

St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

The Rev. Alice Graham Grant, Celebrant
The Christmas Pageant

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
DECEMBER 17, 2023

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Processional

Hark! The Glad Sound!

Hymn 72

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.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A Reading from Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,

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.

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.*

BCP 360

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

BCP 360

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

People, Look East
St. Paul's Choir

arr. Russell McKinney

Offertory Response

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

Eucharistic Prayer 2

The people remain standing.

Enriching Our Worship 1

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



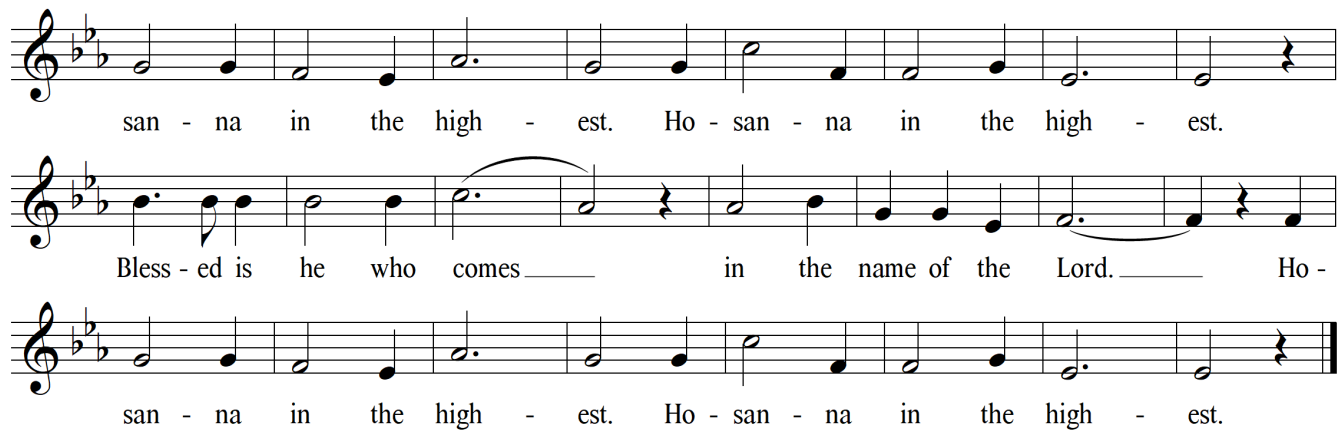
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,___



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.

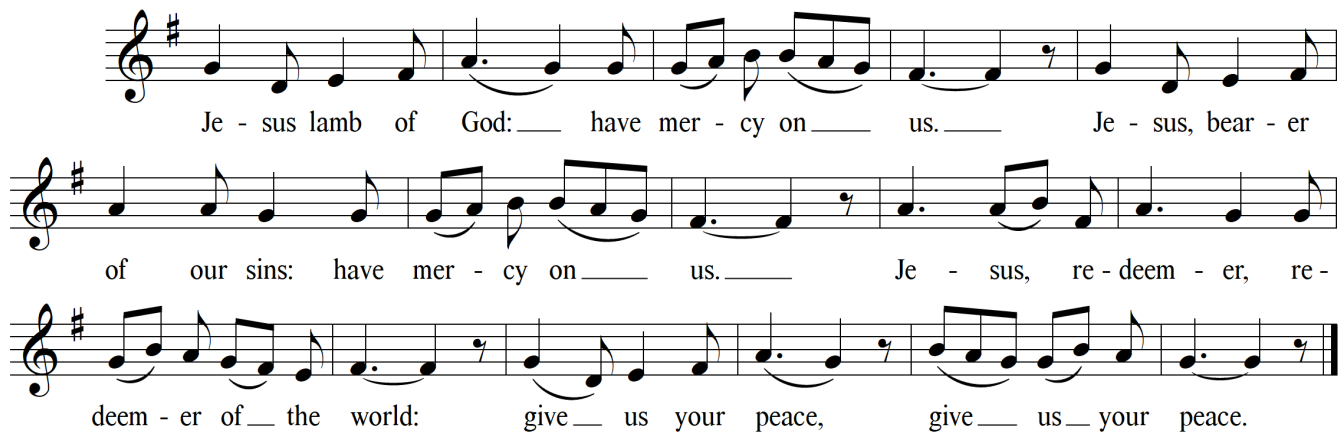
Breaking of the Bread

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

The Great Forerunner of the Morn
Savior of the Nations Come

Hymn 272
Hymn 54

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

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Hymn 76

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Rite Stuff, Copyright © 1999-2014 Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved.

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725331.

All music is licensed for broadcast through CCS WORSHIPCast License #9427.

MISSION STATEMENT

Worship. Serve. Grow.

Church Phone: 919-467-1477 Fax: 919-467-0152
Web Site: www.stpaulscary.org

The Rev. George Adamik, Rector
The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Associate Rector
The Rev. Alice Graham Grant, Associate Rector
The Rev. Antoinette Wike, Priest Associate
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Minister of Music
Carol Yeargin, Organist

x 13 | George.Adamik@stpaulscary.org
x 12 | Javier@stpaulscary.org
x 39 | Alice@stpaulscary.org
Tony.Wike@stpaulscary.org
Candy.Snively@stpaulscary.org
x 15 | Rusty.McKinney@stpaulscary.org
Carol.Yeargin@stpaulscary.org

DECEMBER 17, 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: No Children's Chapel today; enjoy the Pageant!

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Join us after the 9 a.m. service for a special Cast Party Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to celebrate the work of our children and the Pageant Committee.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our Advent series *Waiting with the Great Cloud of Witnesses* continues today with "St. Gregory of Nazianzus on the Incarnation" presented by Devin McGinnis.

Children's Sunday School (Education Building): No classes this morning; please join us for the pageant cast party.

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

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Meets this evening for our white elephant gift exchange and Ugly Sweater Party. Join us from 5-7 p.m. in the Youth Wing. Bring a friend!

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

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 (today) at 10:15 a.m. No sign up is necessary; meet at the welcome area in the narthex (lobby).

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.

Note in the Pocket Clothing Drive: Today is the final day of our Pre-EYC (4th and 5th graders) clothing drive to support Note in the Pocket. Donate gently used clothing and shoes as well as new socks and underwear. All sizes (infant-adult) of garments are needed. The donation bin is located in the church hallway near the choir room.

Christmas Pageant: Thank you to all the children, youth volunteers and their families for bringing the Christmas story to life in the St. Paul's Christmas Pageant; a special thank you to Pageant Director Melanie Williams. We hope that you will join us following the 9 a.m. service for a special Cast Party Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall, celebrating all their hard work!

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.

Holiday Office Hours: The church office will be closed the week of December 26; office hours resume on January 2. Please remember that donations postmarked through December 31 will be credited to 2023 for tax purposes, regardless of the date received.

January Adult Formation Book Study on Zoom: Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. on Zoom starting January 3 for a discussion of “Breathing Under Water” by Richard Rohr. This work invites us to see how we might change our fixed ways of thinking, allowing us to break unwanted habits that may mask an unhealthy dependency on people, places and things. Learn more on the website or by contacting Annie Ritter at annicorn60@gmail.com.

Children's Communion Class begins January 21: Children in 1st through 3rd grade are invited to join a communion class (3 sequential sessions meet Sunday January 21, 28 and February 4 from 10:15 - 11 a.m.). The class offers a learning experience about the meaning of the rite; the class is not a prerequisite for children's communion participation. A Communion Celebration will take place at a festive Coffee Hour on February 11. A registration link will be available in January.

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, family of Bar, Micheal, Randal, and Don.

In the prayer for the deceased, Doris Klieforth, sister of Bill Fierke.

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