

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST

OPEN DOORS. OPEN HEARTS. OPEN HANDS.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 167 years of service and worship in Wilmington.

8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Our worship service can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). 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	Altar Server & Lector	Greeter & Usher
The Reverend James H. Green	Herb Gant	Tom Gerow
Preacher		
The Reverend Caleb J. Lee		

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 167 years of service and worship in Wilmington.

10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST RITE II

ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

*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.*

Prelude *Savior of the nations come, BWV 659* Johann Sebastian Bach

Please stand.

Processional Hymn 57 *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending* Helmsley

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 forever. 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)

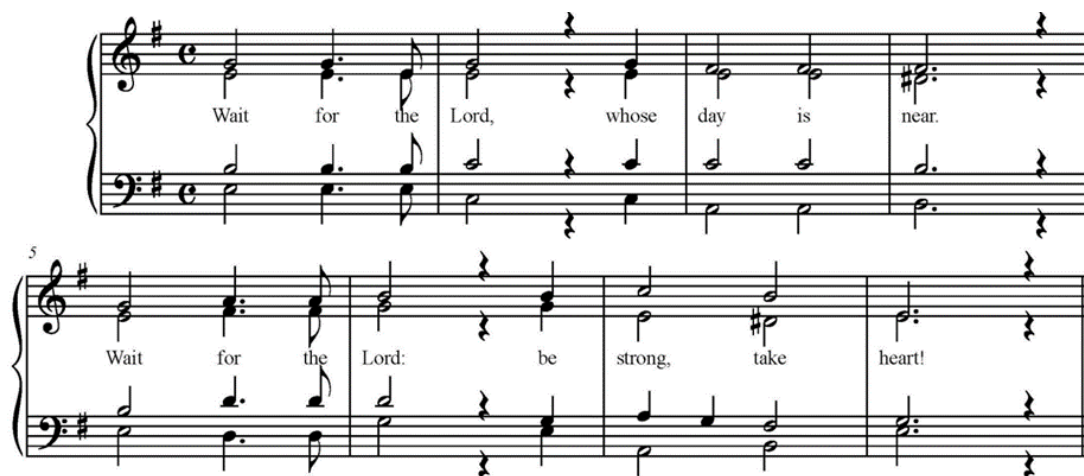
Reader: We light this candle to remind us of the hope of all people for a Savior who will bring us freedom and peace. This hope was promised by the prophets of the Old Testament, who shared their vision of justice coming to the earth by the mighty acts of God.

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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 for ever. *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.

Psalm 122

Laetatus sum

Plainsong

I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD.

For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
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.

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.**The Sermon****The Reverend Caleb J. Lee***Please stand.***The Nicene Creed**

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 (*adapted from The Ormonde Plater Archive, Year A*)**Celebrant:** As we keep awake for the coming of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God who prepares a light for our path. saying “Come, O Lord, and save us.”**Intercessor:** For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ. We pray to you, O Lord.**People:** Come, O Lord, and save us.**Intercessor:** For Rob our bishop, for Sarah our bishop elect, Sean, our presiding bishop and for all bishops, clergy, and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. We pray to you, O Lord.**People:** Come, O Lord, and save us.**Intercessor:** For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of the Advent, Williamston, Vestry Elections, & Annual Parish Meetings. In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Anglican Church in Australia. We pray to you, O Lord.**People:** Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor: For the leaders of the nations and all in authority. We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor: For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth. We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor: For travelers, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the sick and the suffering
(the intercessor prays for those in our parish who need our prayers). Are there others? *(Silence)* We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor: For the dying and the dead. We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Come, O Lord, and save us.

Intercessor: For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. We pray to you, O Lord.

People: Come, O Lord, and save us.

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 and Absolution

BCP 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and 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.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

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 11 for the QR code.*

Offertory Anthem

O thou, the central orb

Charles Wood

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.
Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.
Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.
Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming ray
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

Presentation Hymn

Advent Doxology

Veni Emmanuel

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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.

The Celebrant continues with a proper preface.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord, Lord God of power and — might,
7 heav'n — and earth are — full, full of your glo - - - ry. Ho -
13 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high -
19 est. Bless - ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
26 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - - - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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, 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

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 you thankfully,
and feast with you eternally.

Invitation to Communion

Communion of the People

Agnus Dei S-158

O Lamb of God

Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

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

Savior of the nations come

Martin Luther

Savior of the nations, come; virgin's Son, make here Thy home! Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth. Not by human flesh and blood, but the Spirit of our God, was the Word of God made flesh woman's offspring, pure and fresh. Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child, of the virgin undefiled! Tho' by all the world disowned, still to be in heaven enthroned. Praise to God the Father, sing, praise to God, the Son, our King. Praise to God the spirit be ever and eternally.

Communion Hymn 73

The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

Communion Hymn 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

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.

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 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni Immanuel

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

Refrain:

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

3. O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode. *Refrain*

2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in its ways to go. *Refrain*

4. O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light. *Refrain*

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS AT 10:30 AM	
Celebrant The Reverend James H. Green Preacher The Reverend Caleb J. Lee Gospeller The Reverend Deacon Kay Swindell Vergers Scott Sheble Leon Tillery Crucifers Zöe Frederiksen Izzy Lee Gospel Book Bearer Charlie Nipper Altar Server Zöe Frederiksen Eucharistic Ministers Jeffrey Hughes Sue Sramek Mary Jeffreys Nipper Lectors Carol Field Sue Sramek Intercessor Allen Lee	Torchbearers Turner Tait Amelia Thomas Ushers Michael Jonik Bryan McMurray Brad Van Amberg Beth Van Amberg Jay Stewart Greeters Trish Arnold Jeanne Criscuolo Flower Guild All Members Altar Guild Leon Tillery Gail Gallaher Amber Austin Pam Garmon Advent Wreath Leaders Meaghan Thomas Amelia Thomas

HAPPENING THIS EVENING

THE CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S

ADVENT LESSONS
& CAROLS

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, November 30th, 5:30pm

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16 N. 16TH ST., WILMINGTON, NC | SPECHURCH.COM

In Our Parish

Earl Craig	Carroll Joines
Catherine Thompson Allan	Janet Dillon
Eileen Searle	Bill Garmon
Lloyd Olsen+	Katherine Ramsey
Tammy Pollock	Richard & Barbara
Michael Singer+	O'Rourke
JoAnn Summey	Jeffrey Sackrison
John Efthemis	Jane Carey
Mack Umphlett	Thomas Freeling
Ashley Eason	Ronald Miller
Renée Patrick	Gladys & Bob Remillard
Maryelle Jones	Sara Fruechtenicht
Ron Miller	Tom Matthews
Retha Deaton	Alix Dorr
Beth Richards	Jim Edwards
Lynda Miller	Brandon Adkins

People Requesting Prayer

Lisa Wilson	Kirk Conyers
Elise Harney	Mary Lou Homestead
Tracy Sorrenti	Shannon
Whitney	Neil Ruan
Sara, friends & family	Lee Tillery
Tom Post	Richard Mulliner
Amira E.	Cummings Mebane
Neil Bucci	

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. All parish prayer requests are listed on the prayer list for one month. The complete list of those in need of our prayer are remembered weekly at our 12:10 pm Wednesday Eucharist with Healing Prayers. 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.

Today, Sunday, November 30**First Sunday of Advent**

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:15am-12pm Nursery open (*upstairs in the Children's wing*)

9:30am Advent Wreath Making (*Parish Hall*)

10:30am Choral Eucharist + *reception following in Parish Hall*

11:45am-12:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:30pm Advent Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 2

9:00am Morning Prayer (*via Zoom*)

Wednesday, December 3

12:10pm Holy Eucharist + *lunch to follow in Parish Hall*

7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

8:30am Gentlefolk of Noble Poverty (*Parish Hall*)

9:00am Morning Prayer (*via Zoom*)

11:00am Rector's Bible Study (*Parish Hall*)

Friday, December 5

8:00am Men's Group (*Library*)

Saturday, December 6

9:00am-12pm Parents Morning Out

Next Sunday, December 7**Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00am-Holy Eucharist (*Breakfast to follow in Parish Hall*)

9:15 am-12pm Nursery open (*Upstairs in Children's Wing*)

9:30-10:15am Children's Sunday School for Preschool-5th Grade (*Upstairs in Children's Wing*)

9:30-10:15am Adult Faith Formation (*Parish Hall*)

9:30-10:15am EYC Meeting for grades 6-12: Coffee & Conversation (*Gym Conference Room*)

10:30am Choral Eucharist (*Reception to follow in Parish Hall*)

11:45 - 12:30pm - Children's Choir Rehearsal

11:45am Church Tour of St. Paul's

¹Join Fr. Lee in the Parish Hall for our continued study of Genesis. Bring your lunch, your perspective, and your Bible.

Vanco Online Giving



parents' **morning** **out**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
9AM TO 12PM

ST. PAUL'S PARISH HALL

Parents can enjoy a morning out while
the kids are having fun making crafts,
decorating cookies, playing games,
and more!

MORNING SNACK PROVIDED

Available for Sunday School age kids
(Pre-School - 5th grade)

EYC: see Meaghan if you'd like to volunteer

Parents please RSVP to Meaghan at
speckids@spechurch.com
by Monday, Dec. 1

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

Tuesday, December 9

Hoggard High School Orchestra

7:30 pm *in the Sanctuary*

Friday, December 12

Handel's Messiah with the NC Baroque Orchestra

7:30 pm *in the Sanctuary*

Wednesday, December 17

Blue Christmas

6:00 pm *in the Sanctuary*

Sunday, December 21

Christmas Lessons & Carols

5:30 pm *in the Sanctuary*

Monday, December 22

Tallis Chamber Orchestra Baroque Christmas Concert

7:30pm *in the Sanctuary*

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5:30pm Family Eucharist w/

The Presentation of the Nativity

8:00pm Choral Prelude

8:30pm Choral Eucharist



Hoggard High School Orchestra Concert
Tuesday, December 9th, 2025, 7:00pm

Handel's Messiah

Tickets available on Eventbrite here:

<http://bit.ly/4gYZLRT>



Scan me

HANDEL'S MESSIAH
The Choir of St. Paul's and the NC Baroque Orchestra
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025
7:30pm | Doors open at 6:45pm
TICKETS ON SALE NOW
St. Paul's Episcopal Church | 16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC | (910) 762-4578 | www.spechurch.com

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLUE CHRISTMAS:
A SERVICE OF HEALING,
LIGHT & HOPE
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17, 6:00 PM
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16 N. 16TH ST., WILMINGTON, NC | SPECHURCH.COM

THE CHOIR OF ST. PAUL'S
CHRISTMAS LESSONS
& CAROLS
Sunday, December 21, 5:30 pm
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16 N. 16TH ST., WILMINGTON, NC | SPECHURCH.COM



A Baroque Christmas Concert to benefit the

Good Shepard Center

Monday, December 22, 2025, 7:30pm

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S
CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24
5:30 pm | Family Eucharist
With a Children's Presentation of the Nativity
8 pm | Christmas Choral Prelude
8:30 pm | Choral Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25
10 am | Holy Eucharist with Carols
St. Paul's Episcopal Church | 16 N. 16th St., Wilmington, NC | www.spechurch.com



St. Paul's Angel Tree & Stockings for Seniors

St. Paul's Angel Tree returns this year as a way to share the joy and hope of Christmas with our neighbors in need. Beginning Sunday, **November 30**, the tree will be displayed outside the Parish Hall with ornaments representing gift wishes for local children and seniors.

Each **angel ornament** corresponds to a student—or sibling of a student—at Snipes or Freeman Elementary and includes their age and a few gift ideas.

Each **stocking ornament** represents a senior at Cedar Cove Assisted Living, with suggested items to brighten their Christmas.

After selecting an angel or stocking, please write your name and the corresponding child or senior number on the sign-up sheet outside the Parish Hall.

Wrapped gifts should be delivered to the church with the angel, stocking, or a tag that includes the assigned number.

Senior gifts are due **on or before December 9**.

Children's gifts must be delivered by **December 14**.

Angel Tree gifts will be blessed during the **10:30 a.m. service on December 14**.

If you would like to help deliver gifts, please contact the Hedgepeths for senior deliveries or Cecelia Peers for children's deliveries.

Thank you for helping us share Christ's love with our community this Christmas.

Update from the Blessing Box

Throughout this colder season donations of: GLOVES, MITTENS, CAPS, HATS, and NECK SCARVES are especially appreciated.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity



DATE CHANGE!

Join us on January 7th, 5:00 pm at the Nourish NC Warehouse at 3606 Market Street for our annual St. Paul's packing event.

Here's the link to sign up!

<https://bit.ly/nourishnc2025>

You will also be able to sign up at church—see Steve Bucci. Limited to 50 people.

*If you have **ALREADY** signed up and **can attend on January 7th, no action is needed**. However, if you signed up already and **cannot attend on January 7th**, please contact the Parish Administrator or*

Steve Bucci.

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 10:30am Please subscribe to St. Paul's on YouTube to view live-streamed services and concerts.

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. Please return when church is over.

Nursery: The nursery is open most Sundays from 9:15am to Noon upstairs in the Children's wing. The nursery is for infants to age 5.

Sunday School: Sunday School meets from 9:30-10:15am upstairs in the Children's Wing for ages 4 -11.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): EYC meets Sunday from 9:30 -10:15am in the conference room for 6th grade and older.



16 N. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 | (910) 762-4578 | www.spechurch.com

New Office Address - 1624 Princess Street

Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9 am-4 pm, Fri 9 am-1 pm

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

Clergy and Staff

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, Rector

The Reverend James H. Green, Associate Priest

Dr. Brendan Conner, Organist and Director of Music

Lynne Rooks, Finance Manager

Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Church Administrator

Meaghan Thomas, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Isaac McDowell, Associate for Youth and Parish Life

Christian Bridges, Sunday Sexton

St. Paul's 2025 Vestry

Carol Field, Rector's Warden

Steve Haughey, People's Warden

Anne O'Dell, Clerk

Scott Sheble, Treasurer

Barbara Ellington Banks | Steve Bucci | Tori Cannon | Karen Day | Mait DuBois

Cecelia Peers | Denise Sheehan | David Tousignant | Frank Wolf

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