



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

December 24, 2023, Christmas Eve

Prelude

The Wexford Carol

English traditional carol

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn 83 O Come, All Ye Faithful vs. 1-3, 6 *All stand, if able.*

Salutation

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

People **And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.

Hymn 96 Angels We Have Heard on High

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *Followed by a brief pause.*

Collect of the Day *Said by Celebrant*

After the reading, all reply **Thanks be to God.** *Followed by a brief pause.*

The Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Seated

Hymn 82 Of the Father's Love Begotten

Gospel Luke 2:1-14 *All stand, if able.*

After the announcement, the People say: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Holy Gospel, all reply: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily The Rev. Christopher Martin *Seated*

A minute of silence, then standing, if able.

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.

Prayers of the People *The People respond by reading the words printed in bold type after each petition.*

Leader ...Let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The celebrant concludes with a prayer.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory Christmas 1949 Alan Struck; words by Ernest Bradley, Rector of St Paul's

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 unto our Lord God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing...

...who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your Glory.

Hosanna in the highest,

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love...

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father...

...glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion

Hymn 111 Silent Night *Kneeling, if able*

The Blessing

Hymn 87 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dismissal

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

Postlude The Gloucestershire Wassail English traditional carol

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

PotLuck Christmas Feast

Tomorrow morning, after the 10am Christmas Morning Service, Christopher and Chloe will be hosting the annual Potluck Feast. They provide a ham, please bring a side or a desert to share. Just show up or contact Chloe at chloeadmartin@comcacst.net

Transcending Contempt

This seminar, intended to help us become beacons of light and love in what is sure to be a tough election year, begins Saturday, January 6th in Duncan Hall. Refreshments will be served at 8:30am and the session begins at 9am. The sessions pair the writings of renowned thinkers such as Plato, Kierkegaard, Simone Weil and James Baldwin, with both discussion and invitations to weekly practices. There will be six sessions. The teachings will be available online after each Saturday.

Help us feed our hungry neighbors

Join us in Duncan Hall at 4:00pm on 1/4 and 1/18 to make sack lunches! We take them to St. Vincent's, and they hand them out to the hungry. What better way to follow in Jesus' footsteps?

Epiphany Pageant

Our annual Epiphany Pageant, with children dressed as shepherds, angels, kings, Mary and Joseph, and teens doing the narrating, will be on Sunday, January 7th at the 10am service. Rehearsal will be just before the worship service. Contact Kati at kdombrosky@gmail.com to sign up.

The Christmas flowers and decorations are the gifts of members of the parish given in memory and thanksgiving of loved ones.

Philip Adams	Bob & Alice King's many gifts & blessings
S. Jack Adams	Hosrofui Kuiumgian
Loretta Barrolle	Diane Luboff
Julia Duncan Barrolle	The Martin Family
Leander & Ruth Broering	Gloria Mederer
Jon Bugatto	Esther Molony
Bruce & Janie's blessings of family & friends.	Dwight & Grace Moody
Erna Torney Chapman	Robyne Sherman Munro
Sonja Downing	Herb & Louise Olson
The Drake Family	Therese M. Owen
Deane Spencer Du Bose	Kimberly Perrotis' many blessings from the Lord.
Dr. & Mrs. Quincey C. Fan	Wanda Rice
David Godfrey	My sister Dorothy Rogers
Mary Lynne Godfrey	Mike Rood
Michael J. Goldstein	Jane, Mark, Sarah, Hank & Deborah
Nancy J. Goldstein, my beloved mother	Nellie & Irvin Selleseth
Vincent Graham-Stadlin	Jonathan E. Smith
Michael & Hiroko's parents	Jeffrey & Irene Stahl
Frederick Hastings	Dr. Jeffrey Stevenson
Sarah Jane Hastings	Teddy Two
Thomas Hastings	Fannie Washington
William Hastings	Annie Elizabeth White
Scoop & Doc Holmes	Rachael Elizabeth White
John Horton, Senior	Rachel Wilde
Stella Barrolle Hunter	Ted Wilde
Sarah Johnson	Mr. & Mrs. James Wong

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