

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

December 3, 2023 - First Sunday of Advent

8:30 am and 11:00 am are using Setting Ten Booklets

*Hymns will be found in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book  
in the pew.*

## GATHERING

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** – *Wake, a voice is calling us (ELW 436) by J. S. Bach*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**C** **Amen.**

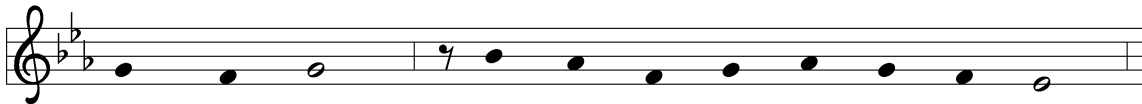
**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

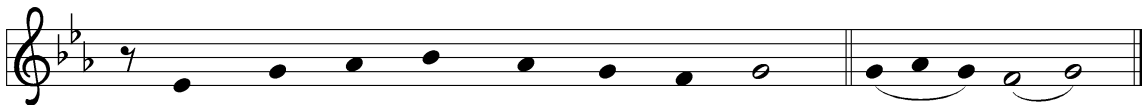
Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -  
 2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in  
 3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all  
 4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -  
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,  
 splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child  
 hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
 ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
 Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.  
 of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.  
 like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.  
 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

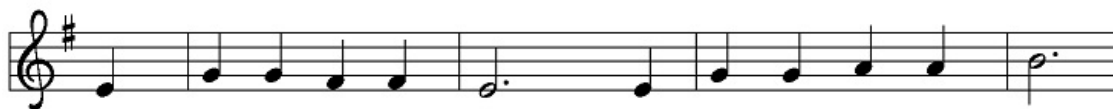
Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.  
 Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV  
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## APOSTOLIC GREETING AND KYRIE

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

*response: Thanks be to God.*

During Advent we will replace the Psalm with the Lighting of the Advent Wreath using this hymn:

### **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

**257**

with verses as noted each week.

Dec 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 1

Dec 10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 2

Dec 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 6

Dec 24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 8

# O Come, O Come Emmanuel

257

Dec 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 1

Dec 10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 2

Dec 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 6

Dec 24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – verse 8



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*response: Thanks be to God*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*After the Gospel is announced, the people say: Glory to you, O Lord*

## Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only

the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*After the Gospel is read, the people say: **Praise to you, O Christ***

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

# Hymn of the Day - Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

436



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her  
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.  
 heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the  
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in  
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.  
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
 bliss be - yond all dream-ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"  
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.  
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;  
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.  
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.  
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite  
 Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai  
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## **BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS**

### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Affirmation of Baptism**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

#### **I present:**

**Alannah Garcia**  
**David Brenes**  
**Ayla Mora**  
**Luther Gates**  
**Jessie Grinnell**  
**Jonathan Hodges**  
**Sarah Hodges**  
**Benjamin Hodges**  
**Pamela Kildahl**  
**Kyleia Rhodes**  
**Sally Sloop**  
**David Sloop**  
**Pam Taylor**  
**Steve Taylor**

who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers,  
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.  
You have called them to yourself,  
enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit,  
and nourished them in the community of faith.  
Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,  
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.  
We ask this in the name of Christ.  
Amen.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.  
Amen.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

## **AFFIRMATION**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each person responds:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in these people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God**

and proclaim the good news to all the world.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*A brief silence.*

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sharon, Alice, Charlie, Pat and Morris, Karl and Otti, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence (*especially Francis Xavier, whom we commemorate today*).

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

## **OFFERING**

Offertory – *Adam lay ybounden* by Malcolm Archer (choir at 11)

## Offertory



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together.

**ALL** Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

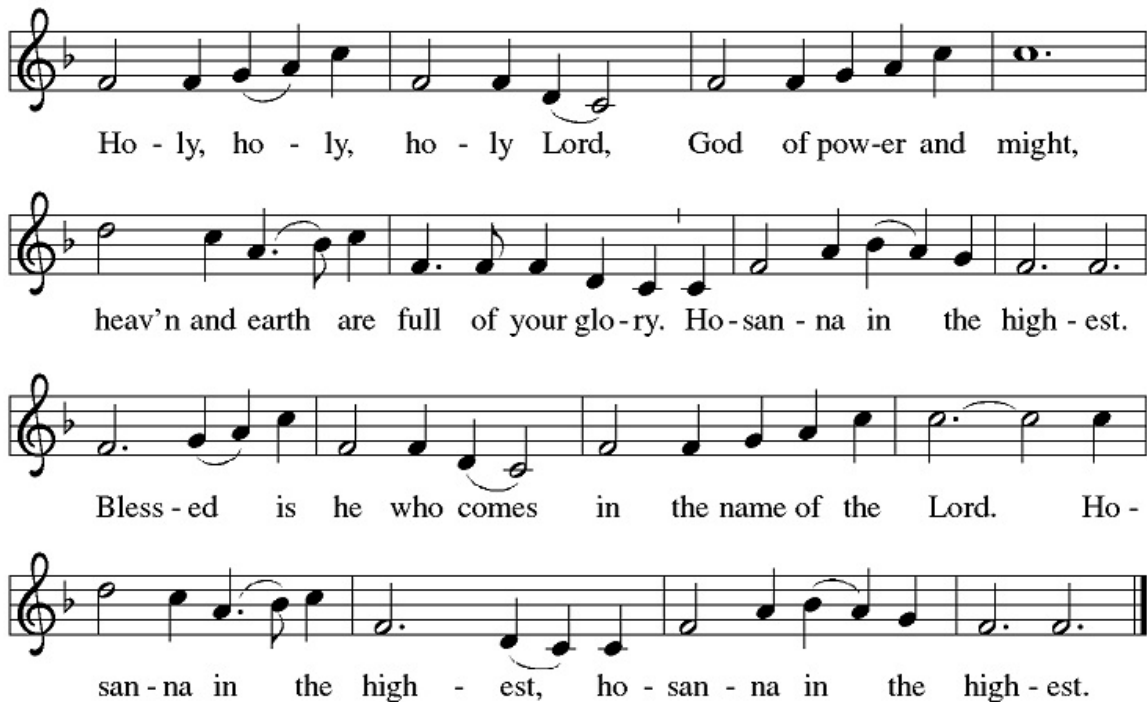
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,  
through whom you will also make all things new  
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*And each person may respond Amen.*



Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell  
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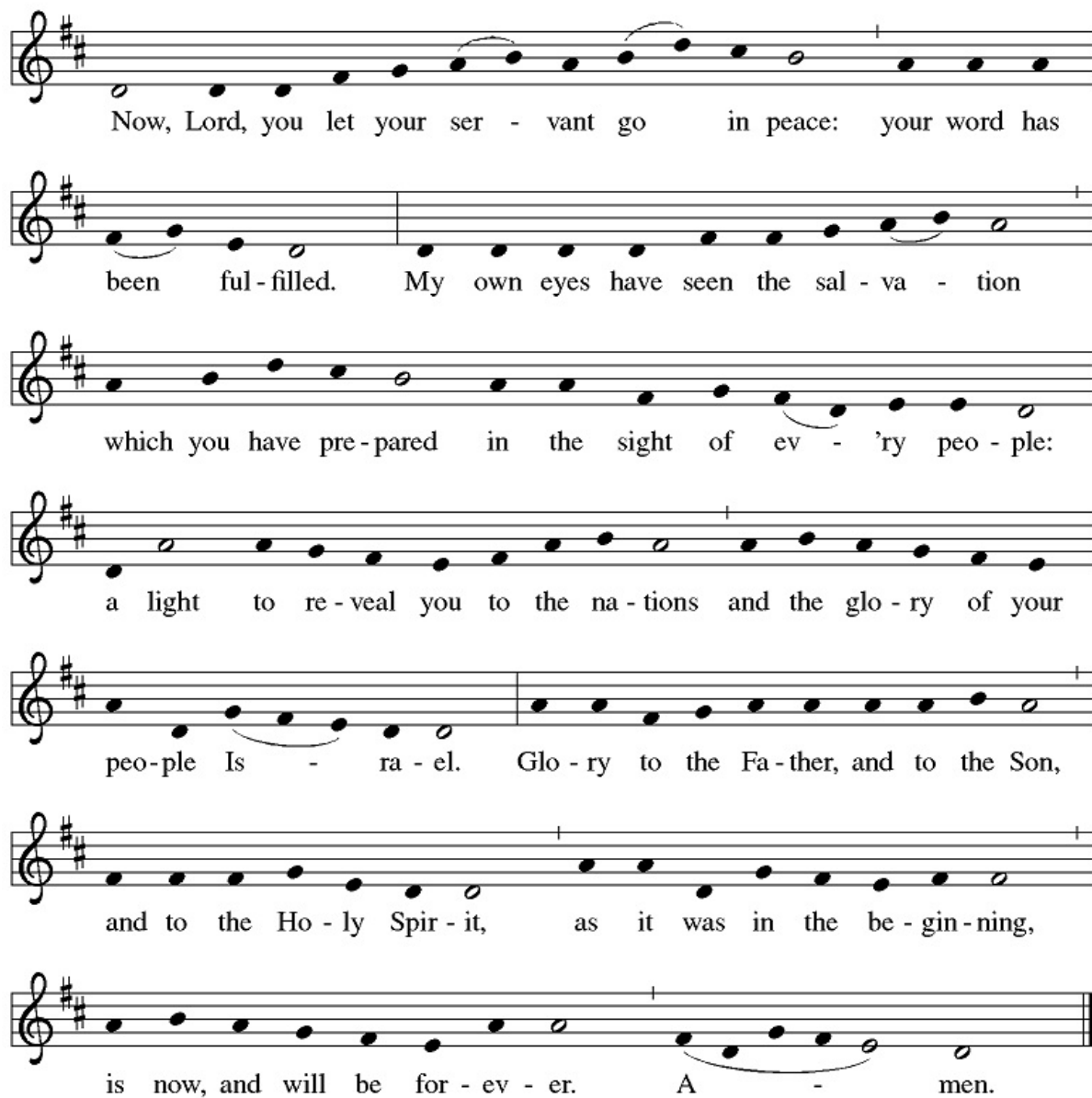
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## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

## NUNC DIMITTIS



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has  
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion  
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:  
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,  
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,  
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

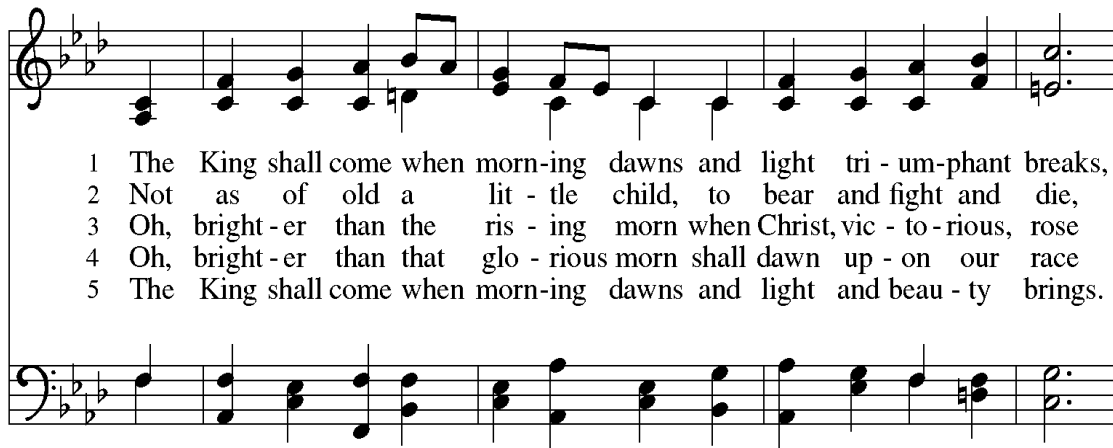
**C** **Amen.**

**SENDING**

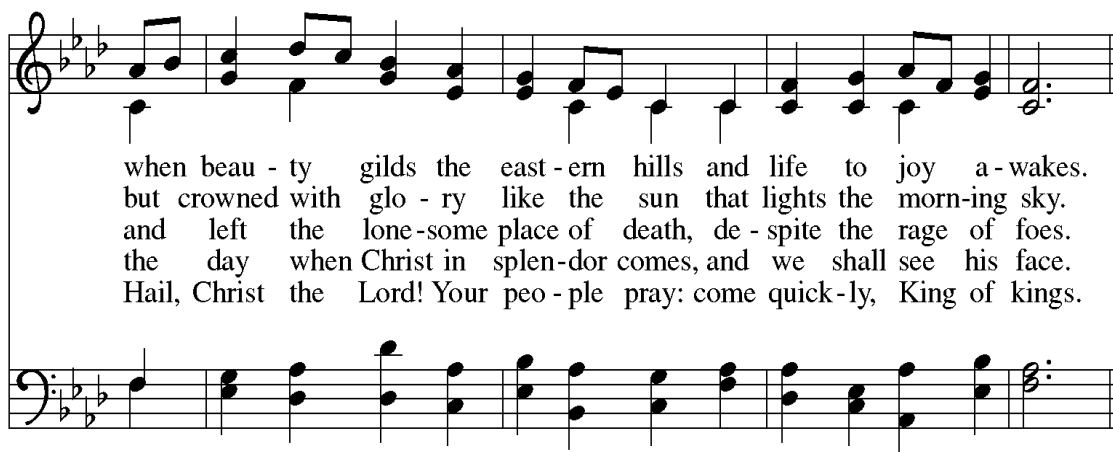
**BLESSING**

*response:* **Amen**

### The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
 and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
 the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

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## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE - *Praeludium in E* by Dieterich Buxtehude

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**The Altar Flowers** are presented to the Glory of God with the following recognitions:

✦ In honor of Sally's Birthday by Mike Mauriello

**Altar Flowers** – If you would like to make a recognition through a request for Altar Flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium. Sign up for the day(s) you would like to request, pick up an envelope and form in the lower box and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin, and payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, speak with a staff person.

**Prayer of the Church** (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis and Larry Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Judy Schlegel, Mary Bader, John Friedrich, Tom Kraska, Pat Cashwell, Jim Shoaf, Doug Whitfield, Sharon Schulze, Alice Barnes, Charlie Bock, Pat and Morris Casper, Karl and Otti Freundt

**Our sympathy** to the family and friends of H. Y. Chi, father of Curtis Chi, who died last week.

**Prayer List Changes** – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time**, email staff, or call the office.

**Prayer of the Church (Friends):** Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner [Tony Perrotte's mother and uncle], Diane Johnson (Penni Perrotte's friends), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley), Richard Dominick (brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Josephine Economy and John Bigsby (friends of Bess Line), Wayne Coulter (brother-in-law of Marlene Coulter), Marie Watts (cousin of Pat Casper), Ruth Parker (aunt of Pat Casper), Ashley Collins (niece of Deb Tabert), Holly Cashwell (by Pat Cashwell), Patrick Howell (son of a friend of the Waughs), George and Pat Rose (friends of Debbie Fullbright), John and Connie Heinz, Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Richard and Claudia Steele (friends of Dean and Marcia Redman), Kirk Temple (brother-in-law of Deb Tabert), Debra Jetton (sister of Bill Wilson), Penny Wagner (niece of Marcia Wilson), Lydia Sumner (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Lynn Hladak (grandmother to Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Ginger Weaver (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Tim Holody (by Terry and Sharon Wilson), Kerry Bowars (friend of Megan Cunningham), Cole Cashwell (grandson of Pat Cashwell), Will and Caitlyn (by Pat Casper), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Dirk Davis (by Debbie Fullbright), Sally Robinette (mother of Claire Cooney), Brian Dissel (husband of Tracey Dissel), Barbara Dissel (mother-in-law of Tracey Dissel), Len Rose (father-in-law of Tracey Dissel), Lynn and Ray Slabaugh (friends of the Foremans), Rufous Coulter (brother-in-law of Marlene Coulter), Dirk Davis (by Debbie Fullbright)

**This morning following the hymn of the day**, we will be blessing the Prayer Shawls which have been created by the "The Dropped Stitch" Group. The Prayer Shawl Ministry, otherwise known as "The Dropped Stitch" group, consists of people who enjoy knitting or crocheting prayer shawls. They are for gifting to church members or their family members/friends in need of comfort while being shut-in, hospitalized, experiencing grief or an extended illness, etc. They are free of charge. If you know of someone having a difficult time, please take a shawl from those displayed on the rack just outside of the Narthex. Should you like to join the group or have any questions, please contact Penni Perrotte at 925-323-8649 or Mary Runestad at 203-912-1979.

**This morning we welcome the following new members:**

**Alannah Garcia and David Brenes, daughter Ayla Mora**

701 Sleepy Creek Dr  
Durham, NC 27713

**Alannah Garcia**

Cell: 919-908-3672 Email: [garcia.m.alannah@gmail.com](mailto:garcia.m.alannah@gmail.com)

**Josué David Mora Brenes (David)** (husband of Allannah)

Cell: 919-201-8781 Email: [jo.da206@gmail.com](mailto:jo.da206@gmail.com)

**Ayla Mora**, born 08/21/2021

**Luther Gates**

2407 Charlie Tew Ct  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
Cell: 919-265-7192

[lcgates0512@gmail.com](mailto:lcgates0512@gmail.com)

**Jessie Grinnell**

2701 Homestead Rd, #1105  
Chapel Hill NC 27516

[grinnellje@yahoo.com](mailto:grinnellje@yahoo.com)

**Jonathan and Sarah Hodges, son Benjamin Hodges**

6 Fairgreen Pl  
Durham NC 27705  
Home Phone 919-844-5106

Jonathan: email: [hodges@uwalumni.com](mailto:hodges@uwalumni.com) cell: 919-274-7114

Sarah: email: [shodges@uwalumni.com](mailto:shodges@uwalumni.com) cell: 919-889-9227

Benjamin: email: [benjamin.hodges545@gmail.com](mailto:benjamin.hodges545@gmail.com) cell: 919-328-0635 (not baptized)

**Pamela Kildahl**

22A Bushmill Ct  
Hillsborough NC 27278  
Cell: 612-616-0939

Email: [pkildahl@gmail.com](mailto:pkildahl@gmail.com)

**Kyleia Rhodes**

500 Dupont Dr, Apt 56  
Durham, NC 27705  
Cell: 808-286-3384

email: [kyleia2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kyleia2000@yahoo.com)

**Sally C. and David A. Sloop**

1410 Farm Leaf Dr  
Durham NC 27703

Sally: cell: 919-801-0193 Email: [sallysloop22@gmail.com](mailto:sallysloop22@gmail.com)

David: cell: 919-801-8256 Email: [davidsloop@aol.com](mailto:davidsloop@aol.com)

**Pam and Steve Taylor**

200 W Woodcroft Pkwy 45B  
Durham NC 27713

Steve: cell: 803-608-8323 Email: [stevet@gmail.com](mailto:stevet@gmail.com)

Pam: cell: 803-608-6529 Email: [ptaylor006@gmail.com](mailto:ptaylor006@gmail.com)

### **Adults – Join us for Sunday School this year 9:45 - 10:45 am**

Dec 3 – Art of Advent (Part 1) by Janet Seiz (meeting in Whitesell Hall)

Dec 10 – Annual Congregational Meeting (Agenda: Election of new Council members and voting on the proposed 2024 budget)

Dec 17 – Art of Advent (Part 2) by Janet Seiz (meeting in Whitesell Hall)

NO Classes on Dec 24 or Dec 31.

**Youth Sunday School Class:** All middle school and high school youth will gather during the Sunday School hour downstairs in the youth room (9:45-10:30 am). Classes will be the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, only missing December 24th. We look forward to seeing all youth in classes. Any questions please reach out to Joan Albright or Megan Cunningham.

**Children’s Sunday School** meets in the Genesis Room downstairs, 9:45-10:45 am. Leaders are Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski. Please consider lending some time to assist them.

### **Join us in Advent**

- ▶ **Advent Suppers** will be at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays, December 6, and 13 in Trinity Hall
- ▶ **Advent Worship** will be at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20 in the Sanctuary
- ▶ **The Christmas Dinner** will be on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 pm in Trinity Hall

On Wednesdays, join us for Suppers and Advent Worship. On Dec 6 and 13 we will have our traditional Advent Suppers of soups, bread, and salad. If you would like to make a soup for one of the Advent dinners, please let Martha Dahl know so she knows how many and what kinds to expect. Also, if you would like to help with the Advent or Christmas Dinners, please contact Martha Dahl at 847-612-6687 or [mjdahlhouse@gmail.com](mailto:mjdahlhouse@gmail.com).

### **Midweek Advent Worship: we pause, we prepare, and we ponder 7:00 pm Wednesdays on December 6, 13, and 20**

This midweek Advent Worship series invites us to pause, to prepare, and to ponder. First is the call to spiritual introspection, prayerful waiting, and pausing from the constant busyness of our normal lives. This is juxtaposed with Advent’s clarion call to wake up, to rise in action, to prepare the way of the Lord, and to join in God’s continued creative work of reconciliation, seeking justice, and peacemaking. Furthermore, we ponder the beginning and end of all things. We prepare for a baby, marveling that the creator of the universe was formed in a woman’s womb, full of hope and potential, fragility and vulnerability. We anticipate Christ’s imminent arrival here among us, as well as his arrival still to come – where pain, sorrow, injustice, warfare, and death itself are no more – in a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness is at home. We pause, we prepare, and we ponder. Vimeo link:

<https://vimeo.com/event/3543584>

**Get to know our Committees, Groups, and Partnerships!** Nine of our committees and/or groups, along with our Preschool/PMO, have uploaded informational videos to our Vimeo Website. They are short explanations of how the groups function and they offer opportunities for all of us to participate with them. You can view these videos at: <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham/videos>. We can help other groups produce videos to promote our work for God at St. Paul’s. Contact Pastor Scott if you want to participate.

**A December tip to care for creation:** recycle your Christmas cards! The front pictures of your cards can be cut for name tags, scrapbooking or decorations for special events. You may prefer to recycle them in your home recycle bin – not the trash. The Creation Care ministry will also provide a collection container for your **front covers** of cards and they will be given to an organization for craft activities. Also, the stamps can be cut from the envelope and put in the collection container at church – they are sent to the Philatelic Society (stamp collectors) for their use and education purposes. Creation Care is continuing to collect eyeglasses, pop rings and small batteries. Please NO LITHIUM BATTERIES as they are a fire hazard!

**Thursday Morning Bible Study:** The new topic starting this Thursday for Bible Study is an in-depth look at the sermon on the Mount. They meet on Thursdays at 10:30-11:45 am in the Conference Room and by Zoom. Study notes will be emailed before the meeting. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82845097165?pwd=YWEyd1o1TmQvTXVPaFJwYi9SZkFVQT09>  
Meeting ID: 828 4509 7165 Passcode: 165276

**UMD (Urban Ministries Durham) Food Prep!** We will volunteer our services on the third Saturday of each month, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Next date is **December 16, 2023**. During the shift, you will prep for the dinner meal and serve lunch. Sign up online at this site: [http://bit.ly/UMD\\_Signup](http://bit.ly/UMD_Signup) Volunteers must be 13 years old, must wear closed toed shoes and shirts that cover armpits. Hairnets and aprons are provided – you can bring a hat and apron as well. Urban Ministries is located at 410 Liberty St, Durham NC 27701. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Anderson at [andersona1129@gmail.com](mailto:andersona1129@gmail.com)

**Drivers Needed** – Nurturing Committee Ministry is in need of volunteer drivers that can help transport people to medical appointments, chemo appointments, pharmacy. It can be a drop off and come back later to transport home, or a short wait for the appointment. If you have time to help, please contact [dmredman251@gmail.com](mailto:dmredman251@gmail.com).

**Handbells and Choirs!** Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings. For any questions, please contact Minister of Music, Ted Turner, [music@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:music@stpaulsdurham.org).

**Pasta for Parktown Food Hub:** Especially during the holidays and school vacations, it is more important than ever to continue to stock the "Pasta Shelf" at the Parktown Food Hub. If you could add a package – or two – of dry pasta, especially spaghetti and elbows, to your shopping cart to support this important community ministry and keep the St. Paul's Pasta Shelf well stocked, it will be greatly appreciated. Place donations in the collection box by the bulletin board. The Women's Connection Group is leading this initiative to support the Parktown Food Hub, a ministry of South Durham Connections, led by Pastor Sharon Schulze.

### **Growing thru Grief**

Here is the current schedule:

- ◆ Dec 6: Cello Concert with Debbie Davis
  - ◆ Dec 12: "Our Triggers" with Vivian Harris
  - ◆ Dec 19: "Final Thoughts" with Bill Dahl
  - ◆ Dec 26: "How Are You? Authentic Conversations with People Who Understand," with Joan Eastman
- We meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 pm. First timers will need to show proof of Covid vaccination and booster(s). All are welcome. Growing thru Grief is a coalition of area religious and civic organizations who offer support and education to those grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information check out: [growingthrugrief.org](http://growingthrugrief.org)

**The Tongue and Thimble** group creates small quilts which are distributed to the nurseries at local hospitals for their critical patients. They meet downstairs in the Fiber Arts/Music room off of the Genesis Hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.

**The Dropped Stitch Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on the last Friday of the month at 1:00 pm in the sofa area of the atrium. This group creates prayer shawls by knitting or crochet.

### **Sign-Up Genius Links**

Please visit the Sign-Up Genius links which we use to enable volunteers to fill in where needed, for both services. Click on the link and fill in your name on the date(s).

#### ◆ **Sunday Worship**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1>

Sign up for: lector, worship assistant, altar guild, and ushers. Staff will be glad to provide guidance for any of these tasks.

#### ◆ **Sunday morning Communion Assistants and Lock-Up**

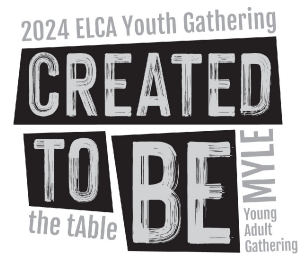
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>

#### ◆ **Devotions** – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1>

Send your devotions to Vicar Gina Schaeffer - [vicar@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:vicar@stpaulsdurham.org)



# Our Youth Group is going to New Orleans in July of 2024 for the National Youth Gathering.



## Here is how you can help them on their journey.

We have six youth and two adult leaders heading to New Orleans in July of 2024 for the National Youth Gathering. This is a time for our youth to grow in their faith and as an overall youth group. You will see the youth active in different ways throughout the year and we ask that you help us get to New Orleans.

We need to raise about \$9,000 for everyone and we cannot do it without the gracious help of our St. Paul's family. In the atrium is a yellow bulletin board with 8 airplane seats, 8 hotel beds, and 8 plates broken into 3 pieces so you can see the progress as we get ready for this adventure. You can help in a variety of ways, including purchasing a whole airplane seat or hotel bed, or if you can just help with a meal for someone.

How to "purchase" a specific item is broken down:

- ▶ 1 airplane seat cost \$400 (this is for roundtrip)
- ▶ 1 hotel bed cost \$350 (this is for the entire week)
- ▶ 1 meal costs \$25 or a whole day of meals costs \$75 (this is for 1 person)

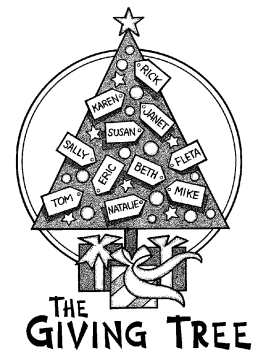
As we raise funds, watch the airplane take off from RDU (Durham, NC) to MSY (New Orleans, LA).

Donations can be made online through the church website (under the giving online option) or during the offering time in service. Please note on your donation (Youth Gathering – purchase item" (i.e. "Youth Gathering - airplane seat" or "Youth Gathering - 1 meal").

Thank you for all your help and prayers as we prepare for this unbelievable experience!

## REMINDER: Christmas Giving Opportunities

All gift cards to Parktown Food Hub or Burton Elementary are due back TODAY to St. Paul's so they can be delivered to their destinations.



## Christmas Giving Opportunities 2023

- ★ Food Lion Gift Cards for Parktown Food Hub
- ★ Target or Walmart gift Cards for Burton Elementary

There is a Christmas tree in the atrium which is decorated with envelopes. You may choose an envelope, then purchase the requested gift card and return it in the provided envelope. Food Lion Gifts cards (\$25, \$50) are requested for the Parktown Food Hub. Target or Walmart gift (\$25 or \$50) cards will go to Burton Elementary. All envelopes with gift cards inside may be returned to the offering plate, or put in the Finance Office wall slot in the staff hallway -- by **Sunday, December 3**.

## ★ Direct Donation to South Durham Connections

If you want to participate but won't be able to shop, feel free to make a cash donation at <https://soduco.org/donate> and we will make sure that our families are shown a little extra love by purchasing what is most needed.

## ★ Amazon Stocking Wish List for Parktown Food Hub

Christmas stockings for kids (needed by **Monday, 11/27**) – we want every child whose family receives food from the Parktown Food Hub to have the joy of a Christmas stocking. We have volunteers who have generously offered to help assemble the stockings, and now we just need the stuffers! To make it easy we have set up an Amazon Wishlist. You can order the items and they will be shipped directly to us. We need the items by **Monday, November 27** so the volunteers have time to assemble the stockings. Here is a link to the Amazon Wishlist: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OD4D7YEAGJML?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OD4D7YEAGJML?ref_=wl_share)