



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

Eleven o'clock in the Morning

WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

We are glad you are here. No matter who you are, no matter where you come from, and no matter where you are on the journey of life — you are welcome in this church.

We hope you will find Saint Paul's to be a place of refreshment and renewal, where you experience the presence of the risen Christ. We have been serving Christ in this location for over two hundred seventy years. The monuments in our church and the graves in our churchyard reflect the conflicts and complexities of our nation's and our city's history. While our building is old and beautiful, our mission is contemporary and forward moving. Here you will find a people very much connected with the questions and struggles of modern life and faith and of following the way of Jesus.

TO ALL OUR VISITORS & GUESTS

About Worship

If the liturgy (worship) of the Episcopal Church is unfamiliar, then we hope you will find this information helpful.

You are welcome in the Episcopal Church, and so the first and best resource we offer are your neighbors in the pews. Just say, "I'm visiting," and they will gladly help.

The worship of the Episcopal Church is rooted in the practices of ancient Christianity. The structure of our services, the architecture of our building, the music, our physical postures, and participatory responses ALL hold rich meaning about our beliefs and are intentional expressions of our relationship with God.

- In this bulletin you will find:

Responses spoken by the people are printed in bold italics.

Directions for the people are printed in italics.

- We encourage families with children to sit at the front of the Nave so that children can easily see and hear the liturgy. We are delighted to offer activity bags for families to help keep little hands busy and engaged during worship services. Feel free to pick one up at the entrance!
- Episcopalians customarily pray either standing or kneeling, so please do what you find most comfortable.
- Notify an usher if you require an assisted listening device or any other assistance.
- Restrooms are located in the parish hall. An usher will direct you.

About Receiving The Holy Communion

ALL who come in faith are invited to receive Holy Communion at Saint Paul's.

- During communion, the people form two short lines in the center aisle, sorting themselves according to how they would like to receive. Those who come to the "pulpit side" (east) will be given bread and offered a common cup of wine from which to drink. There is no intincting/dipping on the pulpit side of the altar rail. For those on the lectern side (west, the big eagle), the minister will dip the bread in the wine for the people, and offer a piece of bread that has already been "intincted." All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please, no one may dip their own bread in the wine.
- For those who may prefer not to receive communion at the main altar, a communion station is provided on the main floor to the right of the center aisle. Here, the minister will dip the bread in the wine for you. If you are unable to receive at either station, the clergy will bring the bread and wine to your pew. Please notify an usher before the service begins.
- To receive a blessing without receiving Communion, cross both arms over your chest, palms on your collar.
- If your children are in the nursery, you are invited to bring them to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

Connect with Us

We invite you to share your contact information on a connect card, located in each pew. Hand it to one of our clergy after church. Please feel free to fill out as much or as little information as you'd like so we can connect with you.

Celebration of The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck and Johann Sebastian Bach
Variations on "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland"

At the Procession, Hymn 54

"Savior of the nations, come!

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's Son, make here your home.
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the Vir - gin un - de - filed!
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing his cre - a - ted spheres;
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er sin the vic - t'ry won.



Mar - vel now, both heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
Might - y God and Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run.
hence to death and hell de - scends, then the heav'n - ly throne a - scends.
Bound - less shall your king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

The Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison

S-96, from *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Christ have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy. Lord



have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

The Old Testament Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Richard Shephard

"There comes a ship a-sailing" The Canterbury Choir

There comes a ship a-sailing, with angels flying fast; she bears a splendid cargo and has a mighty mast. This ship is fully laden right to her highest board; she bears the Son from heaven, God's high eternal Word. Upon the sea unruffled the ship moves into shore, to bring us all the riches she has within her store. And that ship's name is Mary, of flowers the rose is she, and brings to us the Christ Child from sin to set us free. The ship made in this fashion in which such store was cast. Her sail is love's sweet passion, the Holy Ghost her mast.

- German text, 1608, translated by Percy Dearmer

The Epistle

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his
 2 "For now a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be, all
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born in



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy
 me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and



hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say--



high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

“Through The Eyes of the Friendly Beasts”

Traditional Carol, Robert Davis, Lyrics

Narrator It was a time of simple prophets with powerful messages. John the Baptist had proclaimed to the people to “Prepare the way of the Lord!” As the people repented and gathered to be baptized, A Holy Family begins to emerge. There was a woman named Mary who was engaged to a man named Joseph. They had made a long journey to Bethlehem to pay their taxes. Mary was going to have a baby, and she and Joseph were extremely tired. The inns were overcrowded, so the stables must’ve been overcrowded too. The animals could have refused to share their manger, but they gave Jesus the best they had. This is their story.

Choir Jesus Our brother kind and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around Him stood,
Jesus our brother, kind and good.

Choir I said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
I carried His mother up hill and down,
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town;
I, said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

Choir I, said the cow all white and black,
I gave Him my manger for His bed,
I gave Him my hay to pillow His back:
I, said the cow all white and black.

Narrator In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel appeared, 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 lying in a manger. Go to Bethlehem and see the child who will change everything by giving the best that he has to all of God’s people.

Choir I, said the sheep with the curly horn,
I gave Him my wool for his blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn.
I, said the sheep with the curly horn.

Choir I, said the dove, from the rafters high,
Cooed him to sleep my mate and I,
We cooed him to sleep my mate and I;
I, said the dove from the rafters high.

Choir Thus every beast, by some good spell
in the stable dark, was glad to tell,
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel,
The gifts they gave Emmanuel.

Narrator We hope that you will give the best that you have to Jesus during the Advent and Christmas seasons and ALWAYS because he gave us the greatest gift of all, everlasting life.

*All 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

Kneeling, the Leader and People pray responsively.

Celebrant With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

Leader For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For our Presiding Bishop, Sean, for our Bishop, Frank, for our clergy Eric, Bill, Erwin, and Kimberly, for our postulant for the priesthood, Mary, and for all members of the church, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Joe, and our president-elect, Donald; for our governors, Brian and Henry; for the leaders of the CSRA and the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all in need or trouble, for all who are serving our country at home and abroad, and for those on our prayer list, *The People may add their petitions aloud or silently.*

Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed,
The People may add their petitions aloud or silently

Leader Let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of Saint Paul and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to your for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

All Stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Parish Greetings & Announcements

The Reverend Eric Biddy

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant

The Offertory Anthem

Ave Maria

Malcolm Archer

Kathleen Chandler, Soprano, and the Saint Paul's Choir

Sung in Latin

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

- Traditional Latin text

At the Presentation

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Veni, veni, Emmanuel



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit

S-130, from *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.
hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please kneel as you are able.

Celebrant 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;***

Celebrant 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 Saint Paul and 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.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

All ***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Fraction Anthem

S-164, from *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er
of our sins: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er, re -
deem - er of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Communion

*All who come in faith are welcome at the Lord's table.
Please process to the altar rail by the center aisle, exit through the door to the left of the altar,
and return to your seat by the side aisles.
More information is available on the inside front cover of this bulletin.*

The Communion Music

Organ Voluntary

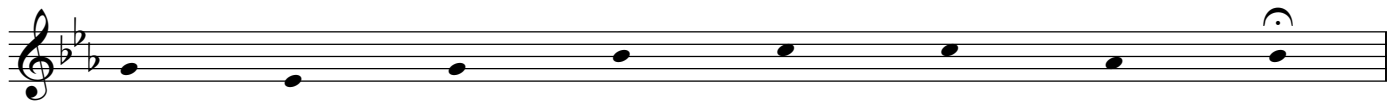
David Lasky, Rebecca Groom Te Velde,
Richard Warner, David Cherwien

Variations on "Conditor alme siderum"

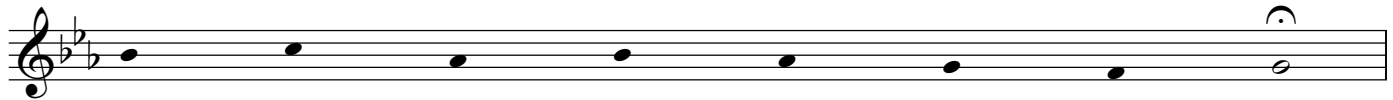
Hymn 60

"Creator of the stars of night

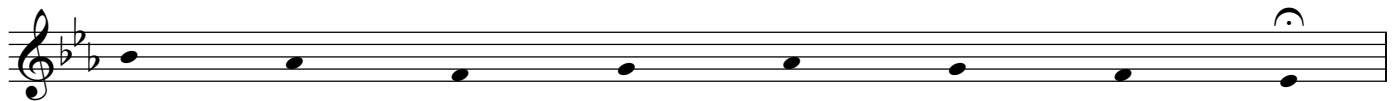
Conditor alme siderum



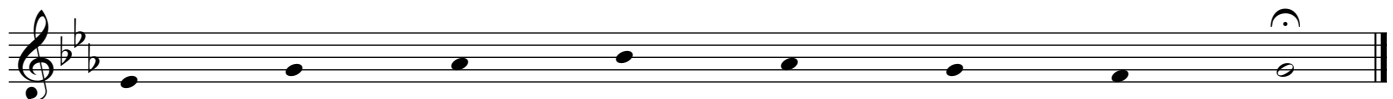
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom - to death - a - u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor - bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Said by all, kneeling

All **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.**

Sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I 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.

All **We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing

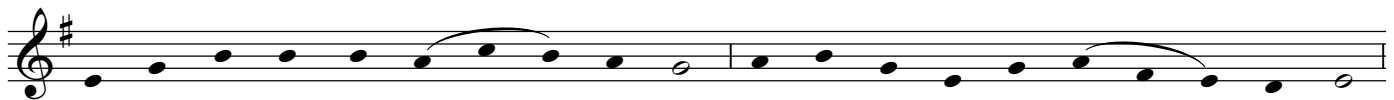
Celebrant

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 56 (stanzas 1-5)

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Venit, veni, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - d'rest all things might - i - ly;
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height
4 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;
5 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man - kind;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
in an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of peace.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary

Toccata on "Veni, veni, Emmanuel" Keith Shafer

Andrew Carter

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially, Robin Merriman, Cindy Taylor, Bob Pate, Dorine Smith, Karen Davidson, Elise Weston, Perry Smith, Bill Clark, Samm Fusselle, Anne Way, Gayle Jolley, Martha Hawkins, Joni Vanover, Jeanne Lindsey, Sandra Mashburn, Katie Delaigle, Lois Hand, Ann Kilpatrick, Ricie Eubanks, Sam Hunter, Linda, Margaret Lodi, Sandy, Kisha Seals, Joy Somers, Connie Duke, Jan-Blaise MacEachern, Bob Crosby, Martha, Mary Ann Fruge, Linda Parker, Wanda Bell, Sevealyn Smith, Lisa Holland, Linda, Debbie Stankus, Lowell Dorn, Dick and Linda Rosenlieb, Lianna Treitler, David Hawkins, Gil Klemann, LAJeffery, Gerreanda, Nina, Amari, Christian, Andrena, Marianna Simmons, Ronnie Allen, Roy Simkins, David Lentz, Joe Bremen, the McCollugh family, Shirley Harrison, Wes Cooper, Kelly, The Lopez family, Stovall Walker, Araminta Barnes, the McCall family, Kim Montgomery, Cee Cee, Gail, Maggie deSouza, Phillip O'hara, Kellee Lauderdale, Lance Eatman, Teigan Smith, Edna Brown, Ron and Linda Carnne, Aggie MacEachern, Janna Moore and the Moore Family.

For those serving our country at home and abroad; especially, Julian James, Sam and Lara Powell, Joe Way, Jonathan Flanagan, Jim Ring, Bennett Ivey, Zach Nevard, David Helms, Isaac Mikell.

For all the blessings of this life; especially, for the 65th wedding anniversary of Bill and Elise Weston.

FALL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The majority of our pledges have now been offered, and God once again reminds us of his faithfulness. The 2025 pledge total to date is \$811,000 (from 135 donors) With two or three dozen outstanding and/or potential pledges, our budget could easily close in on \$900,000. If you haven't made your pledge yet, please take a few moments to do so now; you can submit an online pledge using the QR code to the right or simply call or stop by the church office. Thank you from the stewardship committee and all those dependent on our stewardship of God's gifts.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service — Join us in Tyler Hall following the service for a special reception with hot chocolate bar and finger foods hosted by our children and their families. This is the perfect time to tell your favorite little “Friendly Beasts” what a joy it is to share moments like this with them!

5:30 PM —All ages are invited to meet at Saint Paul's for intergenerational caroling together. Wear your festive apparel and bring your jingle bells! Meet in the church parking lot by the playground for caroling instructions. We will caravan to the various caroling locations to parishioner homes.

5:30 PM—EYC (Episcopal Youth Community, grades 6-12) will join the carolers to spread some joy and end the evening off-site for our final EYC celebration of 2024. Friends are always welcome! For more information contact Aubrey Hinkson at ahinkson@saintpauls.org.

Monday, December 23, 9:30 AM, join the Flower Guild as we Green the Church for Christmas with wreaths, greenery, and poinsettias. The ornaments will be placed on the trees in the Narthex. Contact Laurie Montgomery for more information at lauriefm628@gmail.com

Christmas Schedule—“O come, all ye faithful” Our Christmas Eve Service with all three of the parish choirs, brass, & drums is offered at 4 PM. The Nursery will be open for the 4 PM service. The 10 PM service features the Saint Paul's Choir with brass and drums and will also be broadcast live on WGAC. Christmas Day Eucharist with Carols in the Chapel will be held at 10 AM.

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday, December 25 - Friday, December 27 and January 1, 2025.

Schedule Updates - Christmas Week: No Compline, December 25, returning 1/1/25; ***No Mid-Week Eucharist***, Dec. 26, returning 1/2/25; ***No Lectio at Lunch***, Dec. 26, returning 1/2/25.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, 11 AM, Sunday, December 29. Join us along with your families and out-of-town guests in this beautiful celebration during Christmastide. The Saint Paul's and Canterbury Choirs will join readers from the congregation to observe this beloved liturgy of our Anglican heritage. Eucharist will not be celebrated at this service, but will be celebrated at the 8 AM service and again at the 5:30 PM Celtic Evening Prayer & Communion service.

Schedule Updates - Sunday, December 29: Continental Breakfast 9-10:50 AM; ***Canterbury Choir*** will sing at Lessons and Carols and will rehearse at their standard time 9:25 AM. St. Nicholas Choir will also rehearse at 9:25 AM. Fr. Biddy will lead an all ages activity for ***Children and Youth*** 10:00-10:30 AM. ***No Adult Forum.***

Year end gifts— Offerings or Special Gifts of cash/check must be dated and postmarked no later than December 31, 2024, to qualify as 2024 charitable contributions. Please note, the Parish Office will be closed at noon December 24 and remain closed December 25-27.

Confirmation Classes Begin January 5th. Six classes Sundays, January 5 - February 16; 12:20 PM, in Tyler Hall. This class prepares confirmands for confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation of baptismal vows on the Bishop's visit (February 23). Lunch will be offered. Contact Fr. Biddy (ebiddy@saintpauls.org) to express your interest or for more information.

Youth Confirmation: Students in grades 9-12 who have not been confirmed are encouraged to contact the clergy to let them know of your interest.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, January 12, 2025, on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord. All who wish to be baptized are invited to contact Fr. Eric at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Beginning Sunday, you will find a LARGE Blue Bin in Tyler Hall for your donations to Goodwill. As you begin spring cleaning, we invite you to share your donations to Goodwill using this new bin. Saint Paul's will receive five \$50 vouchers for each filled bin. Our clergy can share these vouchers, which may be used at Goodwill, with those seeking assistance. Contact Mtr. Kimberly (kdunn@saintpauls.org) for more information.

You are invited to join Saint Paul's parishioners, family, and friends on a mission trip this summer to Ecuador. Please prayerfully consider joining us as we reach out to people in need and serve as the hands of Christ. An information sheet is available in the *Weekly Postings*. If you would like additional information about Quito, Ecuador, the mission work, and trip details, please contact Gene or Rose Helmich at ehelmich21@comcast.net, or call 803-640-3405. The deadline to join the trip is January 31, 2025.

The Vestry Nominating Committee is seeking candidates whom you believe would make outstanding Vestry members for Saint Paul's. If you'd like to suggest someone, including yourself, please contact retiring Junior Warden, Erick Montgomery at erickdmontgomery@gmail.com. Vestry responsibilities and criteria for nominations are included in Friday's *Weekly Postings*.

Twice a year the parish will begin a new prayer list: January 1 and July 1. Of course, it is fine for a name to remain on our list for an extended period of time; we ask that you simply email the parish office (mailbox@saintpauls.org) to let us know you'd like a name (new or continuing) to be added to our new list.

Name tags allow us to get to know each other and be a welcoming community to all. If you need a name tag or have just misplaced yours, email the parish office (mailbox@saintpauls.org) or ask an usher for the yellow form to request a name tag.

More information about these announcements and other events is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*, including registration and contact information. A copy is available in the Narthex and on our website; or join our email list by signing up on the website or contacting the parish administrator, at mailbox@saintpauls.org.

Make a gift—“All that we are and all that we have comes from God. In gratitude, we honor him by giving of ourselves and our gifts to care for his world.” Gifts can be made using the QR Code to the right, on-line at saintpauls.org/giving, or by mail to Saint Paul's Church, 605 Reynolds St., Augusta, GA 30901. Thank you for your generosity.



SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy	Celebrant
The Reverend Kimberly E. Dunn	Assisting Priest
Carolyn Dolen	Verger
Catherine Stuckey, John Robertson	Eucharistic Ministers
Susan Yarborough, John Robertson	Lectors
Bray Ford, Bill Badger, Kemp Badger, Annie Lindroth, Barrett Robertson	Acolytes
Nancy Trefz, Ian McQueen, Mary Lynn Ford, Barbara Coleman	Altar Guild
Charlie Tudor	Vestry Person of the Day
John Lurther, Art Bryan	Ushers
Summer Bell	Greeters
Summer Bell, Ellen Nesbitt	Eucharistic Visitors

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - TYLER HALL
9:25 - 10:00 AM	CHILDREN/YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSALS
9:30 - 10:30 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS
10:00 - 10:45 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	HOLY EUCHARIST Rite II
Following the 11:00 AM Service	LEMONADE ON THE LAWN
5:00 - 7:00 PM	EYC (EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY)
5:30 - 6:15 PM	CELTIC EVENING PRAYER & COMMUNION WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING
6:30 - 6:45 PM	SIT & WAIT (A CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE)

Nursery care offered in the Children's Ministry Center (CMC) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.
The 11 AM service is broadcast on Facebook and YouTube at Saint Paul's Church-Augusta
and by radio at WGAC 580 AM Radio and 95.1 FM Radio. Listen live on-line at <http://wgac.com>

VESTRY

Kitty Gordon, Sr. Warden	Erick Montgomery, Jr. Warden	Will Rice, Treasurer
Bryan Hawkins, Chancellor	Julie Badger, Clerk of the Vestry	

Vestry Term Expires 2025

Bryan Hawkins
Ian McQueen
Rex Teeslink

Vestry Term Expires 2026

Stacy Nuessle
Charlie Tudor
Mary Porter Vann

Vestry Term Expires 2027

Kathleen Chandler
Patsy Davis
Melissa Friedman

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Altar Guild – Catherine Stuckey	Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton
Buildings and Grounds – John Robertson	Creation Care – in transition
Daughters of the King – Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau	Endowment – Monty Osteen
Eucharistic Visitors – Ellen Nesbitt	Facebook – Stacy Nuessle & Aubrey Hinkson
Finance – Cameron Nixon	Flower Guild – Barbara Register & Laurie Montgomery
Flower Delivery – Barbara Register & Margaret Scott Penix	History – in transition
Hospitality and Parish Life – Eric Friedman	Interior Design – Julie Badger
Invite, Welcome, Connect – Patsy Davis	Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers – Carolyn Dolen
Linen Guild – Tricia Nixon	Newcomers and Greeters – Summer Bell
Nursery Grandmother's Guild – Coleman Graham	Outreach – Marilyn Grau
Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt	Stewardship – Kitty Gordon
Ushers – Nick Uros & Rex Teeslink	

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Eric Biddy, Rector	ext. 205	ebiddy@saintpauls.org
The Rev. Kimberly E. Dunn, Asso. Rector	ext. 204	kdunn@saintpauls.org
The Rev. Dr. Bill Dolen, Assisting Priest		
The Rev. Erwin Veale, Assisting Priest		
Aubrey Hinkson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries		ahinkson@saintpauls.org
Keith Shafer, Director of Music	ext. 215	kshafer@saintpauls.org
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator	ext. 225	mailbox@saintpauls.org
Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant	ext. 206	nnieminen@saintpauls.org
Victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir		songbird95@hotmail.com
Sarah Pritchard, Music Associate Emerita		
Hillary Bryant, Greg Maxie, TJ Wilson, James Wheeler, Sextons		
Mark Albertin, Wright Montgomery, Audio Visual		



Saint Paul's Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia.
www.saintpauls.org Tel: 706-724-2485 605 Reynolds Street, Augusta