

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Growing in faith. Growing in community. Welcoming all in Jesus' name.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sunday, December 22, 2024

10 AM Service of
Holy Communion

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."



Catch the excitement! Witness the joy! Shape the vision!

ST. PAUL'S VISION STATEMENT (adopted 02/25/2018)

- To worship as a diverse community of all ages
- To engage in faith formation as a community grounded in God's word
- To maintain with depth and integrity the work of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless
- To nurture a strong foundation of generosity, giving, and caring for creation
- To provide a music ministry that encompasses congregation and surrounding communities

Worship at Home and Away

When we cannot be together in person, we can still hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. Therefore, we offer the 10 AM service through simultaneous live streaming to St. Paul's Facebook page. The service is then posted to the website, www.stpaulsnewarkde.org and can be found in the upper right hand corner of the home page, along with a digital copy of this worship folder.

**Large print worship folders and hearing assistance devices
are available in the narthex. Ask an usher for assistance.**

**A Prayground is available for young children
in the rear of the sanctuary.**

✠ GATHERING ✠

*Worship begins with God who takes the initiative and calls us into being.
We gather at the Holy Spirit's invitation and assemble as the community of faith
on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.*

*Upon entering the sanctuary, the people pray silently or engage in quiet meditation
allowing the music to focus their attention on God and God's kingdom.*

The sanctuary doors will be closed as worship begins with the prelude.

PRELUDE

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

arr. J. S Bach

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

BWV 659

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might, we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst, we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

Amen.

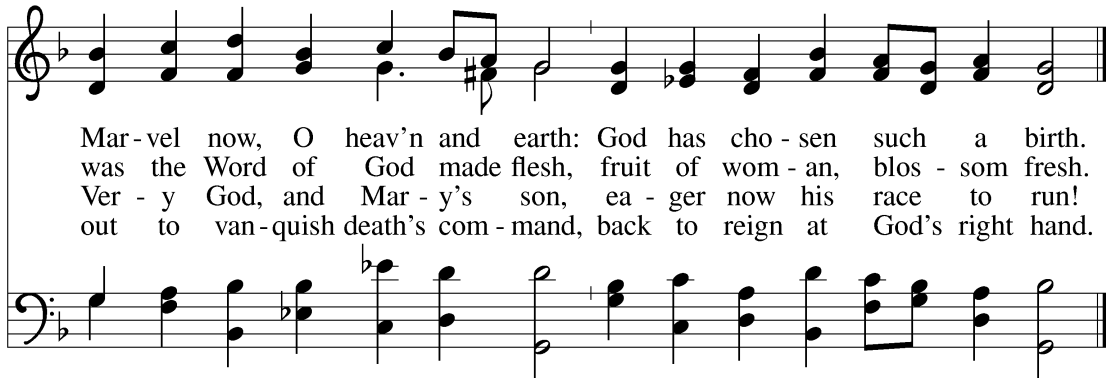
ENTRANCE HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW 263



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
3 Won - drous birth— oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Choir: Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Savior is born.
Love is a flame that burns in our hearts,
Jesus has come and will never depart.

The assembly joins the choir in singing:



When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be
first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall
be a - fraid, none shall be a - fraid.

RESPONSIVE LITANY

In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ's coming will bring us love.

For those who are forsaken and alone

Christ will bring us love.

For those who are angry and hostile

Christ will bring us love.

For those who have turned away from personal interaction

Christ will bring us love.

For those who are pariahs, touched by scandal
Christ will bring us love.

CANDLELIGHTING

Today we light four candles. The first candle lights the way to hope. The second is for a world at peace. The third is for the joy of anticipation as we wait for the Christ child to be born. Finally, the fourth candle warms our hearts with the love Christ will bring us.

The assembly joins the choir in singing:



When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be
first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall
be a - afraid, none shall be a - afraid.

CLOSING PRAYER

O Lord God, there is nothing greater than the love you showed us when you gave your only Son to a world in dire need of his ministry. Help us to accept this love freely into our hearts so we can become more faithful vessels of your glory. We pray this in your name, O God.

Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

From Bethlehem comes a ruler

A reading from Micah:

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore they shall be given up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of the ruler's kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And the ruler shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now the ruler shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

Lord, we wait impatiently for you.
You are with us in your word.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 80:1-7

Antiphon: Ps. 80:7

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

³ Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴ O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

I have come to do your will

A reading from Hebrews:

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸ When Christ said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),

⁹ then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” Christ abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lord, we wait impatiently for you.

You are with us in your word.

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 6



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-55]

My soul magnifies the Lord

The Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me:

holy is the name of the Lord,

⁵⁰ whose mercy is for the God-fearing

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ The arm of the Lord is filled with strength,

scattering the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² God has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ God has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ God has helped Israel, the Lord's servant,

in remembrance of mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise God made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Cris Frigm

Please stand, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

ELW 265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



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



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



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

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith:

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

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

God our uniter, increase communication and cooperation in our relationships with those of other traditions and religions. Root your church in the radical message of your incarnation, and enable us to pursue your justice in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God our creator, we praise you for the beauty that surrounds us. Awaken in us a renewed sense of care for the wildlife in our communities. Form us into faithful stewards of what you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God our sovereign, Mary proclaims a new way of life that lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things. Nurture in local governments and municipalities a desire to care for all who are overlooked and ignored. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God our beacon, as the northern hemisphere begins its slow turn toward more daylight, remind us that even in the deepest nights, you are there. Comfort the lonely and bereaved. Hold closely the frightened, anxious, depressed, and ill, especially Will, Bob, Rich, Kara, Eric, Silas, Jim, Dot, Jenny, Jane, Judy, Stan, Janice, Claude, Nancy, Jane, Paul, Pat, Margaret, Jay, Rob, Marie, Susan, Michael, JoEllen, Elizabeth, Melissa, Ginny, Gary, Isabella, Heyward, Olive and Jim. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God our guide, shepherd the leadership of this congregation and of our partners in ministry in the Delaware-Maryland Synod. Bless congregational councils and staff in discerning future ministry and open their hearts to the voices of the community. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God our life, you remember the promises you have made to your people. In gratitude for those who have died, especially The Reverend Susan Nagel, Karen, Gary, Sheri, and Ruth, we praise you for your faithfulness throughout history. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The assembly exchanges Christ's peace
in word and gesture, saying,*

Peace be with you.

Be seated.

*At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask **visitors** to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask **members** to update any changes to their information so our records can be maintained.*

✠ MEAL ✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts for service and mission.

OFFERTORY

“Advent Song”

Russell Nagy

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand, as you are able.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray. Creator God,
you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

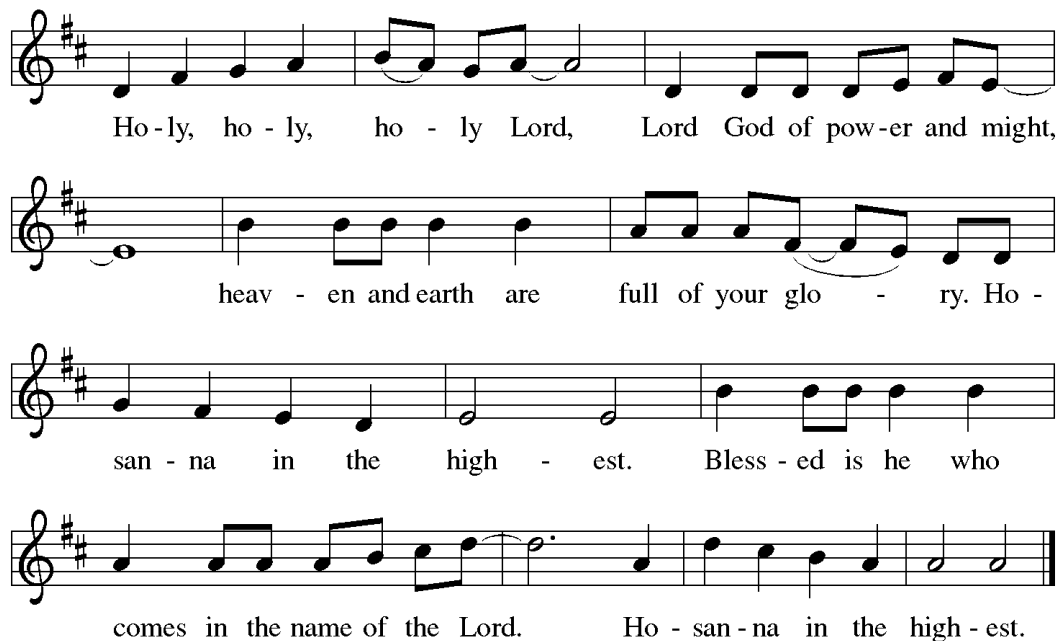
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav - en 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

We will be led in this holy season
to the place of our hope and redemption,
even as we pray, saying:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.


INVITATION TO THE TABLE

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

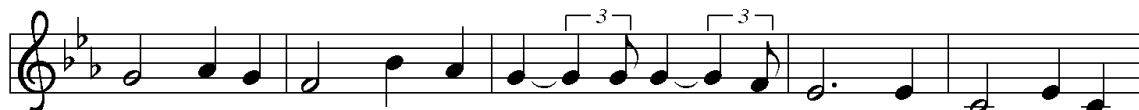
As we wait and wonder, let us also be fed.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

ELW Setting 6



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



Be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.



All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.

Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257

Found on p. 16

No Wind at the Window

ACS 906

Found on p. 17





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*



1 No wind at the win - dow, no knock on the door;
2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, don't hide from my face.
3 This child must be born that the king - dom might come:
4 No pay - ment was prom - ised, no prom - is - es made;



no light from the lamp - stand, no foot on the floor;
Be glad that you're fa - vored and filled with God's grace.
sal - va - tion for man - y, de - struc - tion for some;
no wed - ding was dat - ed, no blue - print dis - played.



no dream born of tired - ness, no ghost raised by fear:
The time for re - deem - ing the world has be - gun,
both end and be - gin - ning, both mes - sage and sign;
Yet Mar - y, con - sent - ing to what none could guess,



just an an - gel and a wom - an and a voice in her ear.
and . . . you are re - quest - ed to . . . moth - er God's Son."
both . . vic - tor and . . vic - tim, both . . yours and di - vine.
re - plied with con - vic - tion, "Tell . . God I say yes."

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: COLUMCILLE, Irish melody

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After all have returned to their places, please stand, as you are able.

BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey, † bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

People, Look East
ELW 248

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
 Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

arr. David Cherwien

ANTIOCH



ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Marjorie Chin
Lector: Eric Mease
Bread Provider: Sherry Mench
Altar Guild: Janet Mease
Flower Guild: Janet Mease



The greens are given
to the glory and praise of God.



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*Here I am, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word.*

Luke 1:38



ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)

We come to the threshold of the celebration. The time is right; the place, Bethlehem of Judah, is identified; Mary's song announces the great things God is doing. A new day is being birthed into existence and we are meant to be a part of it. This final Sunday of preparation leads to the darkness of Christmas Eve and the dawn of Christmas Day, where the mystery unfolds again.

WEEKLY E-BLAST

We have made some changes to our weekly email of announcements. If you have not received your email, please contact Jerilynn Hinrichs, Office Administrator, at splcstaff@gmail.com so she can update your email address in our database.

ADULT FORUM

Our Adult Forums are taking a Christmas break, so there will be NO Adult Forums on Sunday, December 29. We'll return on Sunday, January 5, as we begin a three-week series on Reconciliation in Christ.

HILLTOP CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Gifts for the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center are due this morning. Please bring them to the Fellowship Hall by 10 AM for transport after worship to Hilltop.

A YEAR END OPPORTUNITY

The end of the calendar year is fast approaching, but our HERE and BEYOND campaigns are still rolling along. The BEYOND portion is up to \$15,870, more than 130% of our original target of \$12,000. Meanwhile, the HERE part of the program is at \$326,740, which is 96% of our \$341,000 goal for that effort. So to all of you who have already pledged – including the 8 families who revised their pledges upward last week -a special note of thanks for your dedication to our ministries and programs.

If you haven't made your pledge yet, a link to the online pledge card is included below, and there are cards on the Communications Table. You can mail them in, put them in the Offering Plate on Sunday, or drop them in the Gold Box any time.

https://stpaulsnewarkde.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Pledge-Card-Sept_2024-1-1.pdf

BOOKS AND BANTER

St. Paul's avid readers meet the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1 PM in the Youth Room. If you have a book that you would like to share with the group, please let us know. Please join us for conversation and fellowship.

Upcoming Books:

January 22 "I am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai (*Back to fourth Wednesday*)

HOLY HIKE

Love to enjoy walking in the great outdoors? Please plan to join us on Saturday, January 19 at 11:30 AM as we plan our schedule for the coming year. Questions? Please contact Linda Grund at lgrund923@gmail.com or Rudy Schock at rschock324@gmail.com We hope to grow our group this year and welcome input on when and where you would like to hike!

OLDER WISER LUTHERANS

For all those OWLS (Older Wiser LutheranS) in our community, please plan to join us on Wednesday January 8 at 11:30 AM for our annual planning session. Can't make that date? Please remit your outing suggestions to Linda Grund at lgrund923@gmail.com or Bill Saylor at bsaylor2@verizon.net.

BREWING THEOLOGY

For everyone 21 and older, please plan to join us on Wednesday, January 8, at 7 PM at the Delaware Saengerbund for a tasty beverage, some snacks, and some hearty conversation as we plan our schedule for the upcoming year. If you have any questions, please speak to coordinators Rudy Schock or Linda Grund.

YOUTHERAN HOLIDAY GATHERING – GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Young Lutherans of the Delmarva North Conference will have a Christmas Party and Gift Exchange today, Sunday, December 22, at 5 PM at Grace Lutheran Church, Hockessin. They will make Christmas cookies and exchange gifts of \$10 value. Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to this evening of holiday fun. Questions? Contact Pastor Zachary Wright (pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com).

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Due to Christmas and New Year's falling on Wednesdays, please submit announcements to the church office by 10 AM on Mondays, December 23 and 30.



**WORSHIP WITH US THIS CHRISTMAS
AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24

4 PM FAMILY SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Special children's message by Pastor Cris Frigm

**7 PM CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE
OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Preceded by a half hour of music for handbells, harp & organ at 6:30 PM

First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 29—10:00 AM

LESSONS AND CAROLS WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, January 5—10:00 AM

CAROL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sounds of the Season Concert—4:00 PM

Presented by St. Paul's Ministry of Music and Chamber Orchestra
with guests from the Chorus of the Osber Lifelong Learning Institute



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.



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Church Council

Anne Sullivan, *President*

Barb Rhodes, *Vice President*

Heidi Burch, *Secretary*

Mary Collins, *Treasurer*

Kristine Cassar, Winnie Hull, Greg Johnson,

Susie Olson, Emily Pierce

Early Education Director

St. Paul's Lutheran School

302-368-0064 ext. 118

stpaulschool@comcast.net

St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry

Send prayer requests to:

prayonstpauls@gmail.com

Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at 10 AM. Late submissions will be shared the following week. Please send articles to the church office at splcstaff@gmail.com.

**WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES
OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH?
THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE**

