



# ST. PAUL'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 3, 2017, the First Sunday in Advent

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We especially welcome visitors and newcomers today. Please fill out the newcomer card in the pew and place it in the collection plate or give it to a member of the clergy. Following the service, the clergy will be standing near the doors to greet you. We encourage you to join us for coffee hour in Duncan Hall. For more information about St. Paul's, please visit [www.StPaulsSanRafael.org](http://www.StPaulsSanRafael.org) or call our office at 415.456.4842.

At St. Paul's we are all called to follow Jesus together in prayer, worship, and service.

### WORSHIP

*The service begins on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*

Prelude	Adagio	C. P. E. Bach
Opening Hymn	57	Hymnal
Kyrie	S-86	Hymnal
Psalm	80:1-7, 16-18	BCP p. 702
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Te Deum	S-286	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Magnificat	Cyrs Armbrust
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;          Praise God, all creatures here below;          Praise God above, ye heav'nly host:          Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen</i>	

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome to receive initiation into the church through the sacrament of baptism.*

Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP p. 367
Sanctus	S-124	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-161	Hymnal
Communion Hymn	61	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	66	Hymnal
Postlude	Allegro di molto	C. P. E. Bach

The Altar Flowers are given by Jay Luther to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of his mother, Mava Luther.

## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**O Antiphons** continue. These short, ancient prayers, which are texts from Isaiah that foreshadow Jesus, mark the Sundays leading up to Christmas. Today we call Jesus Adonai, Lord of Lords.

**Christmas Flowers.** The beauty of our Church at Christmas time is legendary! But only if you help. If you would like to have flowers given in memory of someone you love, please contact Alex Elliot at [isaiah24257@gmail.com](mailto:isaiah24257@gmail.com) or call him at 415 488 7930. There is no specific dollar amount required for the flowers. If paying by check, please either send your check by mail or bring it in on a Sunday and put in the offering plate. Please specifically note what it is for and have all Christmas Flower donations in by Sunday, December 17.

**Christmas Gifts for Ritter Center.** There is a bin in the Narthex. Please be generous with those in need.

**The Annual Stewardship Campaign** has begun. Please fill out a pledge card with the amount of money you plan to give St. Paul's in 2018 so we can create an accurate budget. Cards can be found in the pews.

**Sunday Spiritual Forum** is at 9:00 am in Duncan Hall. We are reading aloud poems by George Herbert and John Donne, two seventeenth century English Christian poets.

**Tuesday Morning Prayer** is at 7:30 am in the Church.

**Tuesday Afternoon Sit.** You are welcome to join a small group of parishioners who do a 20 minute meditation sit in the church on Tuesdays at 5pm.

**Wednesday Bible Study** is at 10am. We are beginning a study of the Gospel of Luke.

**Thursday Afternoon Sit.** You are welcome to join a small group of parishioners who do a 20 minute meditation sit in the church on Thursday at 5:45pm.

**Thursday Bible Study** is at 6:15pm in the Upper Room. We are reading the letters of Paul.

## SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jacob Moody, Chris Hammond, Chris Olson
Readers:	Jacob Moody, Chris Hammond, Dennis Puccinelli
Altar Guild:	Michael Green, Linda Danford, Walter Tanner, Jane Santucci

# CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

## A New Season

This Sunday is the first Sunday of the season of Advent, the time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. Here are three cool things to know:

- **Psalmathon.** We kick things off on Saturday with our fourth Psalmathon. This where a group of us start at the beginning ("Happy are they who have not walked in the council of the wicked...") and then read or sing our way all the way through to the end ("...let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Hallelujah!"). It's at Redeemer church in Peacock gap. It starts at 2pm and goes until about 8pm, with a light supper.
- **Greeting Cards.** We have created beautiful, high quality cards out of two of Bruce's warm and welcoming photos of the inside of our sacred space. They are perfect for special Christmas cards or for important messages year round. They are \$30 for a pack of 8 and will be available starting Sunday.
- **Matching Grant.** An anonymous donor asked if we had paid all the expenses of the work on the Hardin Courtyard. In fact, largely due to completely redoing the irrigation and two other important additions, we were about \$17,900 over. They offered \$10,000 of a matching grant through the end of the calendar year. Every dollar that any of us gives to St. Paul's before January 1st is matched by them. Chloe and I are in for another \$1000. That means \$2000 for St. Paul's! Will you join us?

Finally, please remember to pledge if you haven't already. We rely on your generosity to do our good and Godly work.

Blessings,  
Christopher

## PRAYER

Arty	Deborah	Kevin & Tara	Mark Hardin
Bill Donnelly	Della Holloway	Laurel	Mika Kappen & Family
Cathy Westover	Grace Michael	Laurie Hubbard	Nancy S
Dan Pollart & Family	Jennifer Fritz	Lisa R	Richard F
Dawn Rice	Jim	Marcella Hermstad	Stephanie

## SERVICE

**Teen Success Breakfast:** Serve hot breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Beverly Armstrong at 415.454.4015 or [nevbev@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nevbev@sbcglobal.net).

**San Rafael Health Care:** Services 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, 11:00 – 11:25. Help us with the simple service. Children are welcome. Contact Sue Adamson at 415.461.1798.

**Prison Ministry:** St. Paul's has been engaged in regular visitations and correspondence for 20 years with Joseph Cook, a death row inmate at San Quentin who was confirmed by Bishop Swing as a member of our Church. The prison ministry has grown and the rector and other parishioners are now visiting Joe and six other inmates. For further info contact Richard Olive (415.259.9198 or [ollipops@comcast.net](mailto:ollipops@comcast.net)).

## ONGOING

**Plate Cash:** 1st Sunday of the month goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund; 3rd Sunday goes to Outreach.

**Childcare:** Sundays from 9:30 to 11:00am, childcare is available in the Basement Level classroom.

**Marin Episcopal Youth Group:** Sundays from 5-6:30pm at Church of the Redeemer in San Rafael. Middle and high school students from 5 Marin churches. Daniel London, youth minister, [daniel.london@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.london@gmail.com).

**Centering Prayer:** Meditation in the Christian tradition. Join us in Duncan Hall on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 7:00-8:30 pm. Leave a message for Chris Olson at the parish office at 415.456.4842.

**Our Spiritual Core:** Discipleship Groups are the spiritual core of St. Paul's because they are where we encourage one another to follow Jesus in worship, prayer, and service. Contact Christopher Martin at 415.456.4842 or [cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org](mailto:cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org).

**Altar Flower Dedications:** Looking for a way to honor a loved one, give thanks or remember a special occasion? You can by dedicating the flowers at the altar. A donation of \$40 is suggested. Contact Alex Elliot at 415.488.7930.

**Memorial Wall Plaques:** Contact the office if you would like to purchase a plaque to be inscribed with the name of a loved one who has died.

**St. Anne's Guild:** St. Anne's Guild meets Thursdays at 11:00am. All are invited - bring a bag lunch.

**Facebook & Twitter.** Please like and follow us to join the fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulssanrafael>, <https://twitter.com/StPaulsSR>