

St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, Celebrant
The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
DECEMBER 1, 2024

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 S99

(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.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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 (Vs. 1)

Hymn 65

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

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A Reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 25:1-9

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A Reading from First Thessalonians.

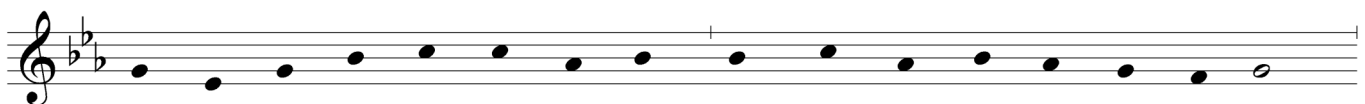
How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People *Thanks be to God.***Gradual**

Rejoice, Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor alme siderum

1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.
you came; O Sa - vior, to set free your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty
praise, hon - or, might and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great

glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

Homily

The Rev. Stephanie Yancy

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.

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

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

BCP 360

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

Never Weather-Beaten Sail
St. Paul's Choir

Charles Wood

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.

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.

The Communion Music

"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us
Once He Came in Blessing

Hymn 61
Hymn 53

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.

Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. Amen.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Recessional

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymn 57

Dismissal

Deacon
People

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

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Worship. Serve. Grow.

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

The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, Bridge Priest
The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Bridge Priest
The Rev. Antoinette Wike, Priest Associate
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Minister of Music
Carol Yeargin, Organist

x 12 | javier@stpaulscary.org
x 39 | jcarr.holland@stpaulscary.org
x 13 | stephanie.yancy@stpaulscary.org
tony.wike@stpaulscary.org
candy.snively@stpaulscary.org
x 15 | rusty.mckinney@stpaulscary.org
carol.yeargin@stpaulscary.org

TODAY – DECEMBER 1, 2024

New to St. Paul's? Welcome! 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. Join a tour of our campus the third Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m. to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to learn more about joining us!

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 St. Nicholas Ministry. Join us after the 9 a.m. service for coffee and conversation.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our Advent series, "Preparing the Way," will begin next Sunday, Dec. 8. Please enjoy the fellowship of Coffee Hour this Sunday.

Children's Sunday School - 5th grade and under (Education Building): Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m.

Youth Sunday School - 6th thru 12th grade (Youth Wing): Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m.

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Evening Contemplative Services in Advent: Join the clergy in the Chapel at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, beginning Dec. 4, for a contemplative Eucharist service. We will use the readings for Advent as our guide and have ample time for meditation and reflection.

St. Nicholas Day: The St. Nicholas Tree is in the narthex, ready for you to select tags and do your shopping! The need is greater this year, so there are still tags available. Invite neighbors and friends to be part of this giving experience. All the details are available on the St. Paul's website, or by contacting Colette Hibberd at hibberdfamily@yahoo.com. As a reminder, all gifts should be brought to the church on or before Dec. 8, when St. Nicholas makes his annual visit to St. Paul's at the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services.

Lessons and Carols: Mark your calendars for Sunday, Dec. 8 at 4 p.m. as the St. Paul's Choir and the Bells of St. Paul's present the service of Advent Lessons and Carols, directed by Minister of Music Rusty McKinney, accompanied by Organist Carol Yeargin. A light reception will follow the service. Invite friends and plan to join us for an afternoon of beautiful music and scripture readings in the Anglican Tradition. Childcare is available from 3:45-5:30 p.m.

Children's Ministries Christmas Caroling at Glenaire: Please join us at Glenaire Retirement Community at 6 p.m. on Dec. 8 to sing Christmas Carols, enjoy snacks, and share a special time together during the season of Advent. Children have been practicing songs during Chapel and Sunday School classes. We will be delivering the cards made at St. Paul's to the residents during this time, and a resident of Glenaire will be reading a bedtime story! Contact Natalie Sroka at natalie@stpaulscary.org for more information.

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 15; plants may be taken home after the 10 a.m. Christmas Day service.

Alternate Gift Giving Supporting Heifer International this Christmas: During this giving season, you are invited to honor family and friends by giving a gift in the form of a donation to Heifer International, supporting Heifer's mission to end world hunger and poverty. 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 donation checks to St. Paul's with Heifer International written on the memo line. After donating, pick up a Heifer International card (located in the narthex/lobby) to send to those in whose name you have given your gift, or you can send an eCard. Thank you for your generosity this holiday season, and thank you for helping St. Paul's reach its annual goal of donating \$5000 to "Give a Gift Ark of Animals." Questions can be directed to Alison Arnold at alisonarnold@gmail.com.

Parish Directory of Addresses: We are preparing copies of our directory of names, addresses and phone numbers, for parishioner use only, via print or email. We have made updates based on recent stewardship mailings, capturing address changes through September. If you would like **to opt out** of having your information included, please contact directory@stpaulscary.org and let us know by Dec. 31. Directories will be available in January.

Prayer List: Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Laura, Margaret, Mary, Virginia, Doug, Guy, Katie, Cathy, Alan, Jessica, Sherry, John, Mary, Susan, Clarence, Susan, Mila, Florence, Noah, Sally, Chase, Ronnie, John, Janice, Chris, Bill, John, Randy, Becky, Mike, the Lytvinenko Family, John, Amy, Connor, Louane, Shannon, Rebecca, Mary, Regina, Ray, Myrna, Nathanael, Kailey, David, Lisa, Parrish, Matias, Yosi, Trudy, Lorraine, Ralph, Judy, Jackie, Christy, Mark, and Marty.

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. Names included in the prayer list will remain for a month, and we are happy to extend at your request. Please note that there is a 2-week lead time on printed announcements.

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 29)

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

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II



St. Paul's Website