

*Celebrating Christ's Presence  
In a Changing World*

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*



*Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2022  
5:00 pm  
11:00 pm*

*Welcome to St. Paul's! We are so happy you are with us today. If you are new or visiting, please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate.*

**Prelude**    *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Kevin Hildebrand (1973-)

**The Hymnal 1982 #83 (v. 1-3)**

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels;

***Refrain:***

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

2 God from God,  
Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only-begotten  
Son of the Father; ***Refrain***

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God,  
glory in the highest; ***Refrain***

*ADESTE FIDELES; John Francis Wade, 1711-1786*

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.  
*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

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 Hymnal 1982 #96**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

1. Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.

***Refrain:***

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear? ***Refrain***

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. ***Refrain***

4. See him in a manger laid,  
whom the angels praise above;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while we raise our hearts in love. ***Refrain***

*GLORIA; Arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1887-1958*

## **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*The people sit for the readings.*

### **First Lesson**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 98

*The Cantor sings the verses, and the People sing the refrain.*



Shout with joy be- fore the Lord, lift up your voice and sing-----!

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory. **Refrain**
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. **Refrain**
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD. **Refrain**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity. **Refrain**

## The Epistle

## Hebrews 1:1-12

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

*Reader*     Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people  
*People*     **Thanks be to God**

*All stand as they are able.*

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
 \* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - cry load.

Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. St. 3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

## The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

*Celebrant*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
                         according to Luke.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

*Celebrant*        The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

*All stand*

**Nicene Creed**

*BCP 358*

**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.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, you knew both the love and the challenges of human family; we pray for our own families and our church family, that we may be a havens of love and support. And we remember especially all those among us for whom Christmas is more a time of sadness than of joy. Jesus, Saviour,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, your cradle was a manger and your first home a stable; we pray for all those who do not have a place to call home, and we remember all refugees, especially those who have had to flee their homes in Ukraine. Jesus, Saviour,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, you shared the stable with animals and were bathed in starlight; we give thanks for all creation, and we remember especially the animals who join our families and gladden our lives. Jesus, Saviour,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus, you were worshipped by shepherds and kings; we pray for the leaders of the nations and for peace to reign throughout the world, and we remember especially all those who we personally have elected to serve the common good. Jesus, Saviour,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor* Lord Jesus our Emmanuel, your name reminds us that you are always near; we pray for those who are sick, those who are struggling, those who are lonely, those who mourn, and anyone for whom this season is one of sadness. And as we all remember those we love but see no longer, reassure us of the heavenly rest they now enjoy. Jesus, Saviour,  
*People* **hear our prayer.**



*Celebrant,*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*Sanctus, The Hymnal 1982 #S -125*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



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



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

*The Celebrant continues,*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. 🛎

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, and when he had given thanks, he 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.” 🛎🛎🛎

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.



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

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

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Agnus Dei, The Hymnal 1982 #S -161*

Musical notation for the hymn 'Agnus Dei'. It consists of four treble clef staves with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics are: 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.' The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens under the 'a' notes in the first line and 'mer' in the second line. The final line ends with a double bar line.

*Celebrant:* 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.

*Everyone is invited to Holy Communion. Gluten free bread is available. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of bread and wine, please cross your hands over your chest.*

**Communion Anthem**

St. Paul's Choir

*"Were You There On That Christmas Night"*

Natalie Sleeth (1934-1992)

*After Communion, the Celebrant prays,*

O Lord Jesus Christ, in this wonderful Sacrament you have given us a memorial of your Passion: be with those who are worshipping with us online, that as they meditate upon the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood they may perceive within themselves the fruit of your redemption and be nourished by your holy presence in their lives. Amen.

*Celebrant and People,*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated. An usher will come to light your candle.*

**Candle lighting Anthem**  
St Paul's Choir

*"Peace, Peace"*  
Rick & Sylvia Powell

**The Hymnal 1982 #111**

***Silent Night***

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly  
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl II. Reinecke (1824-1910).

The Celebrant blesses the people.

The Hymnal 1982 #87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heav - en a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right - cous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

*Celebrant*            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People*                **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**            *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*                      Robert A. Hobby (1962-)

### *Dedications*

FLOWERS TO WELCOME THE CHRIST CHILD are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband David Stewart & and our son David by Marilou Stewart; and in loving memory of my dear husband Rick By Sally Mckinnon.

GREENS AT THE CRECHE are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy Fennell by her son Reginald Fennell.

FLOWERS AT THE CHANCEL STEPS are given to the glory of God by the parishioners of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

THE AUMBRY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK TO WELCOME THE CHRIST CHILD and is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the Kobs & Leavitt families & Louisa Beaman by Dorothy Kobs.

*If you would like to dedicate altars flowers or the aumbry candle, please contact Cheryl Gumper directly or our church office. There are still some openings in the 2023 calendar.*

## *Announcements*

- As you make year-end charitable Christmas gifts, please consider our Discretionary Fund, which our Rector uses to make confidential, charitable gifts to people need. Loose cash from the offering plate goes to this fund as do checks mailed or put in the offering plate marked “Discretionary Fund.”
- 2023 Pledge Update: So far we have received pledges representing only two-thirds of our 2022 pledged amount of \$230,000, which is our goal again for 2023. If you have not yet submitted a 2023 pledge, please do so soon. If you have, please prayerfully consider an increase. You may email Marco at [financial@stpauljxmi.org](mailto:financial@stpauljxmi.org) or place a pledge card in the mail or in the offering plate. Pledge cards are available on the table at the back of the church or by contacting Alice in the parish office.
- There will be one service only at 10:30 am (tomorrow) Christmas Day and next Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, when all children of the parish are invited to take part in a Nativity Pageant.
- The church office will be closed next week from Monday December 26 through Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be no Bible Study or Eucharist on Wednesday, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>.
- **Save the dates:** The next Interim Forum with Fr. Jadon is between services on January 15th. The St. Paul’s Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023 after the 10:30 am worship service.

## Worship Ministers

5:00 pm - *The Rev. Jadon Hartsuff, Celebrant and Preacher; Julie Baglien, Organist; Jeff Wilkinson, Choir Director; Natalie Magnusson, 1<sup>st</sup> Reader; Eric Magnusson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader; Melaina Magnusson, Intercessor, LEM & Acolyte; Zoë Magnusson, Acolyte; Dennis Marsh, LEM & Acolyte; Sue Hammett, LEM & Acolyte, Bill Boody, Deanna & John Leicht, Ushers.*

11:00 pm - *The Rev. Jadon Hartsuff, Celebrant and Preacher; Julie Baglien, Organist; Jeff Wilkinson, Choir Director; Joe Lathrop, LEM & Acolyte; Tom Holsinger-Friesen– 1st Reader; Samuel Holsinger-Friesen, Intercessor & Acolyte; Leah Holsinger-Friesen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader & Acolyte; Bob Fowler, LEM Floyd Covey, Kyle King, Ben & Elaine Themm, Ushers*

*Special thanks to our tech team & St. Paul's Choir*

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