

Mark Your Calendar

December 7th—Church Steeple Celebration after the
10:30 a.m. service

December 24th—Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Pageant—4:00 p.m.

Carols—10:00 p.m.

Service—10:30 p.m.

January 26th—Book Club, 7:00 p.m. in the Library
(We Survived the Night by Julian Brave Noisecat)

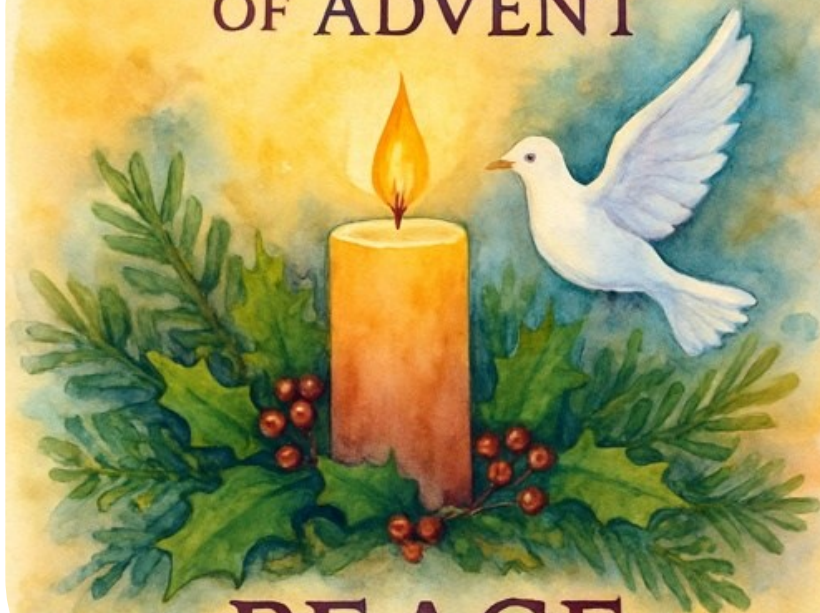


St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Exton
The Rev. Maxine Dornemann, Rector
Mary Davis, Rector's Warden
Lisa Hartman, Music Minister
Luther Detweiler, Treasurer ~ Greg LeBlanc, Auditor



December 7th, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT



PEACE

The Rev. Maxine M. Dornemann
1105 East Lincoln Highway
Exton, PA 19341
stpaulsexton.com



The Mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Exton is to create many doors by which people are invited to enter the church and to exercise hospitality by welcoming all persons who seek a closer relationship with the sacred: those who have much faith and those who have little; those who have tried to live their faith and those who have struggled.

Please be advised that worship services at St. Paul's Episcopal Church are streamed on YouTube for the benefit of our homebound or remote members. St. Paul's reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event sponsored by St. Paul's including worship services, without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. The full disclaimer is available on the Church's official website www.stpaulsextion.com and posted for review at the rear of the Sanctuary.

~ St. Paul's Community ~

Church Website & Social Media

Hopefully, you have had a chance to check out our updated church website www.stpaulsextion.com. It now contains updated information, a user guide for the recently dedicated St. Paul's Labyrinth, an overview of weekly parish activities on the Home page, and a calendar of church activities and special events on the "What's Happening at St. Paul's" page. To add events to that calendar, please send all requests to the Church Office (stpaulsextion@gmail.com). If you find incorrect information on the website, please contact the Office or Paula Turocy (turocyp@gmail.com)

We are looking for someone with expertise in social media to help run and maintain both the St. Paul's Facebook and Instagram accounts to more expertly and easily disseminate information on Church events. Please contact the Office or Paula Turocy to volunteer.

Supper Clubs

Supper Clubs at St. Paul's will start up again in January and new groups of eight are being formed. This is a great opportunity for you to have fun, socialize, and get to know your fellow parishioners even better.

Please sign up on the forms available at the back of the church sanctuary or contact Sandi Detweiler to be assigned to a group

~ St. Paul's Community ~

Bridge Academy

This Christmas Season, our St. Paul's community is partnering with The Bridge Academy Community Center to bring joy to families in Coatesville by purchasing gifts for children and teens, ages 5-17. Please keep gifts new, unwrapped, and \$25 or less and deliver to the library in Lockwood Reilly by December 9th.

There is a list of suggested gifts by age in the back of the sanctuary or you can email stpaulsexton@gmail.com for a list. Teens especially appreciate gift cards and practical items (water bottles, room lights). Thank you for considering this opportunity to share God's love.

Lectors & Ushers Still Needed

Please consider volunteering to serve as a lector or usher for Sunday worship services. The responsibilities of each position are few, but they are essential to making the services run as smoothly as possible. Ideally, we would like to have two ushers and two lectors for each service. Our goal is to add at least ten more parishioners to our current lists of volunteers, so that we can reduce the frequency of serving to once every 5-6 weeks. Please contact the Church Office (stpaulsexton@gmail.com) or Paula Turocy (turocyp@gmail.com) or 412-241-1632 if you are interested

Welcome! We are happy to have you worship with us. Please be sure to ask an usher for a guest information card before you leave today. If you have restless little ones, please make use of the rocking chair and soft toys in the Narthex.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite I: 8:00 AM

Rite II: 10:30 AM

PRELUDE

VENI EMMANUEL

ORGAN AND FLUTE

Arr. John Purifoy

ENTRANCE HYMN

HYMNAL 59

HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

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 his inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord, **Amen**

KYRIE

S95

THE COLLECT

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

~ Children's Chapel Dismissal ~

FIRST READING; A READING FROM ISAIAH 11: 1-10

In our lesson from the Hebrew Bible, the prophet foresees a time when God will bring forth a righteous judge and a new spirit of peace in the world. The wise and faithful judge will come from the stump of Jesse— that is, from the line of the great King David, whose father was Jesse. The Spirit of the Lord will be his as he defends the humble and slays the wicked. The new age of peace will extend even to the animal kingdom.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of
the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the
earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill
the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the



Officiant	The Rev. Maxine Dornmann
Music Minister	Lisa Hartman
Eucharistic Minister	Rite I: Peggy LeGarde Rite II: Joanne Gillespie, Greg LeBlanc
Lectors	Rite I: Nancy Long, Pat McDonald Rite II: Barbara Stipe, J.T. Grosch
Ushers	Rite I: Paula Turocy Rite II: Todd Gillespie, Cyndi Carter
Acolytes	Shane McDonald Emily Lindsay Tommy Soule
Altar Guild	Gayle Lindsay
Flower Guild	Pat McDonald
Bread Baker	Molly Handal
Livestream	Bil Longua
Counters	Gail Yard

COMMUNION SOLO

DUET

LO, HOW A ROSE ARR JOHN PURIFOY

COMMUNION HYMN

HYMNAL 76

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

HYMNAL 65

Prepare the Way, O Zion

POSTLUDE

ORGAN

PEOPLE, LOOK EAST
ARR. MARY McDONALD

(A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU" FOR TODAY'S FLUTIST,
ANNMARIE KOPEY)

lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on
the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of
the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal
to the peoples; the nations shall inquire
of him, and his dwelling shall be
glorious.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Give us ears to hear God's word.

Psalms 72

CANTOR Janet Grashof

Refrain:

By God's gift shall justice and peace flourish.

RCL Advent 2A Psalms 72: 1-8, 18-19

By God's gift shall justice and peace flourish

From A Hymn Tune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
 and your righteousness to the King's Son;
 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
 and the poor with justice;
 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
 and the little hills bring righteousness.
 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
 he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
 from one generation to another.
 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
 like showers that water the earth.
 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
 who alone does wondrous deeds!
 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
 and may all the earth be filled with his glory.

SECOND READING: A READING from Romans 15: 4-13

In this reading, Paul points to several passages from the Hebrew scripture to show how God's promise that the Gentile peoples should come to praise God was being fulfilled. The new Roman converts, whom Paul hopes soon to visit, are urged to live in harmony and to recognize the manner in which Christ's ministry has brought these prophecies to fruition. He is the root of Jesse, that is, the promised son of David, on whom their hope is to be set.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
 Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

HYMNAL S154

COMMUNION

Everyone who is hungry for spiritual food is welcome to be fed at this altar.

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,

**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.

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 Paul and 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

instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Give us ears to hear God's word. Amen.

Sequence Hymn

HYMNAL 67

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE
(VV 1-2 before Gospel, VV 3 after)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

SERMON

Rev. Maxine Dornemann

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 him 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. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thin image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

HYMNAL S129

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

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

In the name of our crucified and risen Lord; the peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

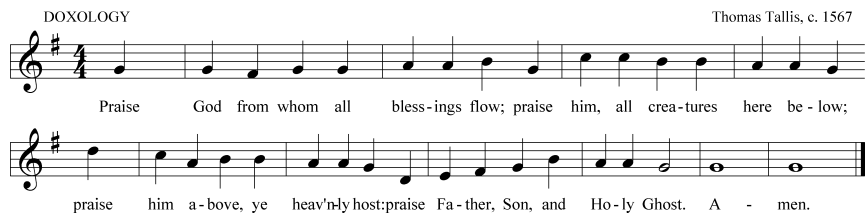
OFFERTORY

CHOIR AND FLUTE

INVOCATION FOR ADVENT BY LLOYD LARSON

SEASONAL DOXOLOGY Tallis Canon

DOXOLOGY Thomas Tallis, c. 1567



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be-low;
praise him a-bove, ye heav'nly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

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

Gracious Lord, through your messengers the prophets you have called your people to prepare the way of the Lord and to welcome the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: Speak tenderly to your people that we may wait for and hasten the coming day, saying: Blessed be his glorious name for ever;

And may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Gracious Lord, you have baptized your Church with the Holy Spirit: Inspire us to lead lives of holiness and godliness as we prepare for new heavens and a new earth. Guide our leaders, especially our Presiding Bishop Sean, our Diocesan Bishop Daniel, all Priests, Deacons and Lay Ministers and those who guide the work of our Cathedral Chapter. Keep safe our companion Diocese of Guatemala that they might experience your guidance and love as they work to be good stewards of the earth and manage their limited water supply. Blessed be his glorious name for ever:

And may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Holy Lord, we pray that the power of your holy presence may clear a path through the rubble of broken lives and hearts to make our world and all of us a new creation. Open the ears and eyes of the leaders of all the nations that they may listen to your words of peace. Blessed be his glorious name for ever:

And may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Compassionate Lord, look upon the needs of all humanity: Feed your flock like a shepherd; gather the lambs in your arms and carry them in your bosom, gently leading the mother sheep, that all may know the comfort of your strength. As we come to the end of our Stewardship Campaign, help us to trust that will you will provide

what we need to do your ministry in this Church. Blessed be his glorious name for ever:

May all the earth be filled with his glory.

Ever-present Lord, lift up your voice with power to herald good tidings to the people of the community of St. Paul's. Free us from fear and make us bold as we work to be good stewards and carry your message of love to all peoples. Blessed be his glorious name for ever:

And may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Gracious Lord, reveal your glory to all who look to you in hope, as we pray especially for those on our prayer list: Gary, Connor Munday, Laurie Grashof, Gayle, Debbie Markowitz, Billie, Kim Brown, Kathy Guilin, Cassie Bowers, Kate Travis, Kat Harting, Jennifer Christian, Iris, Amy, and Mark Emmons. Now I invite your own petitions, either silently or aloud. Bring into your everlasting rest those who have died. Blessed be his glorious name for ever;

And may all the earth be filled with his glory.

Look upon your creation and comfort your people, Holy Lord. Let every valley be lifted up and every mountain and hill be made low; let the uneven ground become level and the rough places a plain, that all people may see the revelation of the glory of God, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **AMEN.**