

SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

Anglican Province of America



THE FOURTH SUNDAY *in* ADVENT



Sunday, December 20, A.D. 2020

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Saint Paul's Church, a parish in the Anglican Province of America. If this is your first time worshipping in an Anglican parish, then there are two things I wish to share:

First, everything about our worship is patterned after heaven. The basic architecture of our building, the songs we sing, the reverent order of the service, and especially the celebration of the Holy Communion; all are a participation in the realities which are found in heaven. As you will hear in the liturgy, we gather together to *lift up our hearts* to worship Almighty God in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Second, the Bible is our foundation for worship. Holy Scripture reveals to us what heaven is really like and what worship is found there. Our liturgy flows from Holy Scripture and is saturated with it. I'm confident you will never find a more biblical worship service than the one which you are about to participate.

The entire liturgy for this Sunday is contained in this booklet. All of the words for the congregation to say are printed in **bold** type. Instructions and service notes are printed in *italics*. All of the hymn numbers correspond to the hymnal in the pew. Please fill out a **WELCOME CARD** in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate so we have a record of your attendance, and do not hesitate to make an usher aware of how we can serve you. Restrooms are located both in the parish hall and by the administrative offices.

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. W. Oldfield". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Rev'd Brian W. Oldfield

Children at Saint Paul's Church. Children of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to pray with their parents in the service as we worship in the real presence of Jesus Christ as one united and inseparable Body of believers. Parents are the first teachers of their children and have the privilege to train their children to worship God with joyful reverence. On Sundays we also offer nursery care in the parish hall (at 10 am) as well as comfortable seating if you need to step out to comfort a distressed child. Changing stations are located in the restrooms of the parish hall. Please feel free to ask an usher for directions. See our pamphlet on teaching children to be worshippers!

Receiving Holy Communion at Saint Paul's Church. Visitors who are baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost and already admitted to Communion in their own churches are invited to receive the Sacrament in faith, repentance, and charity. To receive a Blessing, non-communicants are invited to kneel at the altar rail and cross their arms over their chest.

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION

A Prayer from the Scottish Prayerbook Tradition

O GRACIOUS and merciful Lord God, look down from heaven the throne of thy glory, with the eyes of thy covenanted love and mercy in Christ Jesus, upon me, thy unworthy servant, I disclaim all merit in mine own righteousness, and fly to thee for pardon, grace, and salvation, through the immaculate righteousness of thy dear Son, in whom thou art always well pleased. For his sake who never sinned, have pity upon me a most grievous sinner: favourably receive my prayers, and forgive my offences of whatsoever nature they may be; whether secret, or presumptuous, wheresoever or howsoever committed either in thought, word, or deed, against thee my God, my neighbour, or my own soul. From the sins I remember, and those I have forgotten, from them all cleanse thou me, O Lord even from them all, that so my soul may be an habitation fit for thee to dwell in; and that along with this holy Sacrament, thou mayst come in and abide with me for ever. Amen.

A Prayer from the Rt. Rev'd Jeremy Taylor

HAVE mercy upon this thy people, who, with hungry and thirsty souls, come to be refreshed and comforted by the Divine Nutriment of thy Holy Body and Blood. Pity our infirmities, despise not our unworthiness, curse not our follies, and take not from thy servants thy grace and the light of thy Divine Countenance, but, according to the multitude of thy great mercies, do away all our offences, that, without self-condemnation, we may appear before thy glory, covered with the veil of Jesus, adorn'd with the robe of his righteousness, and illustrated with the brightness of thy Divine Spirit; that we may live by thy grace, and feel thy mercy and pardon in this world and in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Jeremy Taylor (d. 1667) was an Anglican bishop in England during the eventful 17th c. which saw the publication of the King James Version of the Bible, the overthrow and restoration of the English monarchy, and the publication of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer (of which our own 1928 American BCP is a descendant). This godly bishop was dedicated to preserving the ancient Christian faith and practice of the English-speaking Church. This is the same living faith in Jesus Christ which we love and share with others here at Saint Paul's Church and within the Anglican Province of America today.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN #10 *On Jordan's bank*. (Winchester New)

THE LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH

¶ *The Celebrant lights the appropriate candles on the Advent wreath and the congregation sings,*

THE ADVENT HYMN #2 *O come, O come, Emmanuel* (v. 6, 7). (Veni Emmanuel)

Celebrant. The Lord is coming and will not tarry.
People. **He will manifest himself unto all nations.**
Celebrant. Stir up thy might, we beseech thee, O Lord,
People. **And come within our midst. Amen.**

Let us pray.

INCLINE thine ear to our prayer, O Lord, we beseech thee: and lighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of thy visitation. Who with God the Father and God the Holy Ghost livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

ANTE-COMMUNION

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.
Answer. **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant. Let us pray.

¶ *The People kneel.*

THE COLLECT for PURITY

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INTROIT Isaiah 45. *Rorate coeli.*

DROP down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour. (*Ps. 19*) The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. √. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Drop down, ye heavens (*etc.*)

THE DECALOGUE

GOD spake these words, and said:

I. I am the LORD thy God; Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

II. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them:

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

III. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain;

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

IV. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath-day.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother;

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

VI. Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

X. Thou shalt not covet

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

THE COLLECTS *of the DAY*

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant. Let us pray.

¶ *The People kneel.*

OLORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy 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 quick and the dead; we may rise to the life immortal. Through the same Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

¶ All may be seated.

THE LESSON *Isaiah 40:1-11*

Lector. Here beginneth the 40th Chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
² Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem,

and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned:
for she hath received of the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ THE voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
"Prepare ye the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God

⁴ Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low:
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain:

⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

⁶ THE voice said, "Cry."
And he said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,
and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field:

⁷ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it:
surely the people is grass.

⁸ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

⁹ O ZION, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up into the high mountain;
O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings,
lift up thy voice with strength;
lift it up, be not afraid;
say unto the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”

¹⁰ Behold, the LORD GOD will come with strong hand,
and his arm shall rule for him:
behold, his reward is with him,
and his work before him.

¹¹ He shall feed his flock like a shepherd:
he shall gather the lambs with his arm,
and carry them in his bosom,
and shall gently lead those that are with young.

Lector. Here endeth the Lesson.

Answer. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80. *Qui regis Israel.*

HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; * show thyself also,
thou that sittest upon the Cherubim.

2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up thy strength, and come and help us.

3 Turn us again, O God; * show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

4 O LORD God of hosts, * how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears, * and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

6 Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Turn us again, thou God of hosts; * show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt; * thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

9 Thou madest room for it; * and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, * and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedar-trees.

11 She stretched out her branches unto the sea, * and her boughs unto the River.

12 Why hast thou then broken down her hedge, * that all they that go by pluck off her grapes?

13 The wild boar out of the wood doth root it up, * and the wild beasts of the field devour it.

14 Turn thee again, thou God of hosts, look down from heaven, * behold, and visit this vine;

15 And the place of the vineyard that thy right hand hath planted, * and the branch that thou madest so strong for thyself.

16 It is burnt with fire, and cut down; * and they shall perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, * and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.

18 And so will not we go back from thee: * O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.

19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

20 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;

21 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE*Philippians 4:4-7*

Lector. The Epistle is written in the 4th Chapter of the Epistle of Blessed Paul the Apostle to the Philippians beginning at the 4th Verse.

REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. ⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Lector. Here endeth the Epistle.

Answer. **Thanks be to God.**

¶ All stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

THE GRADUAL & ALLELUIA

(Ps. 145) THE LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him: yea, all such as call upon him faithfully. *℟.* My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name.

ALLELUIA, alleluia. V̄. (*Ps. ibid.*) Come, O Lord, and tarry not: forgive the misdeeds of thy people. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *St. John 1:19-28*

Gospeller. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Gospeller. The contin ✠ uation of the Holy Gospel according to John.

Answer. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

AND this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who art thou?” ²⁰ And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹ And they asked him, “What then? Art thou Elias?” And he saith, “I am not.” “Art thou that prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²² Then said they unto him, “Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?” ²³ He said, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as said the prophet Esaias.”

²⁴ AND they which were sent were of the Pharisees. ²⁵ And they asked him, and said unto him, “Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet?” ²⁶ John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; ²⁷ He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe’s latchet I am not worthy to unloose.” ²⁸ These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Gospeller. The Gospel of the Lord.

Answer. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

IBELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

☞ All may be seated.

PARISH NOTICES

Welcome to Saint Paul’s Church. Thank you for worshipping with us; we’re so glad you are here! Please fill out a WELCOME CARD and drop it in the offering plate so we have a record of your attendance. Use this card to sign up for our weekly email newsletter and let us know how we can pray for you.

Christmas Schedule. Is published on page 19 of this booklet. Mark your calendars!

Wednesday Evening Fellowship. Will resume January 20th, 2021!

Parish Hall Upgrade. On behalf of the Vestry and Staff of the parish, we are pleased to announce that the renovation of Kite-Powell Hall has begun. The renovations reflect the expanding needs of our growing ministry. Not only will the renovation make the parish hall more functional, but more beautiful as well. Use of the parish hall will be limited by the ongoing work, but we anticipate that work will finish in time for our annual meeting in January 2021.

Annual Meeting. Our annual meeting will convene on January 17th, 2021 following the 10 AM mass. Please make plans to attend to hear reports on the state of the parish from this past year and the vision for the future.

Episcopal Visit. Bishop Grundorf will be visiting us Sunday, January 24th, 2020 for our annual episcopal visit. He will be confirming and receiving new members. If you desire to become a member of Saint Paul’s Church, then please contact the Church Office to schedule a meeting with Fr. Oldfield.

THE SERMON HYMN #3 *Wake, awake, for night is flying.* (Sleepers, Wake)

THE SERMON *The Rev’d Brian W. Oldfield*

OFFERTORY

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.
Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

REMEMBER the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.
(Acts 20:35)

HAIL Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. (St. Luke 1)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people” *Handel*
from the oratorio “MESSIAH”

THE PRESENTATION of the ALMS & OBLATIONS #139 (Old Hundredth)

¶ *All stand and sing,*

The Doxology. PRAISE God from whom all blessings flow,
PRAISE Him all creatures here below,
PRAISE Him above ye heavenly host,
PRAISE Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

ORATE, FRATRES (PRAY, BRETHREN)

Celebrant. Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours, may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

Answer. **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.**

Celebrant. Let us pray.

¶ *The Celebrant then prays silently over the gifts, then says:*

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church.

¶ *The People kneel.*

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless ✠ thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION, CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

YE who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

ALMIGHTY GOD, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all** **Amen; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

¶ Then shall the Celebrant (the Bishop if he be present) stand up, and turning to the People, say,

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

¶ Then shall the Celebrant say,

HEAR what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

COME unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. (*St. Matt. 11:28*).

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (*St. John 3:16*).

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (*1 Tim. 1:15*).

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins (*1 St. John 2:1, 2*).

¶ After which the Celebrant shall proceed, saying,

THE SURSUM CORDA #734 (*Traditional*)

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant. Lift up your hearts.

Answer. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Answer. **It is meet and right so to do.**

¶ Then, facing the Altar, the Celebrant says,

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

¶ Then shall be said the Proper Preface, according to the time, if there be any specially appointed.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS #796 (*Merbecke*)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

BLESSED is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

CONSECRATION: INSTITUTION, OBLATION, & INVOCATION

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again:

FOR in the night in which he was betrayed, he took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU;
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for

THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT,
WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU, AND FOR MANY,
FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS;
DO THIS, AS OFT AS YE SHALL DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

¶ Then shall be said the Oblation.

WHEREFORE, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

¶ Then shall be said the Invocation.

AND we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thine almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

AND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living

sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

Let us pray. And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER #722. (Traditional)

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 Celebrant will then pray silently, concluding:

Celebrant. World without end.

Answer. **Amen.**

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

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

AGNUS DEI #706. (Merbecke)

**O LAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O LAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O LAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us thy peace.**

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

Celebrant. BEHOLD the Lamb of God. Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

¶ The Centurion's Prayer is said thrice.

Answer. **LORD, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

HYMNS for HOLY COMMUNION

#197 Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Picardy)

#196 Bread of the world, in mercy broken (Eucharistic Hymn)

THE COMMUNION VERSE *Isaiah 7*

BEHOLD, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son: and his Name shall be called Emmanuel.

¶ When all have communicated, the Celebrant says,

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant. Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, **we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thine everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Let us pray.

OLORD, who hast here vouchsafed unto us to be partakers of thy bounty: grant, we beseech thee, that we may so continue to draw near unto the same; that growing more and more in grace, we may attain in the end to everlasting life. And,

GRANT to us, O Lord, we beseech thee: so to wait for thy loving kindness in the midst of thy Temple, that in readiness of heart and mind we may hail the coming feast of our redemption. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant. Depart in peace.

Answer. **Thanks be to God.**

THE Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

¶ All stand for the Last Gospel and Recessional Hymn.

THE LAST GOSPEL. *St. John 1:1-14*

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant. The begin ✠ ning of the Holy Gospel according to John.

Answer. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² The same was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹ He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³ which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

All. **Thanks be to God.**

THE RECESSAL HYMN #4 Rejoice, rejoice believers. *(Greenland)*



¶ All may kneel in quiet prayer as the Altar Lights are extinguished.

Prayer List

HEALTH & HEALING

Eileen Hoff – for healing
Doy Slay – for healing
Audrey Caldwell – for healing
Martha Esker – for healing
Michael Gardner - healing for multiple myeloma
Tyrone Lawrence - healing for his back
Joyce Dearborn - healing for broken hip
Linda Prall - healing for back
Lynn Brundage - healing for foot
Rick Higbie (*son of Dick & Susan Higbie*) - for healing
Ryan - (*friend of the Higbies*) - leukemia
Chris - stroke recovery
David - memory loss
John - memory loss
All those who are afflicted or affected by the Coronavirus

GUIDANCE

MILITARY & CIVIL SERVICE

Yana Kandalova – U.S. Army
Stasia & Dan Colgan (*daughter & son-in-law of Phil & Ranell Schlatter*) – U.S. Army
Pete Schlatter (*son of Phil & Ranell Schlatter*) – U.S. Army
Phil Bunker (*son of Debbie & Kevin Bunker*) – U.S. Army

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

That they all may come to a deeper love and knowledge of God

CONVERSION

That they may come to know Jesus Christ or further grow in faith and repentance

All those who know not the Lord Jesus Christ

R.I.P.

Mass Intentions

For all afflicted and affected by the Coronavirus. That God would deliver us all from the virus.

For the spirit of evangelism and holiness. That Saint Paul's Church would boldly preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls and that our parish would grow in holiness and good works (*Ephesians 2:10*)

For all families, parents, children, and schools. That the next generation may be raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (*Eph. 6:4*)

For all who are sick. That God would heal and comfort them. (*St. James 5:14*)

For our Bishops and other Clergy. Especially for our Presiding Bishop, Walter H. Grundorf, our Rector, and our Curate that their ministries might be fruitful. (*2 Timothy 4:5*)

For all those in civil authority and service. That they may rule justly and protect the peace in order that the Church may flourish. (*Romans 13:1*)

Birthdays & Anniversaries in December

Happy Birthday to Cheryl Unterburger (2nd), Phill Schlatter (5th), Audrey Caldwell (19th), Martha Esker (22th), Barry Esker (26th), Kevin Bunker (27th)

Happy Anniversary to Jay & Debbie Schenck (17th)

On the Calendar

Sundays. Holy Communion at 8 am & 10 am.

Confession. Sundays from 9:15 to 9:45 am and by appointment.

Wednesdays. Holy Communion at 12:15 pm. Evening Fellowship begins at 5:15 pm.

Feast Days. St. Thomas - Mon., Dec. 21st at 12:15 pm, St. Stephen - Sat., Dec. 26th at 12:15 pm, St. John - Sun., Dec. 27th at 8 & 10 am, Holy Innocents - Mon., Dec. 28th at 12:15 pm

Morning & Evening Prayer. Monday - Friday at 9 am & 4 pm. (*Live-streamed*)

Angels in the Attic. Open Monday - Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm.

Food Pantry. Open Tuesdays from 2 to 5 pm; Fridays from 10 am to Noon.

✠ A CANDLELIT SERVICE of LESSONS & CAROLS ✠

Festive organ music, carols and hymns of the season, and lessons from Holy Scripture will help us celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. Please join us for this joyful, solemn, and family-friendly service!

December 24th at 4:30 pm

Christmas Schedule:

✠ **Carol Sing**, December 24th at 10:30 pm ✠

✠ **Vigil of Christmas Eve**, December 24th at 11 pm ✠

✠ **Holy Communion**, December 25th at 10 am ✠

Weekly Lectionary

		MORNING PRAYER			EVENING PRAYER		
		<i>1st Lesson</i>	<i>2nd Lesson</i>	<i>Psalter</i>	<i>1st Lesson</i>	<i>2nd Lesson</i>	<i>Psalter</i>
Sun.	20	Isa. 35	Matt. 25:31-end	102-103	2 Sam. 15:17-21	John 11:1-16	104
	<i>Advent IV</i>						
Mon.	21	Job 42:1-6	John 14:1-7	105	Ecclesiasticus 2	1 Peter 1:3-9	106
	<i>St. Thomas</i>						
Tue.	22	Isa. 52:13-53 end	Mark 11:1-26	107	Isa. 54	Jude 17-end	108-109
Wed.	23	Isa. 56:1-8	Mk. 11:27-12:12	110-113	Isa. 57:15-end	2 Pet. 1	114-115
Thu.	24	Isa. 59	Mark 12:13-34	116-118	Zech. 2:10-end	Heb. 2:10-18	119 (I-IV)
	<i>Christmas Eve</i>						
Fri.	25	Isa. 9:2-7	Matt. 1:18-25	119 (V-IX)	Isa. 7:10-14	1 John 4:7-end	119 (X-XIII)
	<i>Christmas Day</i>						
Sat.	26	Gen. 4:1-10	Acts 6	119 (XIV-XVIII)	2 Chro. 24:15-22	Acts 7:59-8:8	119 (XIX-XXII)
	<i>St. Stephen</i>						
Sun.	27	Exod. 33:9-end	John 13:21-35	120-125	Isa. 6:1-8	1 John 5:1-12	126-131
	<i>St. John</i>						

Welcome, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are visiting Saint Paul's Church for the first time, please fill out one of the Welcome Cards, found in the pew rack in front of you, so we can have a record of your visit. These also serve as our Prayer Request cards. Please place these cards in the offering plate or give them directly to an usher or to one of the clergy.

Clergy of Saint Paul's Church

The Most Rev'd Walter H. Grundorf, D.D., *Diocesan & Presiding Bishop*

The Rev'd Brian W. Oldfield, *Rector*

The Rev'd Mr. Raymond J. Davison, *Curate*

Staff

Charlie Manship, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Clare Burgess, *Deaconess*

Debbie Bunker, *Parish Coordinator*

Cheryl Unterburger, *Thrift Store Manager*

Vestry & Wardens

Don Johnston (2022), *Rector's Warden*

Phil Schlatter (2022), *Junior Warden*

Charlie Manship (2020)

Clare Burgess (2020)

Michael Stone (2021)

Candy Haddix (2021)

Hope Hines (2022)



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