



# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons*

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023 • 10:30 AM  
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

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

**The Opening Voluntary**

*Prelude on "Veni Emmanuel"*  
arranged by Rhett Barnwell

**The Processional Hymn**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*  
Hymnal 56, vs 1,2,3

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*First Reader:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

*The candle is lit.*

*Second Reader:* Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.

*Congregation Sings*

O come, O Bright and Morning Star, and bring us comfort from afar! Dispel the shadows of the night and turn our darkness into light. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**The Liturgy of the Word**

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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** (*Sung three times*)

Hymnal S 102

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Officiant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*        *And also with you.*

*Officiant*     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.*

*All may be seated.*

### **The First Reading ~ Isaiah 64:1 - 9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of

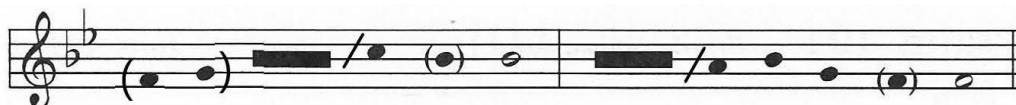
your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

### **The Psalm ~ 80:1 - 7, 16 - 18**

*Sung responsively by the Choir and Congregation, beginning with the Choir.*



CHOIR 1. (*Hear, O*) Shepherd of Israel,' leading Joseph like/a flock; \* (*pause*)  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up/on the cherubim.

**ALL    2. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma/nasseh, \***  
**stir up your strength and/come to help us.**

CHOIR 3. Restore us, O God/of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and/we shall be saved.

**ALL    4. O LORD God/of hosts, \***  
**how long will you be angered despite the prayers/of your people?**

CHOIR 5. You have fed them with the bread/of tears; \*  
you have given them/bowls of tears to drink.

**ALL    6. You have made us the derision of our/neighbors, \***  
**and our enemies/laugh us to scorn.**

CHOIR 7. Restore us, O God/of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and/we shall be saved.

**ALL    16. Let your hand be upon the man of your/right hand, \***  
**the son of man you have made so/strong for yourself.**

CHOIR 17. And so will we never turn away/from you; \*  
give us life, that we may/call upon your Name.

**ALL    18. Restore us, O LORD God/of hosts; \***  
**show the light of your countenance, and/we shall be saved.**

## **The Second Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 1:3 - 9**

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

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

## **The Sequence Hymn**

*Rejoice, rejoice believers*  
Hymnal 68

## **The Holy Gospel ~ Mark 13:24 - 37**

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

*People*        Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each

with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey

*A period of silent prayer.*

## **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 II**

*The People may add their own petitions during the periods of silence.*

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our bishops, priests, and deacons for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially Patricia and Tommy.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the nominating committee members, Philip, Lisa, Kasey, Brother, Katie, J.J., and Bill, that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit. I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating birthday this week, especially J.R., John, Kevin, and Sharon.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, especially St. Paul, the Apostle. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

### **The Prayer In Times of Conflict**

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*  
{BCP page 824}

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **The Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Celebrant and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Celebrant*

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

### **The Peace**

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

### **The Announcements**

### **The Blessings and Thanksgivings**

### **The Offertory Sentence**

### **The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem**                      *My Lord, What A Mornin', African American Spiritual*  
arr. Burleigh

**The Presentation Hymn**                      *The King shall come when morning dawns*  
Hymnal 73

**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 124

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.

### **The Great Amen**

S 143



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 161

*Holy Communion is offered via the common cup for sipping or intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. A mobility impaired individual can receive communion at your seat by raising your hand.*

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the People of God.

### **The Communion Anthem**

*Soul of My Saviour*  
Fr. Maher

### **The Communion Hymn**

*Wait for the Lord*  
Taizé Chant

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near,  
Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart.

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

*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.

### **Prayer for those Not Receiving the Blessed Sacrament**

*[Adapted from Saint Augustine's Prayer Book. For those not present in the Nave.]*

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful of every place and people and nation, I join in offering the sacrifice of my praise and thanksgiving to you. I believe that you are truly present in the Bread that has been blessed, broken and given. Since I cannot now receive this holy sacrament, I pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Abide with me, that I may embrace you entirely, and submit myself to your love and mercy. Let me never be separated from you, that in my waking and in my sleeping I may know the comfort of your presence. I ask this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

### **The Blessing**

#### **The Closing Hymn**

*Lo! He comes, with clouds descending*  
Hymnal 57

#### **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Thanks be to God.

#### **The Closing Voluntary**

*Postlude in E Minor*  
Johann Sebastian Bach

---

### ***Remember in your prayers:***

A Prayer for Vision (From The Daughters of the King): Grant Us, Lord God, the vision of your Kingdom, forgiveness and new life, and the stirring of your Spirit: so that we may share your vision, proclaim your love and change the world. In the Name of Christ. Amen.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Roger Hines, Elisabeth Stubbs, Gary Henault, Max Thomas, Ronnie Peoples, Marsha Friedman, Carol Self, Shirley Cotter, Shaleta Fugua, Beverly Miller, Theo Mann, Colleen Furlong, Bo Warren, Joan LeVan, Annie McDorman, Patricia Ravenell, Tommy Gibbs.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Greg Parsons, Annie Bulford, Kelsey Crow,  
First Sunday of Advent Rite Two 10

Anne Murphy, Jaron Smith, Glenn L. Eaton, Al Williams, David Waldron, Larry Sams, Jim Myrick, Candy Waldron, Ashton Hughes, Lanie Mae Henderson, Lamar Toole, Elizabeth Briscoe, William ‘Parker’ Johnson, Christian Llosa.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Marianne, Mark, Frankey, Marge, Mary Frances, Polly, Tony, Roy, Virginia and for the Staff: Canon John, Nicole, Rhett, Dawn, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of the Rector Nominating Committee: Philip Hand, Lisa Beerman, Kasey Bulford, Brother Massenburg, Katie McBride-Newman, J.J. Thomasson, and Bill Tudor.

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, Victoria Eversoll, Trey Bland.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: J.R. Roberts, John Abbey, Kevin Watkiss, and Sharon Gruber.

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

---

***Service Participants***

<b>Vestry Person of the Week</b>	Marge Bass
<b>Vergers</b>	Tony King, Brother Massenburg, & Katie McBride-Newman
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Bob & Heather Heaberlin
<b>Acolytes</b>	Lanie Mae Henderson (1st); Mary Scott Fabrizi (2nd); Elijah & James Edwards (Torchbearers)
<b>Reader(s)</b>	Nina Watts
<b>Prayer Intercessors</b>	Anne & Lou Graner
<b>Ushers</b>	Mike Scott, Mike Gallagher, Chris Howell, Amy Jones, Daryl Jones, Brother Massenburg, Michele Mattera, & Bill Stemberger
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Polly Hopkins & Wendy LeVan

---

## *Parish Notices*

**Nominating Committee Listening Session:** Between 9:30 am and 12:45 pm today in the Parish Hall, Conference Room 2 Bill Tudor and Lisa Beerman, will lead a group session to hear from you. You will have the opportunity to let us know the qualities you desire in our next rector; describe your understanding of the mission and ministry of St. Paul's; where you hope to see St. Paul's in the future; and anything else you would like to share. If you can't stay today, there will be additional sessions held on December 10th.

**Confirmation:** Confirmation will be held at The Cathedral of St. Philip on Sunday, December 10th at 4 pm. If you are planning on attending, please let Nicole know at [admin@stpaulsnewnan.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsnewnan.org).

**2024 Stewardship Campaign:** There are 2024 Stewardship Campaign brochures and response cards available in the Narthex. To make sure that we receive your pledge and contributions, please drop off your pledge and contributions in the offering plate or drop off at Nicole's office. There is the QR code to go directly to the pledge campaign page in Realm.



**Upcoming Holiday Schedule:** We have finalized the schedule of Christmas services. Please pick up a schedule along with details on making a Flower and/or Music Donation in the Narthex. You can use the QR code for donations and to provide your dedication message.



**Angel Tree:** HO! HO! HO! It's not too early to be thinking about choosing a gift or two from our Angel Tree for a needy child or adult in our community. Our Angel is back at St Paul's in her original "live" form -- not online-- so be sure to look for her in the Narthex and choose the star with the gift you would like to provide. Donations are due by **December 5th**.

**The Daughters of the King:** Information pamphlets are available on the bulletin board outside of the parish hall for anyone interested in learning more about The Daughters of the King. We welcome any prospective members!

---

### **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

576 Roscoe Road, Newnan, GA 30263 • Phone: (770) 253-4264 • [www.stpaulsnewnan.org](http://www.stpaulsnewnan.org)

### **CLERGY AND Staff**

**Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey**, Interim Rector; **Nicole Walters**, Seminarian; **Rhett Barnwell**, Organist/Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Administrator; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Administrator.

### **VESTRY**

**Marianne Lawhead**, Senior Warden; **Mark LeVan**, Junior Warden; **Marge Bass**, Outreach; **Frankey Henderson**, Parish Life; **Mary Frances Honea**, Health & Healing; **Polly Hopkins**, Formation; **Tony King**, Worship; **Roy Reynolds**, Communications; **Virginia Williams**, Stewardship.