St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship Sunday, January 2, 2022 – Second Sunday of Christmas Setting One of the ELW

Prelude - Andante from Sonata #6 in D Minor by Mendelssohn

GATHERING

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.

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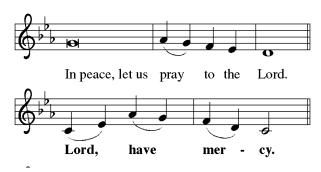
C Amen.

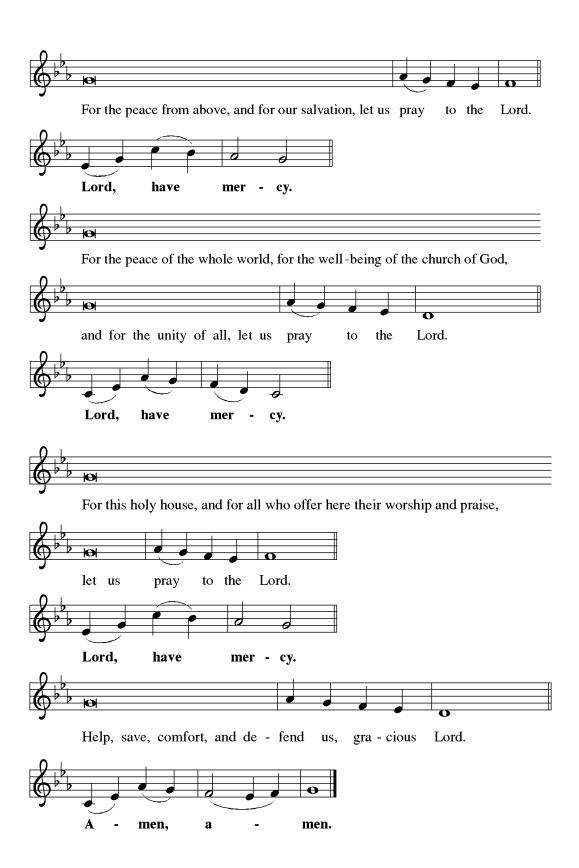
Gathering Song - The First Noel

Greeting

- 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.

KYRIE





CANTICLE OF PRAISE – THIS IS THE FEAST



- P The Lord be with you
- C And also with you
- P Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD Children's Message

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow. ⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion. and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Psalm: Psalm 147:12-20

Spoken responsively by verse

¹²Worship the LORD, ¹O Jerusalem; praise your ¹God, O Zion,

¹³who has strengthened the bars ¹ of your gates and has blessed your chil- ¹ dren within you.

¹⁴God has established peace [|] on your borders and satisfies you with the [|] finest wheat.

¹⁵God sends out a command | to the earth, a word that runs | very swiftly.

¹⁶God gives ¹ snow like wool, scattering ¹ frost like ashes.

"God scatters | hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the ¹ word and melts them; the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.

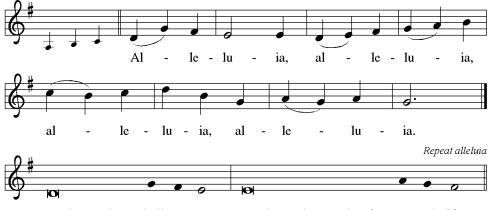
¹⁹God declares the ¹ word to Jacob, statutes and judg-¹ ments to Israel.

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any ¹ other nation; they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Gospel: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

[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.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - Of the Father's Love Begotten

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, 295

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

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

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities (*especially*). As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Comfort any struggling with treatment and care, and others in need (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Tony, JoAnn, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis, Bob, Ellie, Barbara, Naomi, Larry, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service (*especially Wilhelm Loehe, whom we commemorate today*). Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

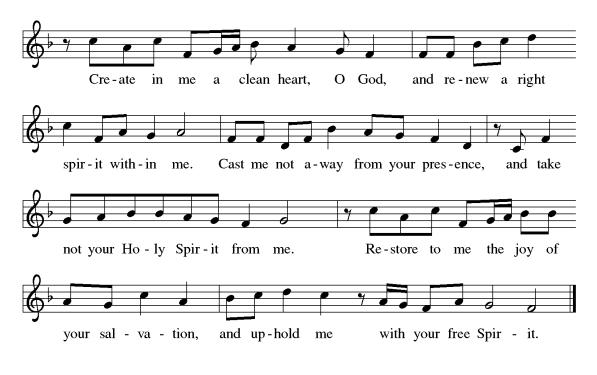
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory - Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr by Zachau

Offertory - Create in Me a Clean Heart



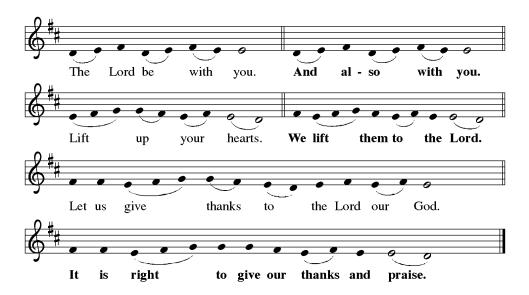
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offertory Prayer

- P Let us pray together
- C God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

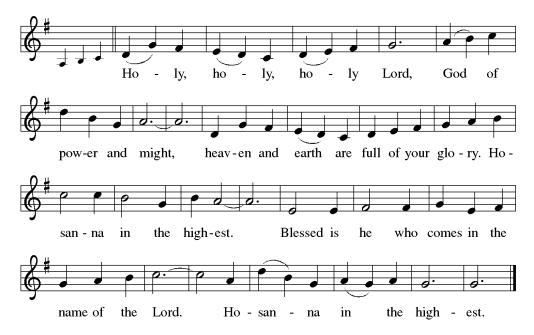


Preface

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

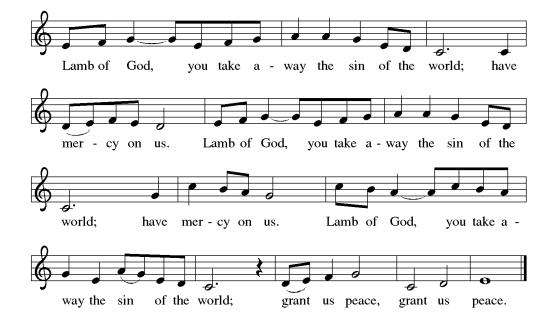


Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus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

LORD'S PRAYER

- A Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C 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.
- P Come to the banquet for all is ready.

COMMUNION SONG – LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION 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.

COMMUNION HYMN – The Bells of Christmas

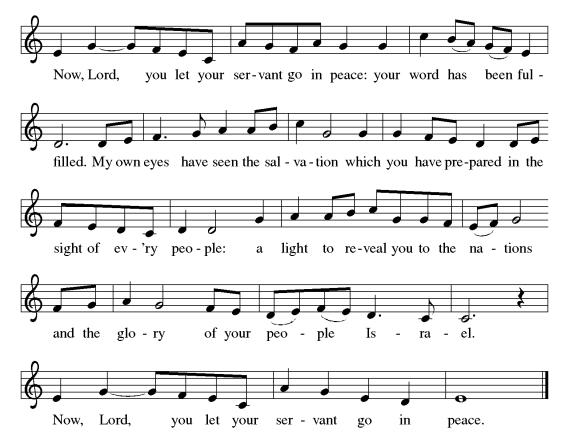
POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

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C Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God...

- A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

OR

O God, we give you thanks...

- A O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

OR

God of abundance...

- A God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

SENDING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen

SENDING HYMN – Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C We will. Thanks be to God.

Postlude - Prelude and Fugue in B flat Major by Bach

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

✤ In memory of Helen and W. A. Stumpf, parents of Karl and David Stumpf

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, please speak with a staff person.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Barbara Shade, Naomi Watson, Larry Hawley

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 [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and

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Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), 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), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Gad Kainer, Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Marjorie Bower (daughter of Doug and Fran Whitfield), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Betty Sue Dickerson and son Barry Dickerson (friends of the church), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Clarence Schulze (father of Sharon Schulze), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley), Mary Bader, Cynthia Sund (grandmother of Megan Cunningham), Steve and Hut Craig (family of Pat Casper), Amy Natzle (friend of Megan Cunningham), McKay Family (by Pat Casper), Ruth Parker (aunt of Pat Casper), mother of Warren Pusak, Jane Busch (sister-in-law of Audrey Busch), Karen Salotti (friend of Diana Dominick), Richard Dominick (brother of Ted Dominick)

On the First Sunday of each month, we will offer drive through communion at the rear entrance of the church from 11:30 am until noon.

On Sunday mornings, we want to be sure our handicapped persons have accessible seating in the sanctuary. We have therefore added reserved signs to three of our handicap rows for their use.

Nurturing Committee – Be-Friend – The Be-Friend branch of the nurturing Committee has sprouted. The flowers on the Caring Tree (in the narthex) have blossomed into bold Words of Hope. These are supportive scriptures that Nurturing Committee members and others have pointed to as meaningful. Also, in the basket unit by the Caring Tree are items put together to add a smile as you grow and develop a new and/or an already up and running relationship. Look for the clear portfolio Be-Friend Idea Starter Kit as well as card making and other supplies in this place. Help yourself!

Join the Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11. Here is the info:

Topic: Coffee Hour, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRlgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09 Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 – Password: 292680

"By Heart" – Vicar Mac is leading a study of "By Heart," a historical, theological, and spiritual deep-dive into Luther's Small Catechism. Classes meet on Wednesdays, at 7:00 pm, resuming on January 5. The classes will be about seven weeks, unless the discussions run longer. In-person in Trinity Hall and Zoom will both be available. Email Vicar Mac (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org) with any questions.

Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 AM

Bible Study will be in Trinity Hall and over Zoom. We are studying the book: Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis. We will send emails if any study guides are needed. The Study returns on Thursday, January 6. **Here is the zoom information.** Topic: Pastor's Bible Study

Time: Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89526693517?pwd=UVI2SIdvRTVtYTdQOHFEa2N1THREdz09 Meeting ID: 895 2669 3517 -- Passcode: 727541 One tap mobile +16465588656,,89526693517#,,,,*727541# US (New York) +13017158592,,89526693517#,,,,*727541# US (Washington DC) Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kjXLtywXY

St. Paul's Readers – The January book is Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Frann. The book chronicles one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history. Members of the Osage Nation in the 1920s were the richest people in the world. Then, one by one, they began to be killed off. The newly created FBI was called upon to unravel these mysterious deaths. Barb Shade will lead the discussion on Thursday, January 20. St. Paul's Readers meet at 3 pm on the third Thursday of the month in Trinity Hall. Please consider participating. We welcome all readers – men and women! Contact Katherine Trexler (katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com) with any questions.

Croasdaile Worship in December – The Croasdaile worship in January will be on Thursday, January 20, 2022 – the third Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm.

St. Paul's In-Person Worship and Building Guidelines

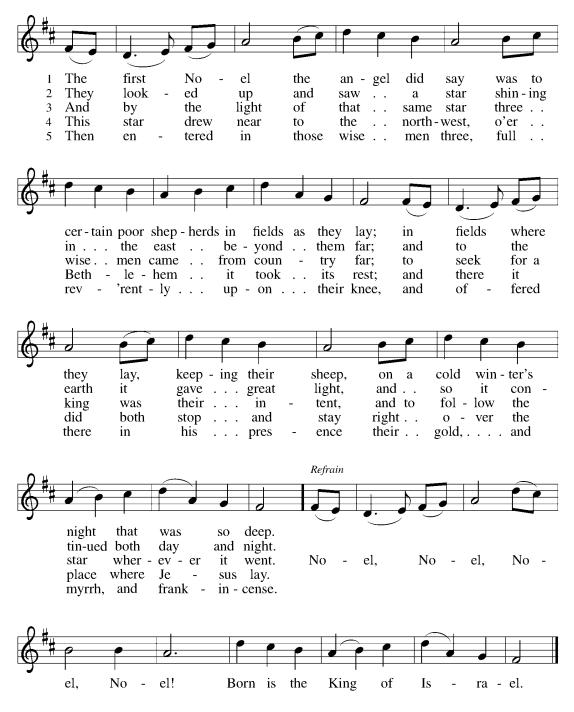
The Reopening Task Force met and reviewed the rules announced by our governor and the CDC.

- On Sunday mornings, we will continue to meet at 10:00 am for one worship service, socially distancing in the sanctuary at every other pew, and also gathering in Trinity Hall where the service is projected. All will gather in the sanctuary for Holy Communion.
- We will still wear masks in worship in an effort to offer some protection from disease. We will allow singing and humming while masked.
- All areas of the church are purified with IWave technology which eliminates up to 97% of all virus and bacteria particles.
- Committees may begin meeting in person or a combination of in person and zoom. Contact the church office to
 reserve space.
- In order to be able to offer in person worship we need assistance on Sunday morning. Visit the listing below of Sign-Up Genius links. We also need people to help with the new video and sound equipment. Contact Curtis Chi or Tim Hoke if you would like to be trained.

We are using a live link to view our weekly Worship Services on Sundays at 10:00 AM Here is the link: https://vimeo.com/event/1478223 The live feed is a much better video experience and the recording of this live service will be put on the vimeo site after the service is concluded and can be watched at any time. That link is: https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham (then choose the service date or event you wish to watch).

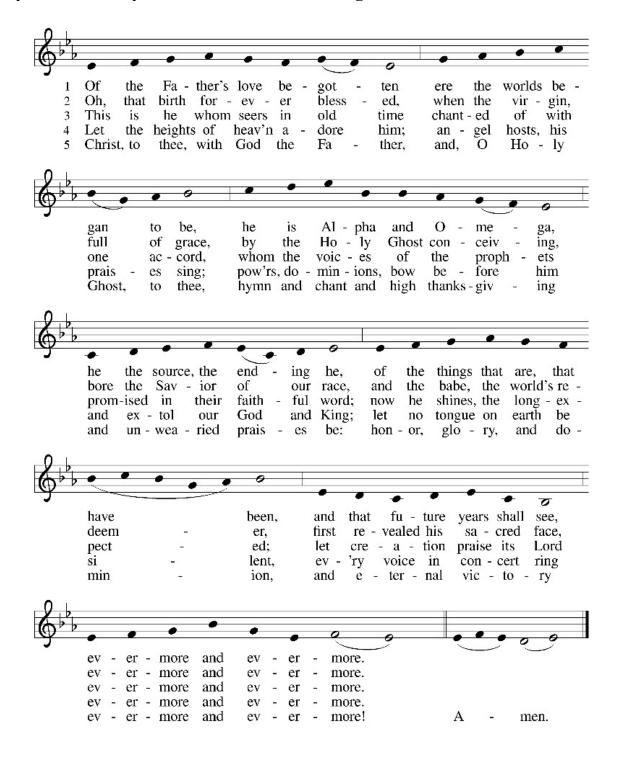
We are in need of worship assistants! Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- Devotions https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1 Please send your devotions to Vicar Mac Mullins at vicar@stpaulsdurham.org
- Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Worship Tasks https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1 Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, video, altar guild, etc.
- Sunday morning 10:00 AM Communion Assistants and Lock-Up https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion



Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

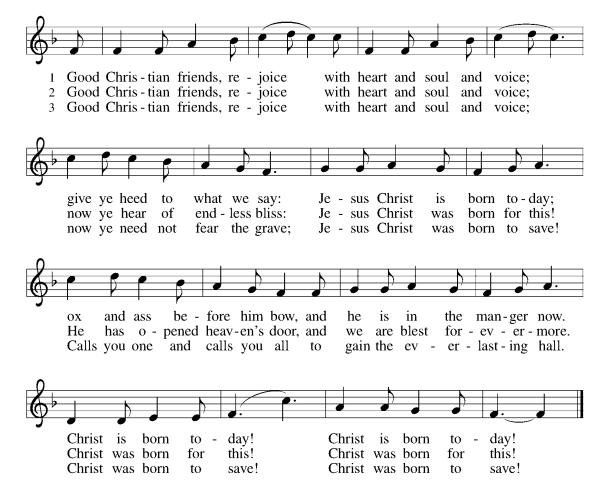


Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.



- O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song, O Dayspring bright, awaited long, O Son of Man, incarnate Word, great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest, and keep your Christmas in our breast; then David's harpstrings, hushed so long, shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt. Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855



Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.