



## Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve

7:00pm, December 24th, 2024

*In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*



## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*Andante Tranquillo from Organ Sonata 3 by Felix Mendelssohn*

*Please quietly reflect and prepare for worship during the music.*

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

**C Amen.**

L Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, We are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you lead your people to Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river you Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*The prelude's purpose is to prepare your heart, your hands, and your mind for worship. The Lord is worthy of our preparation and the prelude provides us a time to do just that.*

*The paraments, which are the hangings on the altar, pulpit, and lectern, are gold for Christmas Eve. For Joy, Celebration, and Majesty.*

*The Hymns proclaim the Gospel in song. We sing a variety of hymns to help us tell God's story.*

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

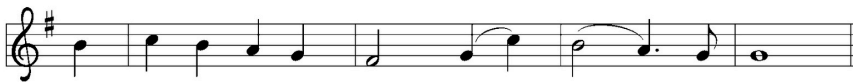


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

**GREETING**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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

**And also with you.**

*The Apostolic Greeting is given by the Pastor using the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Cor 13:13. In this greeting the assembly is rooted in the Triune life of God.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

L Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST READING Isaiah 9:2-7

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6 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.

7 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.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*The prayer of the day is typically a prayer focused around the scripture texts for the day.*

*The Word part of our liturgy, is where we hear “the living voice of the Gospel.” We experience this in the Biblical readings, a sermon based around these readings, and the hymn of the day.*

## SECOND READING Titus 2:11-14

11 The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12 training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14 He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### HYMN ELW 289

## Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

### Refrain



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis

De - o;

glo



ri - a

in ex - cel - sis

De

-

o.

## **GOSPEL READING Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**

The gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 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. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 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.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 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: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

15 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.” 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

*A brief silence.*

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

*The prayers of intercession are prepared in advance by writers from across the Church based around the scripture for a given week.*

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

### And also with you.

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another*

*The assembly sits.*



## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

## OFFERTORY *There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth* by Felix Mendelssohn

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN ELW 294

#### In the Bleak Midwinter



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

*The passing of the peace is traditionally part of the liturgy, so that anyone in the gathered assembly may have a time to be reconciled to one another before sharing the meal.*

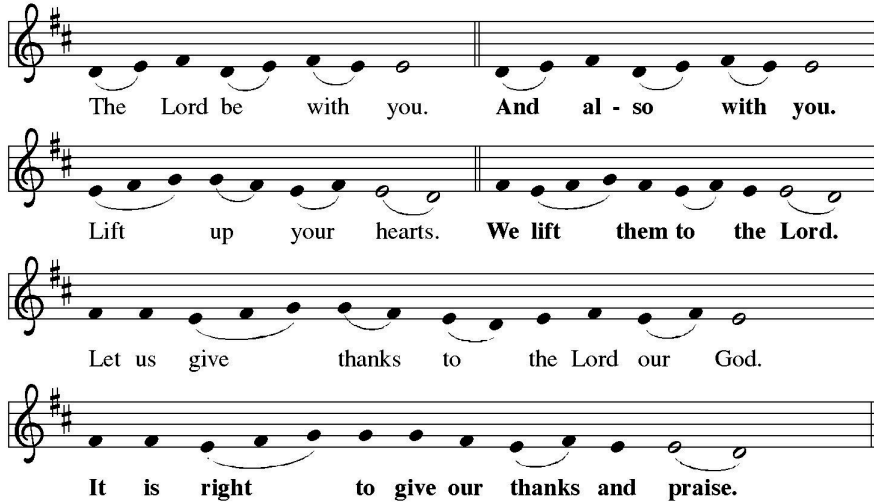
*A musical offering is given to God in our worship as the gifts of the assembly are collected. This is a reminder of God's abundance. We offer back to God just a small portion of what God has given us, so that the mission of God can be realized.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us Pray, Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



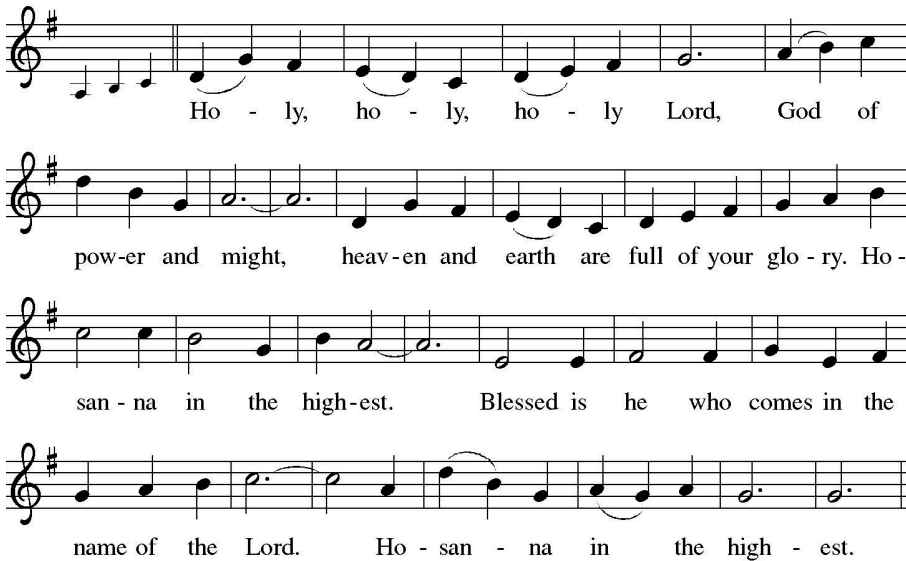
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*In the meal part of our liturgy we prepare to come to Christ's table. In the Great Thanksgiving we focus on being thankful for all God has done and for all God has given to us. In the Eucharistic Prayer, we ask God to send the Holy Spirit to this meal and we ask that Christ will fulfill his promise to be in the bread and wine.*

## PREFACE

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

P Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought life into the world, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons. 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 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 birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and this cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as you children, shining with the light of your Son. Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Behold, God is making all things new.

Take your place in the new creation

## COMMUNION

*This is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are Christ's guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come, to eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The pastor and communion assistant will come to the pews of those unable to come forward.*

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

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond: **Amen.***

*The assembly is seated.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

***Distribution of the Communion Elements takes place as follows:***

*Exit pews to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front pews.*

***Proceed to the altar:*** *Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back center position at the altar rail and continue filling in clockwise to the front center. The left side (pulpit side) proceeds to the front center at the altar rail and fills in clockwise to the rear center. Serving is continuous. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat, putting your cup in the basket.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN ELW 296**

**What Child Is This**



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## On Christmas Night



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the  
 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem-er  
 3 When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then life and health come  
 4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to  
 made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since  
 in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then  
 sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great  
 our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us  
 life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and  
 made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.  
 free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?  
 sing, all for to see the new-born king,  
 heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.

Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

## It Came upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
- 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”  
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900



## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted upon your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

### The Lighting of the Candles

*The pastor will light his candle from the Christmas candle. The ushers will light their candles from the pastor's candle. The ushers will then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the center aisle.*

**Only unlighted candles should be tipped to the neighbor's candle to be lit.**

*When all candles have been lighted, **Silent Night** will be sung. Following the Benediction, the candles will be extinguished.*



Silent Night, Holy Night!  
*Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!*



*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



*Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

## READING John 1:1-18

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things came into being through him, and without  
him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4in him was life, and the life was  
the light of all people. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.  
6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7He came as a witness to testify to  
the light, so that all might believe through him. 8He himself was not the light, but he came to  
testify to the light. 9The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.  
10He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not  
know him. 11He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12But to  
all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,  
13who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.  
14And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of  
a father's only son, full of grace and truth. 15(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he  
of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")  
16From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17The law indeed was given  
through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18No one has ever seen God. It is  
God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

## BENEDICTION

P The light of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you this and every night.

C Amen.

*(Extinguish Candles)*

## DISMISSAL

*The assembly is sent into mission.*

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C We will. Thanks be to God!

## Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## POSTLUDE Finale from Organ Symphony 2 by Charles-Marie Widor

## Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

*Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Dr. H.Y. Chi from The Chi Family.  
Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Dr. Stumpf & Mrs. Helen Stumpf by  
Karl & David Stumpf and their Families.*

If you would like to make a recognition through the altar flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium for a form in the lower box. Sign-up for the days(s) you would like and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin. Payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, please speak to a staff person.

## CHRISTMAS DESIGNATIONS

*We thank everyone who purchased **Poinsettias** and shared their beauty for our services. They may be picked up by their owners following the late service or on Christmas Day.*

- To the Glory of God and in memory of Loved Ones from The Foreman Family.
- To the Glory of God and in memory of Bill & Marian Lavery from The Lavery Family.
- To the Glory of God and in memory of Addie Sturgeon Felkel & Carson Sturgeon from Mary Sturgeon.
- In memory of Allison Hart from Phil & Sally Hart.
- To the Glory of God from Martha Dahl.
- In memory of Charlese Brayboy from Janel Brayboy & Jayne Brayboy Back.
- In memory of Joel Edward Brayboy from Janel Brayboy & Jayne Brayboy Back.
- In honor of Natalie & Micah from Barbara & Bill Dahl.
- To the Glory of God from Katherine Trexler & Robert Fogel.
- In honor of Tessa Cooney, Caroline & Charlie Robinette; in memory of Charles G. Robinette from Claire & Hanes Cooney.
- In memory of Ray & Anne Hobin; and Walter & Louise Shoaf from Jim & Diana Shoaf.
- In memory of Fran Whitfield from Doug Whitfield.
- In memory of Mrs. Helen Stumpf & Dr. Stumpf from Karl & David Stumpf.

*Donations to **Lutheran World Relief** will be forwarded to the organization to use as they see the greatest need.*

- To the Glory of God and in memory of Richard & Ellenore Sutter from The Lavery Family.
- To the Glory of God from Nilcoline Strom-Jensen.
- In memory of Charles Ellertson from Bee Ellertson.
- To the Glory of God from Martha Dahl.
- To the Glory of God and in memory of George Henning & Robert Simis; and her parents, Anna & Herman Mensing from Margaret H. Simis.
- In memory of her husband, Tony Perrotti; and Their daughter, Lisa Bearden from Penni Perrotti.
- In memory of Tony Perrotti; and Jim & Carol Sackett from Dean & Marcia Redman.
- To the Glory of God in memory of their parents & grandparents; Terry's kidney donor; and Loved Ones from Terry, Sharon, Ben, Barry, & Becky Wilson.
- To the Glory of God in memory of George & Leota Hoke; Kate Bartlett; Alice Diez; and Barb Shade from The Hokes.

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**“The Mission of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church as a part of the family of God is to share God in Christ with the World by equipping one another through worship, learning, witness, service and support.”**

**Congregation Council**

**President**

Joan Albright

**Vice-President**

Katie Benjamin

**Secretary**

Megan Cunningham

**Co-Treasurers**

Angela Maine, John Foreman

**Co-Financial Secretaries**

Rod Runestad, Phil Hart

**Council Members**

Joan Albright, Megan Cunningham, Mike Mauriello, Katie Benjamin, Jayce Getz, Emily Pauline, Ken Knudsen, Michelle Meadors, Steve Myzk

# Welcome to St. Paul's

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In celebrating God's beauty and strength created through diversity, we welcome, value, and include all of God's children regardless of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, ability, appearance, or citizenship. St. Paul's is committed to racial equality.

**Admission to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** is by invitation of our Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. If you are unable to receive Holy Communion at the altar, please notify an usher to receive communion at your seat. All are welcome at the table for a blessing. We use red wine and bread at communion, and offer grape juice and gluten-free wafers. Inform your server at the rail if you desire either.

## **Distribution of the Communion Elements take place as follows:**

Exit the pew to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front exit. Proceed to the altar. Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back of the altar rail and fill forward towards the front. The left side (pulpit side) proceed to the front of the altar rail and fill towards the back. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat. Please place your cup in one of the baskets.

## **St. Paul's Live Stream Policy**

1. St. Paul's Lutheran Church live streams the 11:00 AM service every Sunday. The service is posted to Vimeo and Facebook. In addition, special services may be live streamed.
2. The 8:30 AM service is not live streamed and is available for attendance by those who do not wish to be recorded. For live streamed services there will be a "No Video Zone" designated in the Narthex.
3. It is recommended that all livestream services include a disclaimer about the service being recorded, posted on a visible location at the entrance of the sanctuary and written in the bulletin.
4. Children must have a signed waiver from their parent or guardian before being recorded.
5. We will not share personal or identifying information while a service is being live streamed, this includes during announcement, prayer requests, or the sermon.

### **Staff of St. Paul's**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Scott Anderson	pastor@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Duke Lutherans Pastor/</b>		
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	Rev. Amanda Highben	Amanda.highben@duke.edu
<b>Vicar</b>	Ashley Bowman	vicar@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Susan Esposito	admin@stpaulsdurham.org
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<b>Minister of Music</b>	Dr. Ted Turner	music@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Alan Rigsbee	bookkeeper@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Preschool Director</b>	Candace King	preschool@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Property Manager</b>	Clark Brunner	property@stpaulsdurham.org

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

1200 W. Cornwallis Rd., Durham, NC

<https://www.stpaulsdurham.org/>

(919) 489-3214

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*