try your creative energies at creating something that is sure to be a blessing to others. Contact Jan Trivett if you have any questions or would like to participate at 910-622-8489 or jltrivett@gmail.com. Invite a friend to join you in this ministry!



We are still in need of 13 volunteers to pack meals for Nourish NC's

Backpack program on Thursday, December 1 from 5-7pm at the Nourish NC's office located at 3606 Market Street, Wilmington, 28403.

This program is specifically designed for K-5 children who have access to free and reduced lunch programs during the week but may struggle with hunger over the weekends. The backpacks are filled with 8 meals, 6 healthy snacks, milk or juice and fresh produce (apples, oranges, sweet potatoes, etc.) every weekend. All ages are welcome to participate in this event, but we are limited to 35 people. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FAEA92CA2FDC70-nourish1>.

Can't make it? Would you like to sponsor a child? Would you like to split the cost with another family from St. Paul's? It costs \$500 per year to provide a weekend backpack of nourishment for one child. St. Paul's partners with Nourish NC to sponsor several children, but we would like to sponsor a few more. Please contact Steve Bucci sbucci@hotmail.com for more information.

THE SOURCE GIFT SHOP ~ YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING DESTINATION

The holidays are upon us with a season of gifts for you and your loved ones. The Source Gift Shop at St. Paul's is your holiday shopping destination. Come shop our clothing, jewelry, candles, games and household items. When you purchase gifts for yourself and your loved ones 100% of the proceeds benefits our: youth group mission travel activities, St. Paul's Choir and other church charities. Come shop with us, on Sundays following the 10:30am service, and help spread St. Paul's ministries into the world. Questions? See Peg Brunton.

Christmas Flowers and Music 2022

You are invited to honor or remember loved ones with the gift of flowers and music for our Christmas services. Forms are located in the front and back of the church and can be emailed to admin@spechurch.com or dropped off at the church office.

The deadline is Wednesday, December 14.

You can also donate Christmas flowers and music using the Vanco service on our website at <https://spechurch.com/online-giving/>

Advent and Christmas at St. Paul's

November 27, The First Sunday of Advent

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Parish wide Advent Wreath Making

10:30am Choral Eucharist

5:30pm Advent Lessons and Carols

December 4, The Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Christian Formation for All Ages

Adult Formation - The Christmas Story according to St. Matthew

10:30am Choral Eucharist

Thursday, December 8 and Friday, December 9

7:30pm Handel's 'Messiah' with the choir of St. Paul's and the N.C. Baroque Orchestra and soloists

Tickets \$15 at Eventbrite

December 11, The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Christian Formation for All Ages

Adult Formation - The Christmas Story according to St. Luke

10:30am Choral Eucharist

Wednesday, December 14

12:10pm Holy Eucharist

5:30pm Blue Christmas: A Service of Healing, Hope & Light

December 18, The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Christian Formation for All Ages

Adult Formation - The Christmas Story according to St. John

10:30am Choral Eucharist

5:30pm A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve Services

5:00pm Pre-service music begins

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

8:00pm Pre-service music begins

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

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00am The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Festal Eucharist

Wednesday, December 28, Holy Innocents

12:10pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 1, The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:30am Choral Eucharist

Friday, January 6, The Feast of the Epiphany

12:10pm Holy Eucharist

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 am 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 most Sundays from 9:15 am 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 am upstairs in the Children's Wing for ages 4-11.

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



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

16 North Sixteenth Street | Wilmington, NC 28401 | Office: 910-762-4578

Visit us online: www.spechurch.com

Bulletin & E-news submissions: admin@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 pm)

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, Rector
The Reverend Catherine Powell, Priest Associate
The Reverend Michael Singer, Pastoral Associate
Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist
The Reverend Dr. William J. Weisser, Assistant Organist
Diane Matz-Kane, Financial Secretary
April Cook, Parish Administrator
Meaghan Thomas, Children, Youth, and Families Coordinator

St. Paul's Vestry

Bill Anlyan, **Rector's (Sr.) Warden**
Chip Carter, **People's (Jr.) Warden**
Brian Buss | Layne Dupree | Ashley Eason | Matt Langley | Steve Martin
Anne O'Dell | Sally Pope | Tom Sramek | Rhonda Stroud | Meaghan Thomas
Denise Sheehan, **Clerk**
Judy Wilson, **Treasurer**

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