



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Christmas Eve Pageant Service — December 24, 2025 — 4:00 pm  
The Rev. Maggie Nancarrow, Rector

ALL CHILDREN & YOUTH:

We encourage you to be a part of the Christmas pageant during this service.  
Please come to the back of the church to choose a costume.

NURSERY: St. Paul's welcomes children of all ages, noise and activity levels to worship.  
However, if you feel the need, a staffed nursery for infants to age 4 is available during the service.  
Exit to the right as you face the front of the church, and proceed to the end of the hall.



## Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

### I'm New

Welcome! If you would like to stay in touch, please fill out a visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate after the announcements.

### About Our Worship Today

Worship in the Episcopal Church is participatory and embodied. We stand and kneel, make the sign of the cross at times, sing and breathe together, and walk forward for communion each week. You are welcome to participate at your own comfort level. You will likely see people engaging differently at different times. One of the gifts of the Episcopal tradition is that there are a variety of 'right' ways to participate.

### Restrooms

Exit at the side door at the front of the church and go down the hall. They are the first and second doors on the left side of the hallway.

### What do I do?

This service booklet will give you the words you need and instructions. The words in **bold** print are said by everyone. Hymns can be found either in this booklet or in the blue or green hymnals in your pew.

### May I have communion?

Yes. All may come forward to receive communion (or the Eucharist.) No one is required to receive. We are serving both bread and wine. You may choose to receive at your own comfort level, both bread and wine or just bread. You may also come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing, or you may choose not to come forward at all. Children may receive at any age.

### Worshipping with Kids

Joyful noise is most welcome here. Many families find that sitting close to the front helps children to see and engage better with the service. There is a nursery located down the hall. We also have a rocking chair in the back of church for parents with infants.

### About St. Paul's

We are a community dedicated to following the Way of Love as shown to us by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. Together we practice curiosity, awe, and community to love God, love our neighbors, and love ourselves.

### The Liturgical Season

In the Episcopal Church, we follow a circular calendar with special seasons. We are currently in the season of Christmas.

### Weekly Service Schedule

#### Sundays

8:00 am  
Chapel

10:00 am  
Church

#### Wednesdays

(will resume January 7)  
5:15 pm  
Church

### Stay in Touch

Find out more about St. Paul's or get connected with one of our leaders by emailing Rita in the parish office at [office@stpaulsduluth.org](mailto:office@stpaulsduluth.org).

Prelude — *selections by the young people of St. Paul's*

Welcome

Processional Hymn #83, Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be the one holy and living God.

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Opening Collect

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.**

Gloria — *Angels We Have Heard on High*

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plain,  
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?  
3. Come to Beth-le-hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad-some tid - ings be which in-spire your heav'n-ly song?  
come a - dore on bend-ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.  
Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Angels We Have Heard on High'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first two staves contain the lyrics for the first three verses. The third and fourth staves contain the lyrics for the Gloria section, which is repeated twice. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--  
    on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation,  
    you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
    as with joy at the harvest,  
    as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden,  
    and the bar across their shoulders,  
    the rod of their oppressor,  
    you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
    and all the garments rolled in blood  
    shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For a child has been born for us,  
    a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
    and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
    and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
    He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
    from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn — *Once in Royal David's City*

*Please face the Gospel procession as it makes its way into the midst of the people.  
    The candles will be lit as the hymn is sung,  
    They symbolize the light of Christ coming into the world.*

1. Once in roy - al Da-vid's ci - ty Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of all,  
 3. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own re-deeming love,

Where a moth - er laid her ba - by In a man - ger for his bed.  
 And his shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall;  
 For that child so dear and gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;

Ma - ry was that mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
 With the poor, and meek, and low - ly, Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 And he leads his chil - dren on To the place where he is gone.

## The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
 and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made

known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

### Hymn — *Silent Night*

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight,  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant so  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - 'nly hosts sing  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re -

tén - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace. Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior is born! Christ the Sav - ior is born!  
deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

### Sermon: The Christmas Pageant

*Those participating in the pageant will be called forward during the telling of the Christmas Story.*

### Hymn #87 — *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*During the singing of the hymn, the children return their costumes to the back of the church and return to their place in the pews.*

### Prayers of the People

*Deacon:* Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

*After each of the bidding prayers, the prayer leader says*

The light shines in the darkness: **And the darkness did not overcome it.**

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of your Son's Incarnation reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. **Amen.**

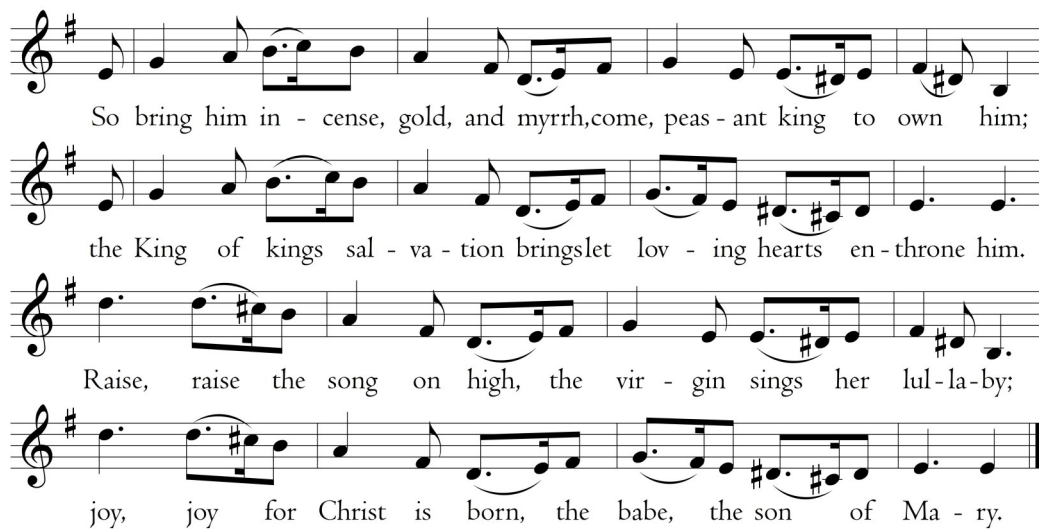
## The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Announcements

### Offering Hymn #101 — *Away in a Manger*

## Offertory



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant king to own him;  
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;  
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

## Eucharistic Prayer

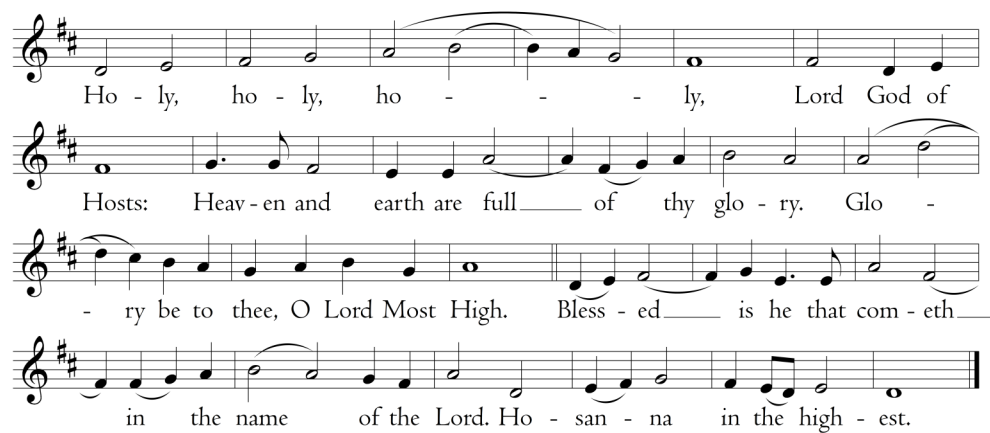


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

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:





We give thanks to you, O God, ... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

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...

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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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.

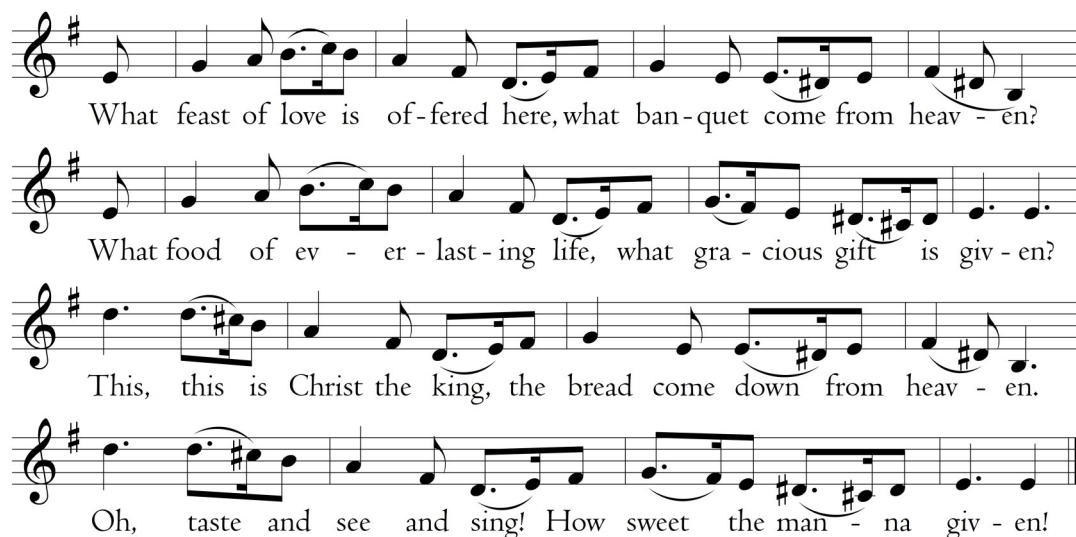
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread and the Fraction Anthem






The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
*Because we believe that we gather around the Lord's table,  
 all are welcome and encouraged to receive communion.*  
*The bread is typically received in the hand. You may dip the bread or take a sip from the cup.*  
*Gluten-free hosts are available; please request this if needed.*

## Communion Hymns

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Hymn #107 — *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*



1. In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For his bed a cat - tle stall;  
 2. Flocks were sleep - ing: Shep-herds keep - ing Vig-il 'til the morn-ing new.

Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
 Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

Swift-ly wing - ing An - gels sing - ing, No - els ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing;  
 Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais-es voic - ing Greet the mor - row:

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
 Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

## Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

## Blessing

## Recessional Hymn #100 — *Joy to the World*

Dismissal: *The Deacon dismisses the people, and the people respond in full voice:*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Postlude

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, BWV 729*

Johann Michael Bach



## Christmas Memorials 2025

The altar candles used in the church and chapel during the year are given  
to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

James & Alice Moore, Francis & Maren Morrison

The Advent wreath and candles are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Irving & Marion D. Gerald and Earl Matson Gerald

The pulpit and lectern balsam wreaths are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

James H. & Nancy Heimbach Claypool, James Verner & Irma Claypool and Carlisle & Charlene Heimbach,  
and Charlene Claypool Hansen

The altar fair linen being used this Christmas season has been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Norman & Mary Bourestom

The flowers and decorations are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of and in thanksgiving for:

- Grace & Ray Anderson, Bill & Eileen Blodgett, Tony Blodgett
- Ted & Joan Minor
- Evelyn P. & Cadwell H. Hunt
- George Anderson, Marguerite Anderson, William Baumgarten
- Justus, Julia, Hugo, Will, Ginger, Soren, Sunniva, Vali, Anja
- Justus, Julia, Hugo, Will, Ginger, Soren, Sunniva, Vali, Anja
- Joe Brown, Verna Brown Cant, Gordon & Annabelle Butler, John & Barbara Butler, Thayer Butler, J & Jean Laundergan
- Joseph & Julitta Dragich
- Irving & Miriam Gerald
- Glenn & Marjorie Elliott, Bill & Button Johnson
- Linda Erspamer
- Michael & Shirley French
- Ben & Lois Gallinger
- Fayth Carlson Glass, Garry N. Carlson, Kenneth M. & Violet Carlson, Benjamin Carlson, Earl Glass & Jean Glass Fedo and Edith Drewett Glass, Gloria Glass Stanton, Evan Byron Glass
- Barbara Bell Gundersen
- Esther Hansen, Pearl Johnson
- Robert D. Harvey
- Norman & Mary Bourestom, Norman Bourestom Jr., John Killen
- Arvida Hietala, Bill & Jean Kruschke
- Katherine H. Johnson
- John D. & Jane Peck
- Tom Lyle
- Frank W. Budd, Jr. & Laura Budd
- David J. Marinac, James G. Marinac, Joanne T. Marinac
- Nancy Melander, Donald Melander
- Michael J. Carlson
- Joseph & Mary Pastor
- Joseph G. & Frances R. Harrison, Rutherford & Frances McGiffert, John R. McGiffert III, William E. & Kay Richardson
- Howard & Bunny Pagett, Hans & Myrtle Tronnes, Gretchen Tronnes Johnson
- James I. & Dolly Sage, Clarence & Martha Sangster
- Joseph Contardo, Robert & Betty Contardo, Leonard & Meta Schwartz
- Marguerite Emanuel, Joseph & Alma Hubert, Joseph Hubert, Jr., Ruth & Robert M. Sederberg, Sr., Jeanne & Robert M. Sederberg, Jr., Ramona Stelmack
- The Claren-Dallowitz-Homan-Karlenberg-Sylvanes-Kivisto Family
- The Rev. W.E. Harmann; Rector, Vestry: Chas. Rossitter; Warden, C.W. Towner, Clerk, John Carruthers; Treasurer, J. B. Eales and Ed. Studley—Christ Church Proctor
- Katherine, Marion, Mina, Helen, Baby Katherine, and Lorraine Wombacker
- Frances & Vincent (Homan) Markel
- Robert & Marion Silverness
- John & Janet Stromquist
- Milton & Ivah Sundquist, Martha & Henning Sundquist, Anna & Ole Finseth, Hannah & William Sontag, Pauline & Thomas Tagliabue, Sophie & William Sontag
- John & Janet Stromquist
- Charles V. & Joan M. Bennett



## Prayers at St. Paul's

**PRAY** for The Diocese of São Paulo – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

**For the month of December**, please pray for the foundations that minister to children with special needs, especially for the work of the Sheltering Arms Foundation and for all who work in child protection agencies throughout the state of Minnesota.

**For those who suffer and those in any trouble:**

Claudia D	Victor S	Donna C	Baby Jack & Family	Keith B
Virginia M	Ann Marie	Natalie S	Jenni & Family	Bonnie E
Pat K	Charles B	Lorrie F	Jasmine & Family	Anders S
Callum	Bjørn G	Paul	Kathleen S	Marilyn M
Jon G	David B	Ann-Sofie	Kevin M	Anita P
Stuart B	Tom P	Lucy J	Sue M	John S
John D	Gary B	Kirsi J	Larry M	Diana H
John B	Sally R	Anita R	Bruce B	Rob H
			Eric J	Kathy S

**For those serving in the armed forces:**

Lucy Fellman, Charles Lewis, Nora Maddy, and Ricky Lyle

**For those who are in seminary or in discernment.**

**And for those who are in long-term care facilities or are homebound:**

Noreen Anderson, Mary Carlson, JoAnn Chessner, Helen Gruba, Steve Hennessy, Stan Henrickson, Maureen Matheson, Stephen & Mary Olmsted, Anita Pollock

**For those who have died.**

**The flowers on the altar and throughout the church are given to the glory of God in memory of and in thanksgiving for:**

All the memorial names published in today's bulletin



## **St. Paul's Episcopal Clergy and Staff**

**Phone: 218-724-3535**

### Clergy

The Rev. Maggie Nancarrow, Rector

rector@stpaulsduluth.org

The Very Rev. Rick Swenson, Associate Rector

associate@stpaulsduluth.org

The Rev. Deacon Patricia Benson

deacon@stpaulsduluth.org

### Parish Staff

Rita Rosenberger, Parish Secretary

office@stpaulsduluth.org

Sophie Gray, Faith Formation Coordinator

kids@stpaulsduluth.org

Thomas K. Hamilton, DMA, Minister of Music

music@stpaulsduluth.org

Christine Melone, Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org

Bill Stapp, Sexton

bill.stapp@gmail.com

## **Electronic Giving**

You may donate cash or checks in the alms basins during the Offertory.

If you prefer to donate electronically, you may use this QR code to easily access our website donation page. **Thank you for your generosity!**



## **Serving Today**

Presider:

The Rev. Maggie Nancarrow

Deacon:

The Rev. Patricia Benson

Altar Guild:

Carrie Miller, Lynnea Hultkrantz,

Diane Kolquist, Susan Anderson, Sue Sommer, Tamara Bain Jansen

Acolytes:

Jupiter Sadowski, Riley Wall, Sara Keto

Verger:

John Pastor

Lectors:

Zabelle Stodola, Matt Gustafson

Prayers of the People:

Olivia Morin-Swanson

Music:

Thomas Hamilton, organist; Children's Church Singers, Brad Brunfelt, guitar

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Zabelle Stodola, Matt Gustafson, John Pastor

Ushers:

Mark Brown, Diane Morin, Karen Swanson, Jason Wall

Lock-Up:

Sophie Gray