

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rock Creek Parish Diocese of Washington



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Holy Eucharist Rite Two Sunday, December 18, 2022

Join via Zoom at this <u>link</u>.

#### THE ENTRANCE RITE

#### **Prelude**

### The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: We have lit the first three candles, one for hope, one for peace, and one for

joy. Today we light the fourth candle, the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognize in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

(Four candles are lit)

All:

Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season. As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Magnify your love within us. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

### **Benediction/Commission and Blessing**

**Reader**: Depart in peace, and take with you the certain knowledge That God is always coming into the world.

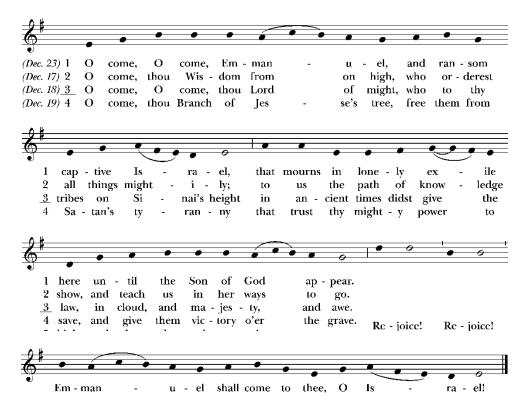
All: We will seek God, not in a long ago stable or ancient manger, but in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.

**Reader**: May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others. May the peace of the season pervade all

that you do.

All: We will welcome the challenge of discipleship. We will offer ourselves as God's

ministers. We will go forth in hope, peace, joy, and love.



The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt. Copyright ⊕ The Church Pension Fund. Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

### **The Opening Sentences**

The people remain standing, the Celebrant says

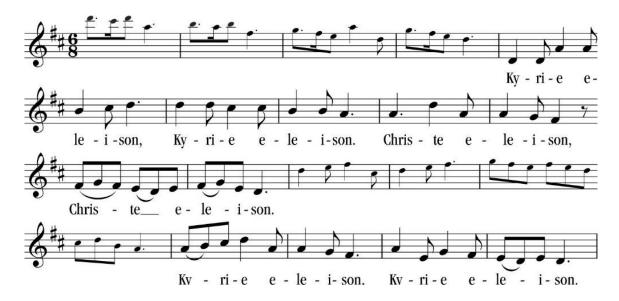
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People:* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

# The Collect for Purity

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*.

# Kyrie



# 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.** 

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

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

The Choir sings the antiphon, the people repeat it. The Choir sings the psalm, the people repeating the antiphon where indicated.



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

The Epistle 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.



Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943). Copyright © 1961 B. Feldman and Co Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd. 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OLD, England.

The Holy Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

Then, all standing, the Gospeller reads the Gospel, first saying

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.

After the Gospel the Gospeller says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Fr. Bob

The Nicene Creed BCP. 358

Celebrant and People

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 Son he is worshipped 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

As we come to the festival of Jesus' birth, Let us pray that we hear God's word clearly and receive the faith God gives, saying: O god, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Holy One, who astonishes us with surprising gifts, we pray for your church and for people of faith in every language and belief, that your wisdom will show us our common life, and that all people may rejoice in what you create. O God, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Giver of the stars and planets, creator of rivers and oceans, and creatures large and small, we pray for wisdom as we live on and with your earth. Evoke in us awe for your goodness in these familiar surroundings: our hills and valleys, forests and deserts, that the powers you have placed here to move through soil and air will remind us always of your bounty and your love. O God, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Power above all powers, we pray for the leaders of governments in every nation, that they may have wisdom to choose what serves the common good.

O God, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Lover of all creation, we pray for all those we too easily forget: those of your children who are poor, or homeless, or in prison; those who are sick, or lonely, or frightened; all who hunger for faith and hope.

Care for them, that they may be strengthened by joy in our healing. O God, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Holy One, in whose community we thrive, we pray for those with whom we share our daily lives: our families, friends, and neighbors, those with whom we work and play, those whose names we do not know who provide for us, that we may all be renewed in courage and nurtured in hope. O God, who is with us, hear our prayer.

Sustainer of your people, we give you thanks for members of the body of Christ in every age and every place who, by their witness, bring us here today.

Come to us in Christ, O God, that we who live in this world by faith may see that faith confirmed in the world to come; through the risen One who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **Confession of Sin**

The Deacon or Celebrant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

### **Deacon and People together**

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen

#### The Priest 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**.

#### The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Anthem Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus Marty Wheeler Burnett

# **QR Code for Giving**



Please consider making your contribution to St. Paul's via our online giving portal accessible by the QR code to the left. Your gift provides support for our worship, ministries, and programs. Thank you for worshipping, sharing and, prayerfully supporting the life and ministries here at St. Paul's. You may also support the mission and ministry of this parish by going to your Realm account and selecting "Giving."

### **Prayers Over the Gifts**

Please Stand

As the bread is offered, the Priest prays

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,

which earth has given, and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People: Blessed be God for ever.

As the wine is offered, the Priest prays

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,

fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us our spiritual drink.

People: Blessed be God for ever.

The Priest continues

Celebrant: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father

Almighty.

People: May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's name,

both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church.

### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

### The people standing, the Celebrant says:

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.

#### Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

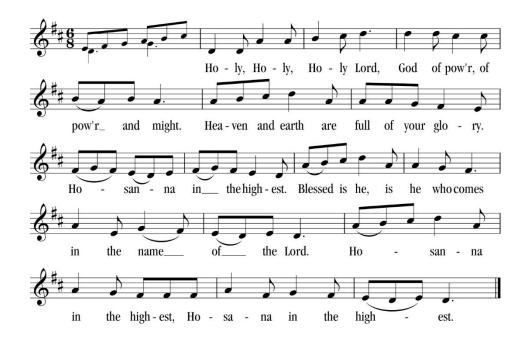
Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

#### **Sanctus and Benedictus**

Arr. Richard Shephard

Celebrant and People



# The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

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 Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 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. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer BCP. 364

#### Celebrant and People

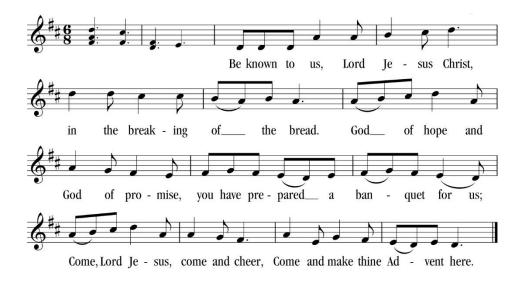
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

The people and Cantor sing responsively.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### **Agnus Dei**



#### Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

# **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

In the Episcopal tradition, we believe that when circumstances make it impossible to consume the Eucharistic elements, our desire is enough for God to grant all the benefits of communion.

I invite all those who are unable to receive the consecrated bread and wine this day, but who long for the grace and blessing of God through our Savior Jesus Christ, to join me in this Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

Said by those who will not receive Communion today.

In union, Blessed Jesus,

with your faithful people

at every altar of your Church

where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,

I offer my praise and thanksgiving.

Since I cannot receive you today

in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,

I ask 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.

# **Communion Hymn**

# Soon and very soon

L-14

Please use the LEVAS hymnal in the pew rack to join in singing the hymn.

# **Post-communion Prayer**

**BCP. 365** 

After Communion, the Celebrant says 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 Celebrant blesses the people



Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music: Besançon Carol, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944).

#### The Dismissal

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the congregation with these words

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Permission**: The Kyrie, Sanctus, and Fraction Anthem are from St. James Advent Service, reprinted with permission.

# Preaching at St. Paul's

Today	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Fr. Bob
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve	Fr. Bob
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ	Fr. Bob
January 1st	The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ	Fr. Bob

# **Upcoming Events at St. Paul's**

December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Greening of the Sanctuary; One service at 10:30 am	
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve Service 5 pm	
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Service; One service at 10:30 am	

### **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Christmas Greening and Fellowship Hour: TODAY after service**, we invite everyone to help us get the church ready for Christmas. The Altar Guild provides guidance and supplies garland, wreathes, poinsettias, and other items that together, we will use to spruce up the church. Come join the fun with singing Christmas carols, enjoying festive treats, and be amazed at how beautiful our sanctuary looks when we are done.

**Christmas Flowers:** Anyone interested in dedicating flowers in memory of a loved one should complete a flower form. Forms are in the Narthex. Place completed forms in the collection plate. All forms must be received by **December 20th** to be included in the Christmas bulletin.

**Bible Study:** St. Paul's holds Bible Study every Sunday after the 8 AM service in the Great Hall of St. Paul's Center. Join us from 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM. All are welcome! There will be no Bible Study on December  $18^{th}$  and  $25^{th}$ .

**Pledge 2023:** We have received pledges totaling \$17,360.00 thus far. Pledge cards are in the Narthex rack and can also be completed on our website, <a href="https://stpaulsrockcreek.org/2023-pledge-campaign/">https://stpaulsrockcreek.org/2023-pledge-campaign/</a>. Place your pledge card in the offering plate, mail it in, or drop it off at the office.

**Diocesan Convention:** The 128th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington will be held in person at Washington National Cathedral on **Saturday**, **January 28**, **2023**.

**Episcopal Parish Network (EPN)- formerly CEEP:** Annual Conference will be held on **March 8 – 11, 2023** at Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront and graciously hosted by St. John's Cathedral.

# **Vestry Corner**

# **Vestry Leadership:**

Larry Dorman, Sr. Warden Royan Miller – Morgan, Jr. Warden

# Welcome Class of 2025 as of January 1, 2023

Walter Roberts, Jr. Karen Hardwick Dana Linsday

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE & CALENDAR**

# **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### December 2022

**Birthdays:** 

Jonathan Southgate 6th

Tori Hill 27<sup>th</sup>

Pamela McKee 28th

Paul Kesner 7<sup>th</sup>

Gabriella Kazeem 27<sup>th</sup>

Everett Gallas 31st

Jael Anker-Lagos 16th

ISar

Isabela Kazeem 27<sup>th</sup>

Michael Wallace 17th

Leanora Caruth 28th

**Anniversaries** 

### **ASSISTING AT THE SERVICE TODAY**

#### **LECTORS**

**Old Testament** 

Sheila Roberts

**Epistle** 

Leanora Caruth

**Prayers of the People** 

Sheila Roberts



#### Mission Statement

To be one family in Christ using our gifts and resources to respond to the spiritual, social, and human needs of our parish and community.

Office Hours: 9 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

#### Staff:

Rolando Campos	Facilities Manager
Lucila Cerón	Nursery Caregiver
Nadirah Majied	Office Manager
Jeremy Sullivan	Director of Music

THE RT. REV. MARIANN BUDDE, BISHOP OF WASHINGTON

The REV. ROBERT TRACHE, INTERIM RECTOR RTTACHE@stpaulsrockcreek.org or 954-558-5764 (CELL)

THE REV. DOUGLAS GREENAWAY, PRIEST ASSOCIATE

The Rev. canon preston B. Hannibal, Priest associate phannibal@stpaulsrockcreek.org

THE REVEREND ELIZA RAGSDALE, DEACON

#### **WARDENS & VESTRY:**

LARRY DORMAN, SR. WARDEN; ROYAN MILLER-MORGAN, JR. WARDEN
CLASS OF 2022: LARRY DORMAN, DIANE LIBURD-WILLIAMS, ROYAN MILLER-MORGAN
CLASS OF 2023: SUSANNAH CERNOJEVICH, EMILY GALLAS, WALTER ROBERTS, JR.
CLASS OF 2024: ROSTINA MILLER, KAREN BROWN, PAMELA MCKEE

CLERK: SHEILA ROBERTS
TREASURER: WALTER ROBERTS JR.

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