

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!



Thank you for celebrating Christmas with us at St. Paul's.

St. Paul's is a family of believers in Jesus Christ who love each other and our community. Stop by the Welcome Center in the church entry for information about any of our ministries. An attendant will be there to answer your questions.

For Little Children: There is a "family room" where parents can go to quiet their children during the worship service. You can hear the service there. This room is to your right as you leave the center doors of the sanctuary.

Restrooms: Restrooms are to the left as you leave the sanctuary. Handicapped/family restrooms are to your right as you leave the sanctuary.

Special Needs: Large-print worship folders and hearing assistance are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2019

WORSHIP THEME

Welcome to worship this Christmas Day. Our focus is "God so loved the world." We all desire a Christmas that is full of love. While the ways that we show love to each other, especially in families, are certainly important, God's love is so much more than a sentimental, warm, or fickle kind of love. That's why the heart of Christmas is God's redeeming love—God's rescue plan for a humanity alienated from him despite all claims of reform, goodness, or morality. The human condition of sin separates us from God, and only his action could have solved that problem. The life, death, and resurrection of his Son *has* solved the problem. By trusting what Jesus has done for us, heaven awaits us and we live life this side of heaven in loyal thanks for rescue.

+ ORDER OF SERVICE +

BELLS

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

STAND

HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
all their songs em - ploy, While fields and
thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and
floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the
make his bless - ings flow Far as the
of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far
of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
as, far as the curse is found.
won - ders, won - ders of his love.

DIALOGUE OF PRAISE

M Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

C O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. You have set your glory above the heavens.

M Give thanks to the Lord of lords, to him who alone does great wonders, who by his understanding made the heavens, who spread out the earth upon the waters, who made the great lights – the sun to govern the day, the moon and stars to govern the night.

C Great is the Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

M But our iniquities have separated us from our God; our sins have hidden his face from us, so that he will not hear. We look for light, but all is darkness; for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows. We look for deliverance, but it is far away.

C For our offenses are many in his sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our sins.

M The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

C From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

M “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord our Righteousness.”

C Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

M Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

C Let the name of the Lord be praised forever and ever. Alleluia!

HYMN

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the



o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re -
 strains pro - long? What the glad - some ti - dings
 an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed



ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o;

Glo



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 52:7-10

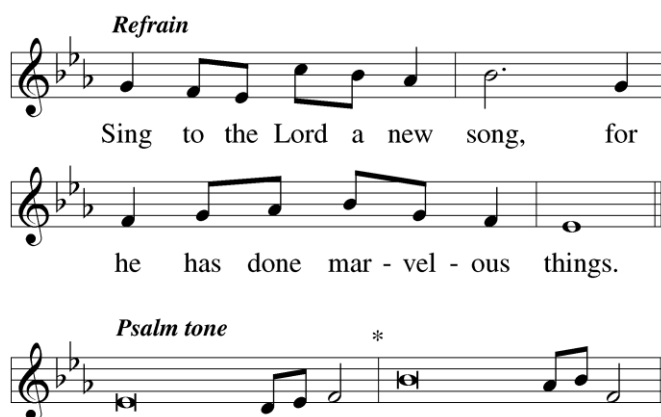
The "beautiful feet" of God's messengers are privileged to bring the good news of redemption, "the salvation of our God."

⁷ How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"

⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy.
When the LORD returns to Zion,
they will see it with their own eyes.

⁹ Burst into songs of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The LORD will lay bare his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth will see
the salvation of our God.



Sing to the LORD a new song,*
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known*
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness
to the house of Israel,*
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,*
burst into jubilant song with music;
make music to the LORD with the harp,*
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.*
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

The writer to the Hebrews describes the Christ-child: God himself made flesh for the purification of sins and the rule of righteousness

¹In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. ³The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son; today I have become your Father"?

Or again,
"I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

⁶And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,
"Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire."

⁸But about the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever,
and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom."
⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions
by anointing you with the oil of joy."

VERSE OF THE DAY

Galatians 4:4,5a

Alleluia. When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law. Alleluia.

ANTHEM

STAND

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-14

From the Word at creation to the light-shining-in-darkness of Isaiah to the preparatory work of John the Baptizer, St. John points to Jesus as the glory of the Lord, full of grace and truth.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning.

³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

⁶There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

BE SEATED



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed
 3 This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,
 5 Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther,



Ere the worlds be - gan to be, He is
 When the vir - gin, full of grace, By the
 Sang of old with one ac - cord; Whom the
 An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do -
 And the Spir - it cease - less - ly Hymn and



Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the
 Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bore the Sav - ior
 Scrip - tures of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their
 min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our
 chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - end - ing



end - ing he, Of the things that are, that
 of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall
 deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert
 min - ion And e - ter - nal vic - to -



see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 face Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Christmas Is...

1. For people who have nothing
2. For people who need everything

STAND

SECOND ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES CREED WITH LUTHER'S EXPLANATION

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

What does this mean?

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,
and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.
He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sins, from death,
and from the power of the devil;
not with gold or silver, but with his holy,
precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death,
All this he did that I may be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and
serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
This is most certainly true.**

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

C Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!

M What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

C Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.

M In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

C Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

C Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

M Lord, we pray in your name and as you taught.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BE SEATED

PREFACE

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

M Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have given us a new revelation of your glory that, seeing you in the person of your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and the archangel and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9, adapted by James Pierce

GLORIA
French

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God by high-est hosts a - dored,
Sing ho - san - na, saints a - bove, with the an - gels sing God's love.
heav'n and earth Your glo - ry sing; With them we our prais - es bring.
Bless-ed He, the com - ing One, God the Fa - ther's on - ly Son.
Refrain
Glo - ri - a
in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a
in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9, adapted by James Pierce, copyright © 2007 James Pierce.
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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

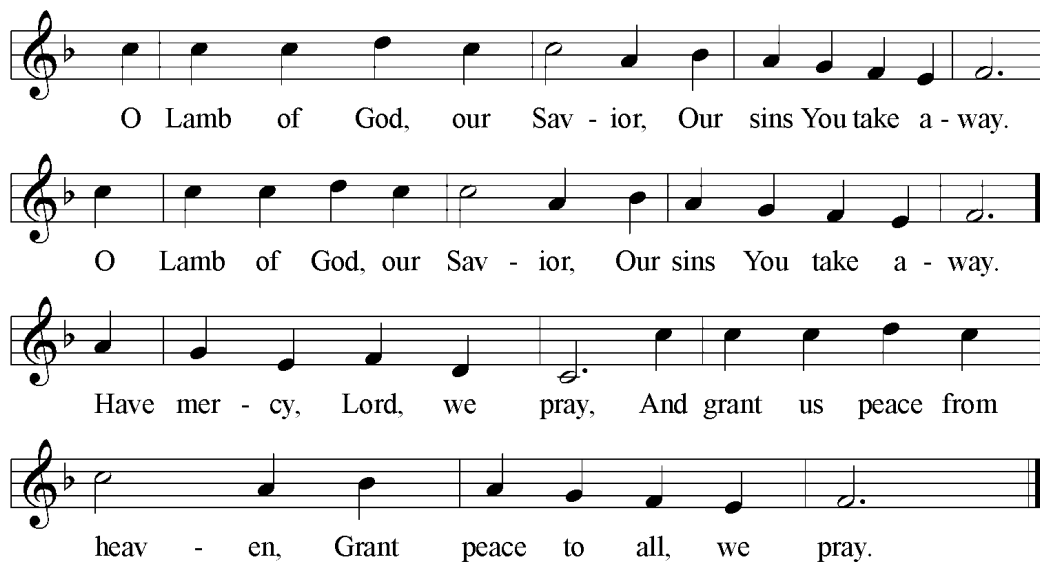
M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29, adapted by James Pierce

ES IST EIN ROS (Isorhythmic)
Alte Catholische Kirchen geseng, Köln, 1599



O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Our sins You take a - way.

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Our sins You take a - way.

Have mer - cy, Lord, we pray, And grant us peace from

heav - en, Grant peace to all, we pray.

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DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 34 NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE

38 FROM HEAV'N ABOVE TO EARTH I COME

STAND

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32 adapted by James Pierce

GREENSLEEVES
16th century



1 O Lord, now let Your ser-vant go, Your gra-cious prom-ise
2 All thanks and praise to You, O Lord, O Light for all the
keep - ing. My eyes have seen Sal - va - tion here, My
liv - ing; For Jew and Gen - tile, one and all, Your-
heart for joy is leap - ing. This, this is
self for us are giv - ing. This, this is
Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: Luke 2:29–32 adapted by James Pierce, copyright © 2007 James Pierce. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

M Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C His love endures forever.

M We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, for in him you kept all your promises through all the ages. Send us now, we pray, to tell all the news of glory in the highest and peace on earth that we have seen and heard.

C Amen.

BLESSING

M May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty — the Father, the ☉ Son, and the Holy Spirit — be upon you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

BE SEATED

PREACHER and PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor David Kuehl

MUSIC

Noel Nouvelet (As The Green Blade Rises) by Raymond Haan

Can You See the Light in Bethlehem? by Joseph Graham and David Angerman

Christmas Brass Medley" arr. Dana Everson

He Is Born by Joyce Eilers

Angelic Christmas arr. Paul Edwards

JOIN US AGAIN!

- **Traditional Service** (Saturday @ 5:00 pm, Sunday @ 7:45 and 9:15 am, Wednesday @ 7:00 pm) features the historic liturgy of the church with music led primarily by organ and piano.
- **Contemporary Service** (Sunday @ 10:45 am) retains much of the historic liturgy with worship led by one of our praise bands.
- **The Bridge** (Sunday @ 10:15 am) is held in our Trinity Gym which we transform into a modern worship environment. The setting is casual with the room darkened to allow you to participate as you feel comfortable or just listen.



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.
