

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

8:00pm Choral Prelude

8:30pm Choral Eucharist

OPEN DOORS. OPEN HEARTS. OPEN HANDS.



A CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM THE RECTOR



December 2025

Beloved of St. Paul's,

Have you ever wondered why the poinsettia is so popular at Christmas?

The tradition originates in Mexico, where according to legend, a young girl of humble means named Pepita was enroute to Christmas Eve services and concerned that she had nothing to give the baby Jesus on his birthday. Seeing her concern, her cousin Pedro consoled Pepita. "Don't worry," he said, "I am sure the smallest gift will make the baby Jesus happy." Pepita found some weeds on the side of the busy village road. She tied them together with a piece of string and waited for her chance to lay the makeshift bouquet at the manger. At the offering, she bypassed the ushers, approached the Nativity scene underneath the altar, and laid the bouquet at Jesus' manger. A little embarrassed by her meager gift, Pepita, with her head down, quickly returned to her seat. Hearing gasps, she looked up and noticed that her little bouquet of weeds had been transformed into a beautiful poinsettia. From that day forward, the people of Mexico called poinsettias "Flowers of the Holy Night," for the shape of the leaves recalls the Star of Bethlehem, and the red color symbolizes Christ's sacrifice, the giving up of himself for the sake of others.

This story echoes the last verse of *In the bleak midwinter*.

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can, I give him. Give my heart.*

The legend of the poinsettia reminds us that it is not the size or the extravagance of the gift that warms the heart of God. Any gift, given in love, is beautiful and has the capacity to transform. We know this from the story of our Savior's birth. Christ did not come to us in great power or glory. Christ came to us in vulnerability. He came to us in a manger, born of a lowly handmaiden. And yet, from that meager beginning, God has so richly blessed and transformed the world. From that meager beginning, we have been given the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life, and that is so much more valuable than silver or gold.

This year, may we marvel at the poinsettias with the legend in mind. May we remember the gift that is Jesus Christ, and know that our own gifts, given in love, are beautiful and have the capacity to transform lives and the world around us.

Merry Christmas!

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 167 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.

Prelude

<i>Ave Maria</i>	Franz Schubert
<i>What child is this?</i>	Arr. Stephen Bulla
<i>Vom Himmel hoch</i>	Johann Pachelbel
<i>O Holy Night</i>	Adolphe Adam
<i>Noels 1, 2, and 3 from Six Noels op. 32</i>	Marcel Tournier
<i>Joy to the World and Ding Dong Merrily on High</i>	arr. Claire Swanson
<i>Es ist ein Ros</i>	Johannes Brahms

Please stand when the bell rings.

Processional Hymn 83

O come, all ye faithful (v. 1-4)

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; **Refrain**

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

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

Refrain

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

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

Refrain

Station Collect at the Transept 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.*

O come, all ye faithful (v. 5-6)

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.*

Gloria

Mass of St. Thomas

David Thorne

Moderato *ff*

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High-est.

Glo-ry to God in the High - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God,

Heav'n - ly King, Al migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the

High - est. Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa-ther. Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;

You are seat-ed at the righthand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High-est. For you a-lone are the

Ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the most high,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the Glo-ry of God the

Fa - ther. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est.

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.*

Psalm 96

Jerome Meachen

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.*

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn 100

Joy to the World (v. 1-2, 4)

Antioch

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.	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.
4 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.*

Homily *Please be seated.*

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.

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.

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.

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, 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, all the saints, and all those we remember with flowers and music this night *(page 14)*, 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 13 for the QR code.*

Offertory Carol

A Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem: Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.

Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah; but only a mother and baby lie there.

'Ave Maria, ave Maria': Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.

'Ave Maria, ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King'.

Where are his courtiers, and who are his people? Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people, with peace as his sceptre and love for his crown.

Refrain

What though your treasures are not gold or incense? Lay them before him with hearts full of love.

Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother who bore us a Saviour by grace from above.

Refrain

Presentation Hymn *(please stand)*

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.

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface for Christmas.

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

Mass of St. Thomas

David Thorne

Moderato *mf*

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a 'Moderato' tempo marking and a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. It contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might,'. The second staff starts at measure 6 and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics are 'Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na'. The third staff starts at measure 11 and has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The lyrics are 'in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the'. The fourth staff starts at measure 16 and includes a forte (f) dynamic followed by a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The lyrics are 'Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might,

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. 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

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Mass of St. Thomas

adapted by Nigel Potts

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, Al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

St. Thomas Mass

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.

The Communion of the People

Communion stations are available at the altar rail and under the pulpit. 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.

Ding dong, merrily on high! In heav'n the bells are ringing; ding dong, verily the sky
is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, and io, io, io,
by priest and people sung. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers; may ye beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, ye singers. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Communion Hymn 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

Communion Hymn 89

It came upon the midnight clear

Carol

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

Hymn 111

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

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 87

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 Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of the newborn King.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant and Preacher
The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Deacon
The Reverend Kay Swindell

Verger
Leon Tillery

Thurifer
Scott Sheble

Crucifers
Bennett Sanders-Park
Jeffrey Hughes
Eve Frederiksen

Torchbearers
Zoë Frederiksen
Bennett Sanders-Park

Altar Servers
Bennet Sanders-Park
Jeffrey Hughes

Eucharistic Ministers
Dot Erway
Jeffrey Hughes
Zoë Frederiksen

Gospel Book Bearer
Dot Erway

Lectors
Elisabeth Sanders-Park
Sue Sramek

Intercessor
Kathryn Hedgepeth

Ushers
Pete Hoff
Doug Donald
Allan Dolman
David Fowle
Don Bobo

Flower Guild
All members

Altar Guild
All members

Musicians
Dr. Brendan Conner, Director of Music and Organist
The Choir of St. Paul's
Adam Moxley-White, Trumpet
Christina Brier, Harp

VANCO ONLINE GIVING





Christmas Flowers and Music

In Memory of <i>Barbara & John Day</i> by Karen Day	by Lyle Sullivan by Kathleen & Patrick Finn by Ben Mastracola	In Memory of <i>Capt. Henry Ray Rivenbark</i> <i>Robert Turner Rivenbark</i> by Em Rivenbark	In Memory of <i>Alex Hartman & Carl Davenport</i> by Larry & Deb Hartman
In Honor of <i>The Flower Guild</i> by The Reverend & Mrs. A. Michael Singer	In Memory of <i>Nancy Bobo</i> In Honor of <i>My Parish Family</i> by Don Bobo	In Memory of <i>Eb Jordan</i> <i>Kate and Jim Fox</i> <i>Scott Murray</i> By Jay and Ruth Jordan	In Memory of <i>Neil & Pat Sorrenti</i> <i>Ed & Nellie Selveski</i> <i>Larry Sorrenti, Jim Sorrenti</i> by Patrick & Teresa Sorrenti
In Memory of <i>Rev. J. Felix Arnold & Francis Arnold Parker</i> <i>Robert & Maggie Embert</i> by Claude Arnold	In Thanksgiving <i>for our Family</i> LeeAnn & Chip Blalock	In Honor of <i>Our Grandchildren</i> By Brad & Beth Van Amberg	In Memory of <i>Lou Criscuolo</i> by Jeanne Criscuolo
In Memory of <i>Lee Ryan</i> by Lucy LaSalle	In Memory of <i>Merry Ann & Larry Wright</i> by Ron & Lynda Miller	In Memory of <i>Victori Stewart & Maurici Gilmartin</i> <i>Dorothy & William Hughes</i> by Jeanne & Jay Stewart	In Memory of <i>Arthur Fruechtenicht</i> In Thanksgiving for <i>Sara Frances & Algernon Butler</i> by Al & Jenna Butler and Sara Fruechtenicht
In Memory of <i>Clayton Waterfield</i> by Paula and Bill Waterfield	In Honor of <i>Cheryl Wagoner & Kathryn Hedgepeth</i> by Suzanne Joyce		
In Loving Memory of <i>Robert Crafts</i> by Merillie, Jason and Jen	In Memory of <i>Our Families</i> by Frank & Marcia Wolf	In Memory of <i>YiaYia & Papou, Miss Kate & Big Jim, Tom, Trevor</i> by Sara & Matt Anlyan	In Memory of <i>Our Parents, John & Joanne Wilson</i> by Michael & Shelley Jonik
by Robert & Peg Brunton by David & Marilyn Tousignant	by Claude Arnold In Memory of <i>Annie Winslow, Moses Benjamin, & Elijah Ellington; Florence, Paul, Carol, James & Evan Banks</i> by Barbara Banks	by Leon Tillery by Martha & Andrew Silberman	by Lynn Casper by Michael & Mary Flinn
In Thanksgiving for <i>Family & Friends</i> by Randolph & Cynthia Smallwood	In Memory of <i>Capt. Ralph Schlichter, USN-Ret.</i> by Susannah & Owen Aylesworth	In Memory of <i>My beloved brother, Lupas Constantine</i> by Eleonora Gafton	In Memory of <i>Alice R. Calder</i> by Keith Calder
by William & Susan Bowers In Thanksgiving for <i>The Choir</i> by the Olsens	In Memory of <i>Algernon & Josephine Butler, Eva Butler Daniel, James & Gertrude Deibert, Nancy Deibert Williams</i> by Susan Butler	In Memory of <i>C.D. Tounsley, Jr</i> In Honor of <i>Zona & Ray Lewis, Tift, Heather, Logan & Cullen Tounsley</i> by Zona Tounsley	by Mary Bridges In Memory of <i>Mark Tedesco</i> By Carla Ortiz
In Memory of <i>Cherished Friends Who Left Us in 2025</i> By Royster & Kathryn Hedgepeth	In Memory of <i>Richard Rhodes</i> In Thanksgiving for <i>Laura, Em, Daniel, Lara, Charley, & Henry</i> by Rhonda Stroud	In Thanksgiving for <i>The St. Paul's Clergy & Staff</i> by William & Sarah Holt Gwathmey	In Memory of <i>George, Emma Lee, Jim & Mona</i> In Thanksgiving for <i>Our Children & Grandchildren</i> by Dick & Jewel Rowe

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S

Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00am Holy Eucharist with Carols

Sunday, December 28, The First Sunday after Christmas

No Sunday School/EYC

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

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

10:30am Choral Eucharist *(no reception today)*

Wednesday, December 31, The Feast of the Holy Name

12:10pm Holy Eucharist *(lunch will not be served)*

Sunday, January 4, The Feast of the Epiphany

No Sunday School/EYC

8:00am Holy Eucharist *(breakfast to follow)*

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

10:30am Choral Eucharist *(reception to follow)*

*The church office will be open **by appointment only** from
Monday, December 29th through Friday, January 2nd.*

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.



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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