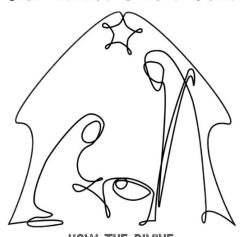


A safe place to be authentic and to experience acceptance, healing, and a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

ORDINARY CHRISTMAS



HOW THE DIVINE
USES THE ORDINARY
TO DO THE IMMACULATE.

PIC.COLLAGE

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

 $864\text{-}235\text{-}3494 \quad \text{-} \quad saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com}$

Live-streaming Worship Service at 11:00am at www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Greer

Stay connected to your Saint Paul family

Staff

Saintpaulgreenville.org Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr. Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc Church Administrator: Melissa Campbell

Podcast: podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107 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 "Away In A Manger" Murray

*Processional Hymn "Away In A Manger" Hymnal no.217

Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship

Leader: You could've come like a mighty storm People: with all the strength of a hurricane.

Leader: You could've come like a forest fire

People: with the power of heaven in Your flame.

Leader: But You came like a winter snow,

People: quiet and soft and slow, Leader: falling from the sky in the night

People: to the Earth below.

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray

All: In the ordinary that covers and fills this world, may we never forget the extraordinary things you've done, are doing, will do. May we never forget those divine words to Mary: "For nothing shall be impossible with God.". 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.

Anthem Carol Sing Along Congregation

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Hymnal no.230
"Silent Night" Hymnal no.239
"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" Hymnal no.240
"Once in Royal David's City" Hymnal no.250

Word and Response

Children's Sermon

Children will come forward.

Following the children's sermon, we invite our K3 to 2nd grade children to follow the designated adult upstairs for a lesson and craft. Please follow the instructions on the name tag found in the back of your pew. At the end of the Prayers of the People, the adult leaders will bring them back to the sanctuary and ensure they return to their parent/quardian.

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Between song and word, show us how you use the ordinary in your holy and perfect plan; and count us amongst that ordinary that you can use. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith

"The Apostles' Creed"

UM Hymnal #881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Hymnal no.70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*Sermon Scripture

Luke 1:46-51

NRSV (pg.53 NT)

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Series Part 3 "Ordinary Christmas: Mary" Rev. Matthew Green

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Response: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

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, forever. Amen.

Sending

*Closing Hymn "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Hymnal no.218

*Benediction

Postlude "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Traditional

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 12/15/2024	Amount
General Fund	\$8,636.83
Other funds	\$541.98
Total Giving	\$9,178.81
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	\$12,472.36

Today's Servers:

Reader: Karsyn Miller Crucifer: Wesley Miller Acolyte: Maddie Miller Children's Worship: Lauren Searcy

Advent Candles: The Gamble family



WORDS: Anon. (Lk. 2:7) MUSIC: James R. Murray, 1887

fit

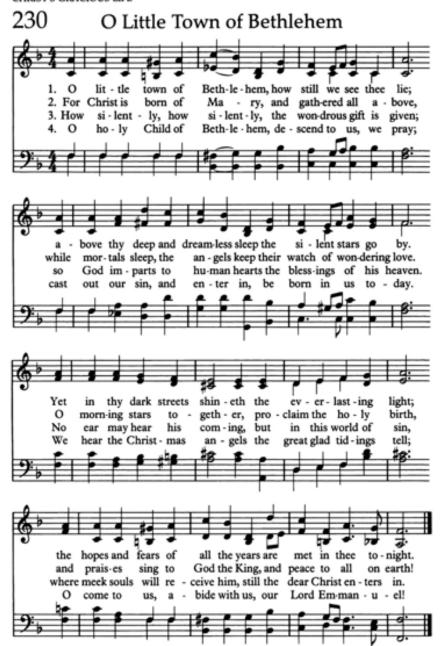
us for

heav - en

and

there.

live with thee



WORDS: Phillips Brooks, ca. 1868 MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner, 1868



WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt.; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. by John F. Young; st. 4 trans. anon. (Lk. 2:6-20)

MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



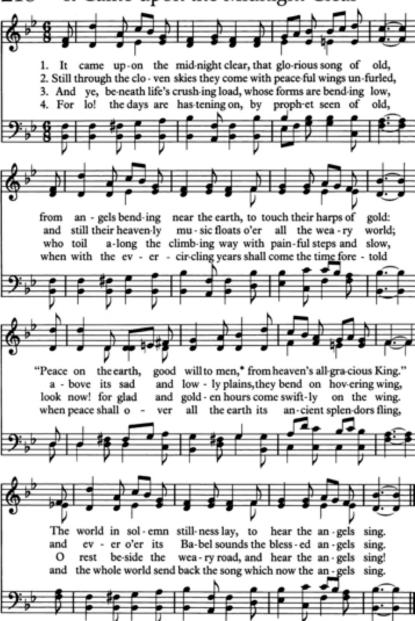
BIRTH AND BAPTISM



Once in Royal David's City roy - al Da-vid's Once in cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle 2. He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of is our child-hood's pat-tern; day by day, like us he 4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re-deem-ing shed, moth - er laid her bv in where all, and shel - ter was а sta - ble, and his lit - tle, weak, help - less, and grew; he was and tears child love; that dear and our man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry, lov ing moth - er stall. cra - dle was With the poor, the scorned, the smiles like he knew; and he feel eth for his chil - dren Lord in heaven bove; and leads Ιe child. mild, Christ, lit - tle earth Sav - ior low - ly lived on our ho - ly. sad - ness, and he shar eth in our glad - ness. the place where he to gone.

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Lk. 2:7) MUSIC: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

218 It Came upon the Midnight Clear



*"all" may be substituted

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears, 1849 (Lk. 2:8-14) MUSIC: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

Important Dates to Remember

Sur	ı, 12/22	Fourth Sunday in Adven	t	
_	40/04		_	

Tues, 12/24 Christmas Eve Service: Saint Paul 5:00pm

Wed, 12/25 Christmas Day 12/25 – 1/1 Office Closed

Upcoming events:

Sun, 12/29 Worship 11:00am

Tues, 12/31 New Year's Eve Wed, 1/1/2025 New Year's Day

Weekly Events

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

From Pastor Matt

(You can always reach me at 864-421-3800 or <a href="mailto:mailt

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!

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.**

Saint Paul Cares

Happy Birthday: MaryAnn Stephens, 12/24

Happy Anniversary: There are no anniversaries this week.

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)

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 Christine Hall, Steve Vaughn, Edna Patterson, John Tate, Janet Cook, Tommy Head, Eugenia Vicars, and Pastor Matt. This is a closed meeting.



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 1/20 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Stephen Newman, David Knobeloch, Eugenia Vicars, Dot Huff and Pastor Matt. All are welcome!



Church Council: Will be meeting on 1/27. Members are Heather Storey, Camille Pool, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobeloch, Stephen Newman, Christine Hall, John Sprinkle, Carol Head, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Debra Hampton, Mary Anne

Terminato, and Pastor Matt. New members are welcome to attend. All are welcomel

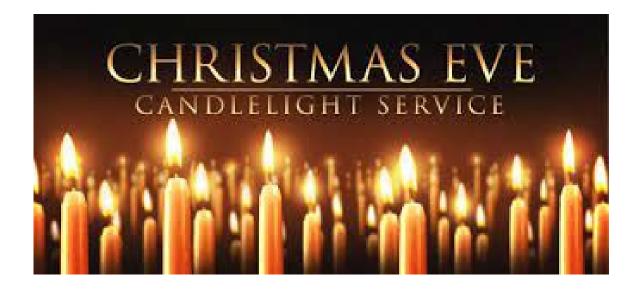
Announcements & Upcoming Events

YOUTH GROUP: Join us at 5:30pm.

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

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 1/7 at 10am at MT Anderson located at 100 Blassingame at 10am. All volunteers are welcome. For more information, please see Pastor Matt.



Join us on 12/24 at 5pm for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

