



St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

The Rev. Javier Almendárez-Bautista, Celebrant
The Rev. Candy Snively, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
DECEMBER 10, 2023

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Processional

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Hymn 67

Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

The Celebrant says

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People

You come to your people and set them free.

The Celebrant says

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

The following is sung.

Trisagion

Holy God

Hymnal S 99

(Sung Three Times)

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Children's Processional

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Hymn 65

Verse 1

Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

A Reading from Second Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual

There's A Voice in the Wilderness Crying

Hymn 75

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
 Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

The Rev. Candy Snively

Nicene Creed

All who are able, stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

People's Response: *Come, Lord Jesus, Come.*

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All who are able, kneel. Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

BCP 360

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Peace

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Announcements

If you would like to donate online, follow the QR code found on the giving card in the back of the pews.

At the end of the announcements, you are also welcome to come forward to make a special donation to Heifer International, a non-profit organization whose mission is to end hunger and poverty, to mark an anniversary, blessing, or other event.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory

Adam Lay Ybounden
St. Paul's Choir

John Ireland

Offertory Response

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.

Eucharistic Prayer 2

Enriching Our Worship 1

The people remain standing.

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

The Celebrant proceeds.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymnal S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____

hea - ven and earth are full, _____ full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes _____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

People and Celebrant

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

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S164

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

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to come forward for communion, including children. Please follow the ushers' guidance as you come to the rail.

If you would like to receive the wine by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup), keep the bread in your hands and wait for the communion server to come to you.

If you would like to receive from the common cup (drinking from the cup directly), please consume the bread first and then make your way to the steps at the end of the rail. A communion server will be there with the common cup.

If it is not your custom to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest and the minister will offer a prayer.

A priest is also available to provide prayers for healing in the back southwest corner of the church. Simply head to the back during communion distribution and wait for your turn.

The Communion Music

O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light
O Food to Pilgrims Given

Hymn 63
Hymn 309

If you are at home or otherwise unable to take communion, you may say the following prayer.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Final Prayer

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food as we hear your Word proclaimed and gather at your holy Table. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Recessional

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Hymn 59

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

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DECEMBER 10, 2023

New to St. Paul's? Please let us know you are here by filling out a visitor card in the pew. Stop by our Welcome Station in the narthex (lobby) to chat with Greeters and find materials that might help if you are new to St. Paul's or the Episcopal Church. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to learn more.

Children's Chapel: Children ages 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to process to Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. service and return to their families during announcements.

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Hosted this week by the Eucharistic Ministers Ministry. Join us after the 9 a.m. service for coffee and conversation.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our Advent series *Waiting with the Great Cloud of Witnesses* continues today with "The Holy Family" presented by Fr. Javier.

Children's Sunday School (Education Building): Children are meeting in the church sanctuary from 10:15-11 a.m. for Christmas Pageant rehearsal.

Youth Sunday School (Youth Wing): Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Meets this evening for fun and fellowship from 5-7 p.m. in the Youth Wing.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newcomer Tour: Those new or newly returned to St. Paul's who wish to know more can join a tour of our campus on the third Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m. No sign up is necessary; meet at the welcome area in the narthex (lobby).

Lessons and Carols: Mark your calendars for this evening at 4 p.m. as the St. Paul's Choir and the Bells of St. Paul's present the traditional Anglican service of Advent Lessons and Carols, directed by Minister of Music Rusty McKinney. A light reception will follow the service, presented by the Fellowship Events Team. Invite friends and plan to join us for this beautiful, peaceful celebration in Advent. Childcare is available from 3:45-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Contemplative Services in Advent: Join the clergy in the St. Paul's Chapel at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays in Advent for a contemplative Eucharist service. We will use the readings for Advent as our guide and have ample time for meditation and reflection.

Donate a Christmas Poinsettia: Donate a poinsettia for our Christmas services to honor the special people in your life! Christmas poinsettia envelopes are available now in the pews. Fill out the envelope with your name and the information about your loved one (s), noting whether it is given in memory of or in thanksgiving for them. Enclose \$35 per plant; drop the envelope in the collection plate or in the office by December 10; plants may be taken home after the Christmas Day service at 10 a.m.

Note in the Pocket Clothing Drive: Please help our Pre-EYC (4th and 5th graders) support Note in the Pocket by donating gently used clothing and shoes as well as new socks and underwear, now through December 17. All sizes (infant-adult) of garments are needed. The donation bin is located in the church hallway near the choir room.

Christmas Pageant: Children are hard at work on St. Paul's annual Christmas Pageant, but it's not too late to join in this treasured tradition! Rehearsals occur during Sunday School this morning, and on Saturday, December 16 from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The pageant will take place during the 9 a.m. service on December 17, followed by a festive "cast party" coffee hour for the entire congregation. There is plenty of room in the stable for additional angels, shepherds and animals if you have not yet signed up. Contact Melanie Williams (melanie@moyer.net) for more information.

Heifer International Donations: During the Christmas season, you are invited to honor family and friends with an Alternate Gift Giving opportunity, donating to Heifer International to support their mission of working with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth. For every \$10 donated, you may pick up a Heifer International Greeting Card (located in the narthex/lobby) for loved ones you wish to honor in this way. Donations can be placed in the Heifer Ark during the Offertory on Sunday mornings, mailed to the church office, or completed online through the St. Paul's Heifer donation webpage. Please make out checks to St. Paul's Episcopal Church with Heifer International written on the memo line. Questions can be directed to Alison Arnold at alisonarnold@gmail.com.

Upcoming Service Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 24)

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Christmas Eve Services (December 24)

4 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Children's Homily

7 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Christmas Day (December 25)

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

First Sunday after Christmas (December 31)

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prayer List: Dave, Walt, Bob, Peggy, Christa, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Wendy, Clarence and Susan, Jodi, Lynn, Laura, Margaret, Ava, Millie, Mary Jo, Sally, Bob, Thomas, Coby, Mary , Cindy, Nancy, Virginia, Daija, Lindsey, Des, Megan, Mary, Christine, Lizzie, Kathy, Russell, Alton, Doug, Jill, Jane and Roger, Guy , Cody, Margie, Katie, Michael, Jule, Janet, Ron, Liz, Cathy, Alan, John, Jessica, Nancy, Robert, Dianne, Sherry, John, Mary, Alison, Susan and family of Barb.

In the prayer for the deceased, we pray for Jim Caldwell, cousin of Barb Prillaman; and David Wall, cousin of Barb Prillaman.

If you have a name you would like to include on the prayer list, or a ministry event that you would like to announce in this printed bulletin, please send information to announcements@stpaulscary.org. Please note that there is a 2-week lead time on printed announcements.



St. Paul's Website