



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022 • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

The service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer. The service is printed here in its entirety.

The Opening Hymn

Savior of the nations, come!
Hymnal 54

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

First Reader: Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

The candle is lit.

Second Reader: Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. *Amen.*

Congregation Sings

Hymnal 56

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. *Amen.*

The People say together

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 Trisagion

Hymnal S 102

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

Children ages 4-10 are invited to follow the Children's Cross to attend the Children's Chapel, returning during the Peace.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

All may be seated.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm: 80:1-7, 16-18

The psalm is sung by the choir.

- 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.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
 how long will you be angered
 despite the prayers of your people?
- 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; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Sequence Hymn

The angel Gabriel from heaven came
Hymnal 265

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover

A period of silence is kept.

The Nicene Creed

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 — Form III

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People *That we all may be one.*

Intercessor Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Intercessor We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Intercessor We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
People *of the world;*
 That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Intercessor Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or
People *trouble, especially Alice and Mike;*
 That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor Give to the departed eternal rest;
People *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Intercessor We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Intercessor We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially
Stephi, Elizabeth, Robbin, Scott, Pat, Leigh, Urijah, and Ben.

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 Absolution

Celebrant

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.*

The Peace

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

Blessings and Thanksgivings

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

On Jordan's Bank
Malcom Archer

The Presentation Hymn

O come, o come Emmanuel
Hymnal 56

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved

Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 125

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



Setting: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943)

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

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.*

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Healing Intercessors are available in the chapel for prayer during communion.

Communion Anthem

Ave Verum Corpus
Robert Pearsal

The Communion Hymn

Jesus came, adorned by angels
Hymnal 454

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
Hymnal 437

The Dismissal

Remember in your prayers:

A Prayer for Love: (From The Daughters of the King) Bless us with Love, O Merciful God; That we may love as you love. That we may show patience, tolerance, kindness, caring, and love to all. Bless us with your love.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Alice Jakubiak, Elisabeth Stubbs, Bo Warren, Barbara Parsons, Debra Bull, George Robinson, Ronnie Peoples, Mike Maus.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Brink Howard, Wendy Llosa, William Partridge, David Bottoms, Greg Parsons, George Abbot-Maze, Melody Wegienka, Robin Carroll, Melanie Patton, Father Bruno, Ed Sergeant, Michael Brown, Ernie Williams, David Sandlin, Sharmona Moultrie, Vanessa Smalls.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Renee, Mark, Philip, Frankey, Polly, Tony, Marianne, Virginia, Lauren and for the Rector and Staff: Hazel, Mark, Mason, Dawn, Cynthia, Elisabeth, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg, Ryan Whitfield, Stephen Malcom.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Stephi McDonnell, Elizabeth Ream, Robbin Steed, Scott Cummins, Pat Farmer, Leigh Copeland, Urijah Baucom, Ben Marchman.

We pray for those who have died. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.*

Service Participants

Vestry Person of the Week	Polly Hopkins
Vergers	Dwight Ellison & Tony King
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Frances Honea, Katie McBride-Newman, & David Waldron
Acolytes	Carolina Hawes (1st); Meredith Brown (2nd); Liam Bulford (Banner); Victoria & Rhett Eversoll (Torchbearers)
Reader	Lauren Gallagher
Healing Intercessors	Lou Graner & Frank West
Ushers	Mike Scott, Mike Gallagher, Amy Jones, Daryl Jones, Brother Massenburg, Michele Mattera, Bill Stemberger

Parish Notices

Stewardship Campaign 2023: We are now several weeks into our annual Stewardship Campaign. As we quickly approach the Holiday season and the New Year, your vestry is hard at work planning the budgets necessary to support the ministries of St. Paul's. It is vital to the health of our parish that we receive enough pledges to ensure both the continuation of our current ministries as well as the launch of potential new ministries. Pledge cards are available in the narthex.

Adult Formation: *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis is the latest book study for our adult formation class. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. in the parish hall as we look at a classic with 21st-century eyes and ideas. We welcome all, and we have a wonderful time relating our lives and St. Paul's with the literature that we use as the background for our discussions. *The Great Divorce* is an allegorical story about a bus ride from hell to heaven, so there is a lot to unpack in a concise book.

Christmas Pageant: Rehearsal day and times have changed. The children will rehearse on Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. service. The final dress rehearsal will be Friday, December 23rd at 10 a.m. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Dawn Harrison at 678.378.2097 or dawnie.harrison@gmail.com.

Wednesday Night Supper: Come and spend time with the St. Paul's family for Wednesday Night Supper! The cost is *free* for children under 3, \$3 for children 3-10, \$6 for children 11 and older, and adults. Families pay a maximum of \$20. A signup sheet is available on the bulletin board outside the Parish Hall, email admin@stpaulsnewnan.org, or register and pay via Realm. Please sign up before *Tuesdays at 12 p.m.* so that we can make sure to order enough food.

Ordination: All are invited as Mark Johnson will be ordained as a deacon on Saturday, December 17th at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Philip. Additionally, a reception for Mark will be held in the Parish Hall of St. Paul's on Sunday, December 18th after the 10:30 a.m. service.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Consider giving! The next St. Paul's American Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023.

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour will be available after the 10:30 a.m. service in the Parish Hall. For anyone who is interested in joining the Coffee Hour ministry please contact Nikki Henderson via email at Nikki.Henderson@cowetaschools.net for more information about how to get involved. Come for further fellowship with the St. Paul's family.

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests for the parish prayer list or the confidential Daughters of the King prayer list may be submitted online, via admin@stpaulsnewnan.org, or you may also contact Hazel+ directly.

Altar Flower Dedications: A lovely way to remember a loved one or celebrate an anniversary or birthday is to donate altar flowers for that special day. The cost of the arrangements is \$50 per Sunday. Sign up for a particular Sunday at the bulletin board outside the Parish Hall or email admin@stpaulsnewnan.org. Please remember to submit payment via the collection plate or Realm and complete the "Flowers for the Altar" form by Wednesday at 12 p.m. to ensure that the commemorating announcement is placed in the bulletin.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover, Rector; **The Rev. Mark S. Johnson**, Deacon; **Mason Copeland**, Organist and Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Cynthia Meisinger**, Children and Youth Director; **Elisabeth Copeland**, Children's Ministry; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Assistant; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Assistant.

VESTRY

Renee Powell, Senior Warden; **Mark LeVan**, Junior Warden; **Lauren Gallagher**, Outreach Liaison; **Philip Hand**, Stewardship Liaison; **Frankey Henderson**, Parish Life Liaison; **Virginia Williams**, Communications Liaison; **Polly Hopkins**, Health and Healing Liaison; **Marianne Lawhead**, Welcoming Liaison; **Tony King**, Compliance and Documentation Liaison.