



SAINT PAUL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent **December 19, 2021**

864-235-3494 - saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com

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

Stay connected to your Saint Paul family

Saintpaulgreenville.org

Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc

Goldysermons.podomatic.com

Pastor: Rev. Michael Goldston

Staff

Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr.

Church Administrator: Melissa Campbell

Sexton: Gary Putnam

Youth Minister: Rachael Cline

Please silence and turn off Wi-Fi on your mobile device to ensure we have the bandwidth to livestream today's service. Thank you.

*Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude "Away in a Manger" Murray

*Processional Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" Hymnal no.238
Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candle Dr. Derek C. Weber

Leader: Come, joy, lighten our spirits.

People: Come, hope, lift us from despair.

Leader: Come, peace, ease our frantic worry.

People: Come, love, shine in all we do.

Leader: Come, Jesus, be born in us.

People: Come, Lord, set us free.

Leader: Come, God,

People: Rule in our hearts and teach us to sing with joy!

Opening Prayer RCL prayers

Leader: Let us pray

All: Shepherd of Israel, you gently support the one who is with child and call forth the Lamb who dances in the womb, Stir our hearts to recognize Christ's coming, as Elizabeth recognized his presence in Mary's radiant obedience to your desire, an open our souls to receive the one who came to love your flock. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us pass God's peace with each other. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please remain in your seat. Make signs of peace to those with you in person and connect with your phone with other live viewers through Facebook "comments.")

Welcome and Announcements

Word and Response

Children's Sermon Children will come forward and sit on the dots.

Following the children's sermon, we invite our K3 to 2nd grade children to follow the designated adult upstairs. Please follow the instructions on the name tag found in the back of your pew. The children will have a lesson and craft while socially distant and wearing masks. 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/guardian.

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting and watching, the hoping and longing, the sorrow and rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

*First Reading Luke 1:46-55 NRSV (pg.53 NT)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

*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.

Second Scripture Micah 5:2-5a NRSV (pg.815 OT)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Series "Come Home for Christmas"

Part 4 "The Blessing of Home"

Anthem "Christmas Grace" Schram

Chancel Choir

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.

Offertory

Giving Links:

PayPal - <https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=Y9NV28ABLG5LW>

Realm - <https://onrealm.org/StPaulUMC1107/give/now>

To **give to Christmas Staff Bonus** – PayPal: write “Staff Bonus” in the Notes section. Realm: select “Christmas Staff Gift” in the Realm fund menu

*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.

Sending

*Closing Hymn

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Hymnal no.250

*Benediction

(As you leave, please respect the social distancing needs of others.)

Postlude

“When Christmas Morn is Dawning”

German Carol

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 12/12/2021	Amount	Attendance
General Fund:	\$820.00	12/12/2021
Legacy:	\$25.00	In-person: 63
PANCan		Streaming households: 12
Staff Bonus:	\$140.00	*Viewers reached: 85
Processing fees:	\$6.91	
Total Giving:	\$991.91	

*“Streaming households” is the number of screens tuned in during the live broadcast on Sunday. “Viewers” are the number of screens that watched the service for at least 3 seconds throughout the week.

We are still counting the donations for PANCAN. Thank you for supporting this mission and helping to find a cure!

Worship Bags are available for children K3-2nd grade on the bench in the narthex. Look for your name or grab an unlabeled bag. They contain fun items and reusable stickers so the Bible story can be retold over and over. You may return them to the narthex as you leave or leave in your seat. Hope everyone enjoys their bag.

Today’s Servers:

Lay Leader: Eugenia Vicars

Counters: Debbie Goodwin & Edna Patterson

Media: Mary Anne Terminato

Audio: Davis Lupo

Projector: Collins Cheshire

Children’s Worship: TBD

Advent: The Storey family

Reader: Stephanie Gamble

Acolyte: Steele Gamble

Crucifer: Stephanie Gamble

Ushers: Edna Patterson

Jeannine Cox

Rebecca Roper

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 - - -

WORDS: Trad. French carol; trans. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt. (Lk. 2:6-20)
 MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;
 harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

GLORIA
 77.77 with Refrain

Once in Royal David's City 250

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
 3. Je - sus 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, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 grew; he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
 love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the
 smiles like us he knew; and he feel - eth for our
 Lord in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

Important Dates to Remember

Current week:

Sun, 12/19	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9:30am
	Sunday School	10:15am
	Confirmation Class: Saint Paul	5:30pm
	Joint Youth Group: Saint Paul	6:30pm
Mon, 12/20	Finance Committee meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Tues, 12/21	Bible Study: Zoom	7:30pm
Fri, 12/24	Office Closed	
	Candlelight and Communion worship	6:00pm

Upcoming events:

12/28 – 12/31 Office Closed for the holidays

From Pastor Michael

(You can always reach me at 864-979-2435 or megoldston@umcsc.org)



Bible Study: Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:30pm. We are continuing to study Acts and meet via Zoom.



Project Host: If you would like to join me in service to the hungry in our community, go to <https://www.projecthost.org/> and sign up to volunteer on the second Monday of each month from 9am to 1pm.

Office Hours: We are open from 8:15am until 1:30pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:00 to 12:30 on Wednesday. I am available at the above contact info and Melissa is available through the church email and phone. The Office will be closed 12/24 and 12/28-31.

[Share our live-stream on your Facebook page.](#)

Take five minutes and write us a **review!** [Facebook](#) or [Google](#)

Sunday School for December

Classes will meeting in their regular classroom. The Older Elementary Class will be moving back to the Children's Wing and will be in the small room off of the Kindergarten/First Grade Classroom. The youth will meet in the Youth Room.

Classes will meet December 19th at 10:15 – 10:45am. We will reevaluate things for the Winter Quarter and determine if we will continue with two Sundays a month or will be able to return to meeting every week.

We will continue to monitor the COVID numbers and make adjustments as needed. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Eugenia Vicars, Sunday School Superintendent.

Sunday Worship Safety Protocols

1. **Cloth or surgical face masks** covering the nose and mouth are **required** when unable to maintain 6-ft. social distancing inside the building. In the balcony, everyone aged 3 and older should remain masked for the entire service. If seated in the lower sanctuary, you may take off your mask when seated while maintaining 6-ft. social distancing.
 2. Please maintain social distancing throughout the time you are in the building and in the pews.
 3. Pre-registration continues to be necessary for contact tracing. Please sign up using this link: <https://forms.gle/KKHMWBTa1Ptk2HZs7>. You can also sign up by clicking on the picture in the Weekly Update or by going to our website. If you do not pre-register, please register with the usher when you enter.
 4. Please self-screen for symptoms or close contact with a known positive case and worship from home if you have them.
 5. If you test positive and determine that you were contagious when you attended worship, please let the office know so we may notify close contacts.
-

Saint Paul Cares

Happy Birthday: Lauren Searcy, 12/20; MaryAnn Stephens, 12/24

Happy Anniversary: Joe & Peggy Whitmire are celebrated 50 years on 12/25! Congratulations!

In your prayers, please remember:

Abbie Barnette, Roger Barrett, Vicki Bolen, Annette Bostic, Tom Boykin, Zonelle Boykin, Linda Bruce, Chastity Campbell, Cheyanne Cantwell, Connie Cox, **family of Farrell Cox**, Eleanor Cunningham, Natalie Davis, Jim Fayssoux, Sherre Forrester, Stephen Foster, Catherine Gilstrap, Marie Good, Debbie Goodwin, Doris Goodwin, Lisa Harbin, Carol Head, Dawn Hollingsworth, Sue Howard, Boone Hoyt and family, Lee Jenkinson, Victor Jenkinson, Larry & Jodi Johnson, Larry Jones, Jean Jones, Tinsley Lyles, Crystal McCoy, Karsyn Miller, Mackenzie Murphy, Kenneth & Jan Osborne, Marie Phillips, Benjamin Pool, Pam Putnam, Ronnie Quinn, Ronnie Roberts, Diane Robertson, Joyce Searcy, Mary Lee Shirley, Nancy Smith, Rev. Murray Snow and family, John Sprinkle, Suzanne Sprinkle, Carolyn Warlick, Allyssa Whech, Joe Whitmire, Sharon Williams, 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)

Missions: Salkehatchie, Empowering Haitians, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Legacy Elementary, Hinton Center

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Trustee of the Month is Whitney Feaster.



The **Joint Youth Group** will be meeting at Saint Paul on 12/19 at 6:30pm.



The **Confirmation class** will be meeting at 5:30pm on 12/19. The Joint Youth Group meeting will follow.



The next **Fellowship Luncheon** will be on 1/11 at 11:30am at the Yard House on Woodruff Road. Come join us for our first meal together in 2022! RSVP: <https://forms.gle/Z2DGXSkKqjhpG3yA6>



Join us Christmas Eve for our **Candlelight and Communion Service** at 6pm. Let us celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ together in an evening of reflection, communion, and fellowship. All protocols will be in place for this service. Remember to wear your mask when entering, exiting, and moving around the building.

Upcoming Meetings



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 12/20 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Becky Hollifield, David Knobeloch, Melissa Campbell, Donna Connelly, Tommy Head, Suzanne Sprinkle, Eugenia Vicars, Lori Cheshire, John Tate, and Pastor Michael. All are welcome!



Church Council: will not be meeting in December. The next meeting will be 1/24 at 8pm via Zoom. Members will be Tracey Biggers, Lori Cheshire, Heather Storey, Janet Cook, Peggy Whitmire, Collins Cheshire, Eugenia Vicars, Jim Storey, David Knobeloch, Becky Hollifield, Carol Head, Davis Lupo, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Elaine Byers, and Mary Anne Terminato. All are welcome!



Trustees: Will be not meeting in December. The next meeting will be 1/6 at 8pm via Zoom. They are working on a January meeting date. Members will be Ed Pool, Jason Cheshire, John Smith, Jimmie-Lou Vaughn, Debbie Goodwin, and Chris Cox. All are welcome!



S/PPRC: Will be meeting on 1/10 at 8pm via Zoom. Members will be Rebecca Roper, Tennille Crnobrnja, Jim Storey, Katie Knobeloch, Donna Connelly, Eugenia Vicars, and Troy Gamble. This is a closed meeting.

Opportunities to Serve



We are continuing to collect food items for **Legacy Food Backpacks**. Please drop off any donations in the shopping cart located in the narthex. Our next bag packing will be 1/4 at 9am. If you need more information, please contact the office or Edna Patterson at ednapatterson04@gmail.com.



[We are continuing to collect non-perishable items for the Hygiene Bags. Please leave donations in the shopping cart located in the narthex and they will be stored until needed. Please see the display in the narthex to see what we need. Thank you!](#)



United Ministries will not have its one-day coat giveaway this year. Instead, we will give out coats all winter as needed. The most often needed are L, XL, XXL, XXXL **all-weather coats** – not wool or coats that need to be dry cleaned. We do not need children's coats this year as they have already been provided. Many thanks for your help with this need. Coats may be delivered Monday – Friday from 8:30 – 12:00.

Let someone know about our **free wi-fi hotspot** for e-learning!

Network: St. Paul Guest

Password: Guest



Reverse Advent 2021

Dear friends of Saint Paul UMC,

The Children's Ministry is sponsoring a Reverse Advent Project to support Saint Paul's Backpack Ministry.

Our goal is for each family to fill reusable grocery bags with 24 food items during Advent to provide food for 50 children at Legacy on the weekend.

When students leave school for the weekend, the last thing they should have to worry about is how they are going to get their next meal. Our Backpack Ministry program provides children at risk of weekend hunger a bag of food that is child-friendly, nutritious, nonperishable and easy to eat. Partnering with Legacy Charter Elementary, Backpacks are distributed every Friday so that children have meals for the weekend. Each Backpack provides enough food that a child can easily assemble into six healthy meals. This helps ensure that children will have food over the weekend and return to school on Monday ready to learn.





















On the reverse side of this letter you will find a calendar with an item for each day of December to place in a reusable grocery bag. Each item is an individual portion size product. Please bring the bags to the Christmas Eve Communion Service at Saint Paul on Christmas Eve.

We are grateful for your support of this project.

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

December

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Please place food items in reusable grocery bags to bring to the church on Christmas Eve. We can always use 2-gallon, resealable plastic bags.</p>						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Velveeta Mac & Cheese Cup 	Chef Boyardee Ravioli 	Kool-Aid Pouches 	Beanee Weenes 	Goldfish Snack size 	Fruit Cups- Mixed Fruit 	Horizon Organic milk 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Oatmeal 	Pudding Cups 	Chef Boyardee Spaghetti 	Nutri Grain Bars 	Fruit Cups- Pineapple 	Teddy Grahams Snack Size 	Apple Juice boxes 
19	20	21	22	23	24	
Chef Boyardee Lasagna 	Cereal Individual size 	Fruit cups- Peaches 	Campbell's Soup Cups 	Grits 	Applesauce cups 	Food Collection 