

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Saturday, December 24, 2022

8:30pm

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 164 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.

Pre-Service Music

*Noël Provençal
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
Joy to the World and Ding Dong Merrily on High
I Saw Three Ships
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Marcel Grandjany
arr. Carlos Salzedo
arr. Claire Swanson
Traditional English Carol
Lewis H. Redner
Charles Winfred Douglas

Processional Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste fideles

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God, glory in the highest:

Refrain

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Refrain

4 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;

2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of the Father;

Refrain

Refrain

Station Collect at the Altar Creche

Celebrant: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

People: And we beheld his glory.

Celebrant: Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born of the Blessed Virgin Mary: may this Creche be a sign of his humble birth; and grant that we who joyfully behold his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ Our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

5 Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

Refrain

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

The Word of God

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The glory of the Lord has been revealed:

People: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

Glo - ry be to God on high,
 Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare
 Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,
 To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds
 Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,
 Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er
 draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.
 hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.
 and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.
 Glo - - - - - ri - a
 1. in ex - cel - sis De - o! 2. in ex - cel - sis De o!

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

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sing to the LORD a new song;
 sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name;
 proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
 Declare his glory among the nations
 and his wonders among all peoples.
 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
 he is more to be feared than all gods.
 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
 but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!
 Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples;
 ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name;
 bring offerings and come into his courts.
 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
 let the whole earth tremble before him.
 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King!
 He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
 he will judge the peoples with equity."
 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
 let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
 let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
 before the LORD when he comes,
 when he comes to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world with righteousness
 and the peoples with his truth.

The Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-4

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

<p>1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.</p>	<p>2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.</p>
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3 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2: 1-20

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

The Apostles Creed *(sung together)*

Regent Square (93)

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 join the shepherds and celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who shines the light of Christ on all creation

Intercessor: By the birth of Jesus Christ to the Virgin Mary, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Intercessor: For all bishops and clergy, all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Intercessor: For all believers who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God, especially those whom we honor and remember in our Christmas flowers and music, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Intercessor: For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Intercessor: For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Intercessor: Remembering the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Joseph, blessed Nicholas, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ, we pray,

People: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

Celebrant: Source of light and gladness, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. May the Rising Sun of Christ spread across the world and brighten all humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

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.*

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

*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 12 for the QR code.*

Offertory Carol

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

John Rutter

Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to Bethlehem far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem. Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on earth and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem. Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem?" Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for the joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring peace on earth and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem.. None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem; But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem." Angels in the sky came down from on high hovered over the manger where the babe was lying cradled in the arms of his mother Mary sleeping now at Bethlehem. "Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily is He there at Bethlehem? I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky o'vr Bethlehem." Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the king of Kings is come to bring us peace on earth and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem. May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily come with you to Bethlehem? Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle is it far to Bethlehem?" Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is born in the stable yonder, born for you and me."

Presentation Hymn

Christmas Doxology

Gloria (96) arr. Nigel Potts

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow: praise him crea - tures here be - low:
5 praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
9 Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,
15 Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

Hymnal S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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

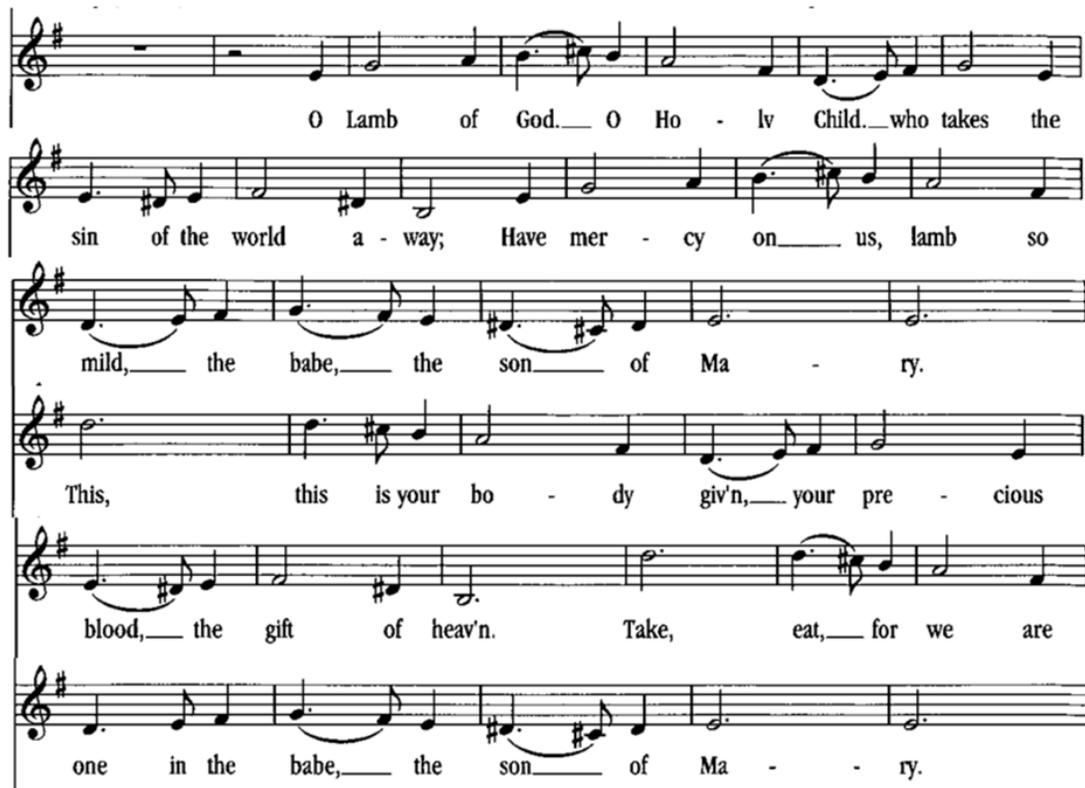
A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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



O Lamb of God... O Holy Child... who takes the
sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, lamb so
mild, the babe, the son of Mary.
This, this is your body giv'n, your precious
blood, the gift of heav'n. Take, eat, for we are
one in the babe, the son of Mary.

The Communion of the People

Communion stations are available at the altar rail and under the lectern. 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 Choir Carol

Angels' Choir

John Rutter

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear? Have you seen the star shining out so brightly as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here? Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven to the humble shepherds who have waited long? Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Hear the angels sing their joyful song he is come in peace in the winter's stillness like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night he is come in joy like the sun at morning filling all the world with radiance and with light he is come in love as the child of Mary in a simple stable we have seen his birth Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo! Hear the angels singing 'Peace on earth' he will bring new light to a world in darkness like a bright star shining in the skies above he will bring new hope to the waiting nations when he comes to reign in purity and love let the earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming let the heavens answer with the joyful morn Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo! Hear the angels singing 'Christ is born' Hear the angels singing 'Christ is born'

Communion Hymn 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

Communion Hymn 89

It came upon the midnight clear

Carol

Please stand.

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 church is darkened and the people, standing or kneeling share candlelight with one another while singing ‘Silent Night.’

Hymn 111

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

The choir alone sings the 2nd verse

1 Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love’s pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Christmas Blessing

Processional Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris’n with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of the newborn King.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Voluntary

Joy To The World

arr. Virgil Fox

VANCO ONLINE GIVING



The church office will be closed from Saturday, December 24th through Sunday, January 1st.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant and Preacher

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Gospeller

The Reverend Catherine Powell

Assisting Priest

The Reverend Michael Singer

Verger

Leon Tillery

Thurifer

Jeffrey Hughes

Crucifer

Zoë Frederiksen

Cheryl Wagoner

Torchbearers

Katie Rose Sanders-Park

Bennett Sanders-Park

Altar Server

Dot Erway

Eucharistic Ministers

Dot Erway

Cheryl Wagoner

Royster Hedgepeth

Gospel Book Bearer

Royster Hedgepeth

Lectors

Kathryn Hedgepeth

Spencer Weig

Intercessor

Herb Gant

Ushers

Shannon Rowe, Dick Rowe

Paula Waterfield, Bill Waterfield

Ernest Patrick

Musicians

Ronnie Wise, Director of Music and Organist

The Rev. Dr. William Weisser, Assistant Organist

The Choir of St. Paul's

Camden Stohl, violin 1

Aria DiLoreto, violin 2

Madelene Stohl, viola

Hillary Flowers, cello

Christina Brier, harp

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S

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 (*lunch will not be served*)

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

8:00am Holy Eucharist (*there will be no breakfast following*)

10:30am Choral Eucharist (*reception following in the parish hall*)

Wednesday, January 4

12:10pm Holy Eucharist (*light lunch to follow in the parish hall*)

Friday, January 6, The Feast of the Epiphany

12:10pm Holy Eucharist (*light lunch to follow in the parish hall*)



Christmas Flowers and Music

In Memory of
Marie and Tracy Brown
June and Tom Bobo
 by Nancy and Don Bobo

In Memory of
Mark Wagoner
 by Cheryl Wagoner

In Memory of
Alex Hartman and Carl Davenport
 by Larry and Deb Hartman

In Memory of
Our parents Jacquelin and Larry Kennedy
Mary and Atty Atkins
 by Andy and Missy Kennedy

In Memory of
Duncan and Evelyn Tousignant
Frank and Josephine Laurendi
William and Frances Fiedler
Mary Veronica Tousignant
 by David Tousignant

In Memory of
Michael S. O'Rourke
Sharon O'Rourke Berry
 by Barbara O'Rourke

In Memory of
Joseph and Dorothy McPhillips
 by Carol Field

In Memory of
Captain Henry Ray Rivenbark (my brother)
 by Em Rivenbark

In Memory of
John and Bernadette DeJarld
Paul and Dorothy Harrelson
 by Ken Harrelson and Karen DeJarld

In Memory of
Bernard Wilson
 by Judy Wilson

In Memory of
William Cornell Murphy
 by Royster and Kathryn Hedgepeth

In Memory of
Bill, Mary Kay, and Michael Caroff
 by Bill and Susan Bowers

In Memory of
My parents, Elizabeth and Frank Tedesco
 by Mark Tedesco

In Memory of
A.W. Fruechtenicht
 by Sara Fruechtenicht

In Memory of
Dorothy and William Hughes
Victoria Stewart
Maurice A. Gilmartin
People of Ukraine
 by Jeanne and Jay Stewart

In Memory of
Jere and Audrey Lewis
 by Melody B. Lewis

In Memory of
Chris Vlahos
Dorthea Edwards
Terry Falls
 by Sib Vlahos

In Memory of
My dear cousin Peggie Heard Roscoe
Geoffrey "David" Heath
 by Joan Rosko Miller

In Memory of
Brothers David, Allen and Dwayne
 by Herb Gant

In Memory of
Our parents, sisters, and brothers
 by Jerry and Sarah Fisher

In Memory of
My mother Catherine B. Roy
 by Candace Halecki

In Memory of
The parents of Brad and Beth Van Amberg
 by Brad and Beth Van Amberg

In Memory of
Our parents
 by Frank and Marcia Wolf

In Memory of
Joseph and Dorothy McPhillips
 by Carol Field

In Memory of
Tori's father Bill L. Wilson
 by Al and Tori Cannon

In Memory of
Marrow Smith
 by Kenny and Jane Harkness

In Memory of
My grandfathers and daddy
 by Carla Ortiz

In Memory of
Dorothy and Bill Knepper
 by Greg Knepper

In Memory of
Pat and Nelle Sorrenti
Ed and Nellie Selweski
 by Rick and Teresa Sorrecti

In Memory of
Richard Rhoads
 by Dianne Stansbury

In Memory of
George Perhala
 by Patsy Perhala

In Memory of
Alex Hartman and Carl Davenport
 by Larry and Deb Hartman

In Memory of
Those who touch our lives and stay in our hearts, in memory of mom, dad and siblings
 by Cynthia Smallwood

In Memory of
Bernard and Bernice Miller
Ellen and Ralph Curtis
H. Edgar Smith
 by Ron and Lynda Miller

In Honor of
Caleb, Cabe, Hazel and Izzy Lee
 by Allen Lee

In Honor of
My 4 1/2 month old nephews
Ben and Noah Sullivan
 by Lyle Sullivan

In Honor of
Ministry together with my SPE family
 by Cheryl Wagoner

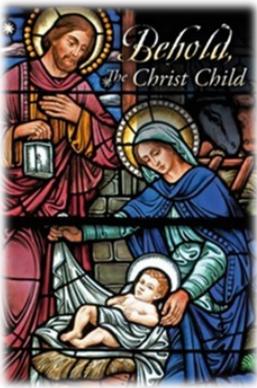
In Honor of
Our parents
 by Bill and Elaine Anlyan

In Honor of
Our grandsons Bennett and Colin
 by The Rev'd and Mrs. Michael Singer

In Honor of
Our children and grandchildren
 by Dick and Shannon Rowe

In Honor of
Ronnie Wise and Dr. Bill
The St. Paul's Choir
 by Jeanne Price Criscuolo

In Honor of
Zona and Ray Lewis
Tift, Heather, Logan and Cullen Tounsley
 by Zona Tounsley



A Christmas Letter

from the Rector

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

December 15, 2022

Beloved of St. Paul's,

A manger is a food trough, a common place where all the animals gather to eat. It is the last place we might expect to find a newborn King, and yet, we do. Bethlehem is overcrowded; there is no room in the inn. No room for Mary, Joseph, and ultimately, the Christ Child. The stable will have to do. The animals' food trough will be the place where a lovingly swaddled Jesus is gently placed to "lay down his sweet head" for the first time.

What does that say about Jesus? To me, it says that Jesus feeds us. The manger is not in a palace with elaborate gates and restricted access; it is in a stable, a communal, rustic space, open and accessible to all of us. Like the lowly shepherds, we are beckoned to the manger and welcomed to "taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8)." At the birth of Jesus, there is a place for us all. At the birth of Jesus, hope is restored and we are all given the bread of life. As Presiding Bishop Michael Curry would say, "There's plenty of good room in God's Kingdom." You and I have a place at the manger. You and I have a place at the table.

You and I have a place at St. Paul's. At St. Paul's Christ feeds us in Word and Sacrament. The Body of Christ at St. Paul's feeds us through music, fellowship, formation, and hospitality. We aspire to be Open Doors, Open Hearts, and Open Hands to all. We continue to grow, and I truly believe it is because when you come to St. Paul's you are being fed. It is a place of spiritual nourishment and sacred sustenance. We are at the manger. We are fed by Christ at St. Paul's.

Let's not forget that we are, with Christ born in us, a vital part of His body, and always called more deeply into the ministry of feeding: physically and spiritually, with "ourselves, our souls, and our bodies (BCP 342)."

O Come, let us adore Him.

Merry Christmas!

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee
Rector

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



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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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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