



# SAINT PAUL

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A safe place to be authentic and to experience acceptance, healing, and a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.



### **Third Sunday of Advent – Moravian Love Feast December 15, 2024**

864-235-3494 - [saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com)

Live-streaming Worship Service at 11:00am at [www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/](https://www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/)

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Greer

Stay connected to your Saint Paul family

[Saintpaulgreenville.org](http://Saintpaulgreenville.org)

[Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc](https://Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc)

Podcast: [podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107](https://podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107)

Staff

Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr.

Sexton: Gary Putnam

*Please silence your mobile device. Thank you.*

\*Please stand as you are able.

### Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude "St. Anthony's Chorale" Brahms

\*Processional Hymn "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" Hymnal no.203

Lighting of the Candles

\*Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

(Light three candles)

Leader: In the beginning was the Word,

**People: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

Leader: He was with God in the beginning.

**People: Through him all things were made. In him was life.**

(Light the fourth candle)

Leader: And that life was the light of all mankind.

**People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome.**

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray

**All: May the lyrics of the songs prepare us for the days where we will sing together, forever, with You. May the sweetness of the bread be a tangible sign of all your sweet provisions in our lives. May the warm coffee be a precursor to You warming our hearts. May our prayers be heard. May the candles be a sign of who You are, and who You call us to be. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Let us pass God's peace with each other. The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

(Whether it be thanksgiving, smiles, forgiveness, embraces, waves from across the church, or encouragement, we pray your soul finds the peace it needs at this time.)

### Word and Response

Introduction to the Moravian Tradition

First Scripture Psalm 36:5-9 NRSV (pg.482 OT)

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Jesus Name" Benjamin La Trobe  
Chancel Choir

Moravian Prayer of Blessing

**Come, Lord Jesus, our guest to be, and bless these gifts bestowed  
by Thee. Bless our loved ones everywhere and keep them in thy  
loving care. Amen.**

Serving of the Love Feast Organ Instrumental  
(As you eat and drink of the feast, take time to reflect and meditate on the  
music.)

Anthem "Born Is the Light of the World" DeFord  
Chancel Choir

Second Scripture Matthew 1:18-25 NRSV (pg.1 NT)  
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Faithful Christians One and All" Michalec, 1547  
Chancel Choir

Third Scripture 1 John 4:7-12 NRSV (pg.226 NT)  
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Carol No.238 "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
Chancel Choir & Congregation

Offertory

You can give online by using the QR codes below or by dropping your offering in the plate.



Realm



\*The Doxology Hymnal No. 95  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all  
creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Distribution of Candles "Morning Star" Johan Scheffler  
Chancel Choir

\*Lighting of the Candles

Leader: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!  
**People: A light no darkness can overcome!**

Carol No.246 "Joy to the World"  
(When lighting your candle, tilt the unlighted candle toward the lighted one to avoid  
dripping wax.)

During the final refrain, the Congregation is invited to lift your candles high as an act of reaffirming one's faith in Christ.

**\*Benediction**

Leader: You are the light of the world; let your light shine before all people so that they may see your good works.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

"Trumpet Voluntary"

Purcell

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**Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts**

<b>Giving for 12/08/2024</b>	<b>Amount</b>
General Fund	\$6,479.40
Other funds	\$1,651.64
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$8,131.04</b>
General Fund Giving Goal per month	\$22,110.38
General Fund Giving Goal per week	\$5,527.60
General Fund Received this month to date	\$6,479.40

**Today's Servers:**

Reader: Eugenia Vicars

Crucifer: Wesley Miller

Acolyte: Maddie Miller

Children's Worship:

Advent Candles: Terri Vanselow

Moravian Reader: Stephanie Gamble

Special thanks to those who helped coordinate our service and Dieners (servers) for today's Love Feast. Our servers today are Daniel & Rebecca Roper and Marcus & MaryAnn Stephens. Thank you, also, to Richard and Martha Ball for making our Love Feast Buns and Stephanie Gamble for being our Moravian Reader.

**The Coffee and Love Feast Bun:** The Love Feast buns are made from a traditional recipe which includes several spices for flavoring. The slash marks on the top of the bun are often mistaken by many to be an "M" for Moravian, but they are actually a "W", which was the mark of Winkler Bakery, the original bakery in Salem, NC, still in operation today. The coffee is decaffeinated and is pre-mixed with sugar and cream.

**The Candle:** The candles traditionally are hand-poured beeswax from tin molds that have been handed down through the generations. They are then hand-wrapped (trimmed) in flame-proof crepe paper to prevent hot wax from dripping onto the holder's hands. Please handle candles with caution and hold them vertically so that wax does not drip onto the floor.

## Hail to the Lord's Anointed 203

1. Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da-vid's great-er Son!  
 2. He comes with suc-cor speed - y to those who suf-fer wrong;  
 3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit-ful earth;  
 4. To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;

Hail in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.  
 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark-ness turn to light,  
 Be - fore him, on the moun - tains, shall peace, the her - ald, go,  
 The tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are pre - cious in his sight.  
 and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.  
 his name shall stand for - ev - er; that name to us is love.

## 238 Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An-gels we have heard on high sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?  
 3. Come to Beth-le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4. See him in a man - ger laid, whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

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-en - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a,

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - -

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

- - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

WORDS: Trad. French carol; trans. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt.  
 (Luke 2:6-20)


MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes,  
 1937; harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

GLORIA  
 77.77 with Refrain

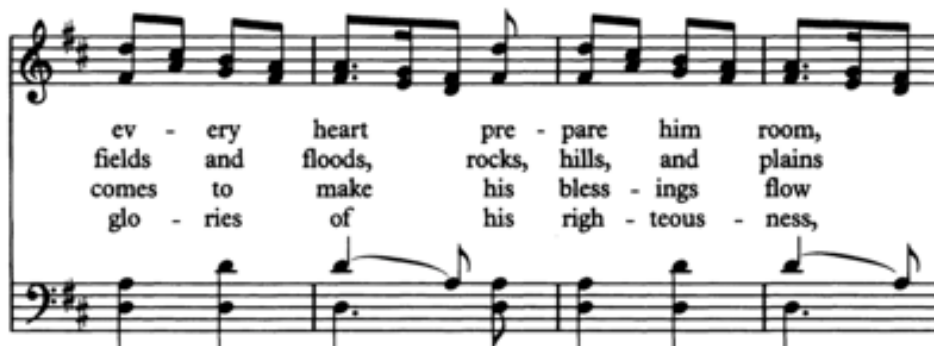
## Joy to the World



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,



Let earth re - ceive her King; let  
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while  
 nor thorns in - fest the ground; he  
 and makes the na - tions prove the



ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

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

and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his

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

sing,  
 joy,  
 found,  
 love,

and re - heaven and na - ture  
 far as the sound - ing  
 and won - ders of his

heaven, and heaven, 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.

sing,  
 joy,  
 found,  
 love,

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)  
 MUSIC: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

ANTIOCH  
 CM with Repeat



## Important Dates to Remember

Sun, 12/15	Blessing of the Gifts	In worship
	Moravian Love Feast	In worship
	SALT Class Christmas Party: Cheshire home	5:00pm
Mon, 12/16	Finance Committee meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Tues, 12/17	Bag Packing: MT Anderson, 100 Blassingame	10:00am
	Men's Community: TBD	7:00pm
Wed, 12/18	Chancel Choir rehearsals	7:00pm

## Upcoming events:

Sun, 12/22	Fourth Sunday in Advent	
Tues, 12/24	Christmas Eve Service: Saint Paul	TBD
12/25 – 1/2	Office Closed	

## Weekly Events

Every Wednesday	Chancel Choir rehearsal: Saint Paul	7:00pm
Every Sunday	Youth Group: Saint Paul	5:30pm

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## From Pastor Matt

(You can always reach me at 864-421-3800 or [matthewegreer@gmail.com](mailto:matthewegreer@gmail.com))

*I am starting out the new year with a new phone! Please take a couple of minutes to send a text to the number above with your name. Thank you!*

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**Office Hours:** We are open from 8:30am until 1:30pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:30 to 12:30 on Wednesday. I am available at the above contact info and/or contact the office via the church email and phone during these hours. ***The office will be closed 12/25 through 1/1/2025.***

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## Saint Paul Cares

**Happy Birthday:** Bowman Franks, 12/18; Lauren Searcy 12/20

**Happy Anniversary:** David & Taunja Pool, 12/17; Steve and Jimmi-Lou Vaughn, 12/18; Richard & Martha Ball, 12/18

**In your prayers, please remember:**

Roger Barrett, Chelsea Biggers, Annette Bostic, Thomas Brown, Linda Bruce, William Bruce (Bruce/Terminato family), Jere, Byington, Ray Byington, Van Clinkscales, Connie Cox, Darrie Crabtree, *Patsy Crabtree*, Natalie Davis, *Catherine Gilstrap*, Marie Good, Doris Goodwin, Carol Head, Sue Howard, Dot Huff, Missy Huff, Stacy & Jeff Israel, Lee Jenkinson, Carol Johnson, Jean Jones, Larry Jones, Brent Kanipe, Tinsley Lyles, Chuck McLesky, Betty McWhite, Alan Myers, Faye Mulligan, Ronnie Roberts, Diane Robertson, Beth Rogers, Joyce Searcy, Deirdra Simmons, Nancy Smith, Suzanne Sprinkle, Alicia Terminato, Barry & Karen Thomas, *Lily Thompson*, friends serving in the Armed Services, first responders, and the leaders of the United States of America. (Bold = New, Italics = Currently in hospital or rehabilitation)

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## Upcoming Meetings



**Trustees:** Will be meeting on 1/7/2025 at Saint Paul at 7pm. Please note this is a change of day. Members are John Sprinkle, Chris Cox, Neal Franks, Marcus Stephens, Elliott Hall, Stephanie Gamble, and Tracey Biggers. All are welcome!



**S/PPRC:** Will be meeting on 1/13 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Troy Gamble, Steve Vaughn, Edna Patterson, Christine Hall, Debra Hampton, Janet Cook, and Eugenia Vicars. New members are welcome to attend: John Tate, Janet Cook, Tommy Head. This is a closed meeting.



**Finance Committee:** Will be meeting on 12/16 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Stephen Newman, David Knobloch, Eugenia Vicars, Tracey Biggers, Stephanie Gamble, Edna Patterson, Tommy Head, and Pastor Matt. New members are welcome to attend: Dot Huff. All are welcome!



**Church Council:** Will **NOT** be meeting on 12/23. All members are asked to attend. Members are Tracey Biggers, Heather Storey, Camille Pool, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobloch, Stephen Newman, John Sprinkle, Carol Head, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Debra Hampton, Elaine Byers, Mary Anne Terminato, John Tate, Becky Hollifield, and Pastor Matt. New members are welcome to attend. All are welcome!

If you are unsure if you are on a committee or team, please contact the office.

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**YOUTH GROUP:** Join us at 5:30pm.

**THE CHOSEN:** We are watching *The Chosen* during the Sunday School hour. We are watching on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the youth rooms. This is open for all ages to join us. The first season is rated TVPG.

**A NOTE FROM S/PPRC:** This is the last Sunday we are collecting for the Staff Christmas Bonuses for Melissa, Bill, and Gary through Sunday, December 15th. Please consider a generous donation to help us thank our wonderful staff for their continued dedication to St. Paul. Please ensure you designate your donation as "staff Christmas Bonus" when donating. All money donated goes divided equally between the staff members.

**STEWARDSHIP 2025:** Pledge cards are available in the narthex next to the offering box.

**BAG PACKING:** We will be packing food bags for Greenville County students on 12/17 at MT Anderson located at 100 Blessingame at 10am. All volunteers are welcome. For more information, please see Pastor Matt.





## Reverse Advent 2024

Dear friends of Saint Paul UMC,

The Children's Ministry is sponsoring a Reverse Advent Project to support our School Fund Project of providing Weekend Bags for students at Sullivan Center.

We will collect individual size snacks, breakfast options and microwavable meals. Students can't learn and be at their best if they are hungry or wondering where their next meal is coming from. We want to help them be the best they can be while showing that someone cares about them.

On the reverse side of this letter, you will find a calendar with an item for each day of Advent to place in a box or bag. Please bring the box or bag to the Christmas Eve Communion Service at Saint Paul on Christmas Eve and place at the Chrismon tree.


























We are grateful for your support of this project.

Children's Ministry of Saint Paul UMC  
Eugenia Vicars, Children's Coordinator



# December

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Applesauce cups 	2 Grifts 	3 Campbell's Soup Cups 	4 Vienna sausage 	5 Cheez Its Snack size 	6 Ramen Noodles 	7 Chef Boyardee Beefaroni 
8 Microwave Mac & Cheese Cup 	9 Chef Boyardee Ravioli 	10 Poptarts 	11 Beanee Weenes 	12 Goldfish Snack size 	13 Fruit Cups- Mixed Fruit 	14 Granola bar 
15 Oatmeal 	16 Pudding Cups 	17 Chef Boyardee Spaghetti 	18 Nutri Grain Bars 	19 Fruit Cups- Pineapple 	20 Teddy Grahams Snack Size 	21 Rice Krispie Treat 
22 Chef Boyardee Lasagna 	23 Cereal Individual size 	24 Fruit cups- Peaches 				 Food Collection

