



# SAINT PAUL

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24, 2021**

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/)

\*Please stand as you are able.

## Gathering

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude "He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel

\*Processional Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Hymnal no.234

Lighting of the Candles

\*Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candles Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; John 3:16

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome. We come tonight to celebrate God coming to be with us in Jesus.

**People: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.**

(Light the first candle.)

Leader: We light the candle of hope as a sign of the promises God made through the prophets to come and be with us.

**People: A child is born to us, a son is given to us! Authority will be on his shoulders. He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.**

(Light the second candle.)

Leader: We light the candle of peace as a sign of forgiveness and new relationships with God and with each other in the reign of God on earth.

**People: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for David's throne and for his kingdom. He will establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness now and forever.**

(Light the third candle.)

Leader: We light the candle of joy as a sign that God lifts up the weak and the hurting, the poor and the weary.

**People: The passion of the Lord of hosts will do this.**

(Light the fourth candle.)

Leader: We light the candle of love as a sign that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

**All: Christ is born. Alleluia!**

Opening Prayer of Confession

**All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.** (silence for personal prayer)

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to us all. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**All: Glory to God, 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.”)

Word and Response

Hymn No.224 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (verse 1)

Children’s Sermon

(All children are invited to come forward and sit around the Chrismon tree with Pastor Michael to share the Christmas story.)

Hymn No.240 “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” (verse 1)

\*Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-21 NRSV (p.54 NT)

Sermon Series “Come Home for Christmas”  
Part 4 “Welcome Home”

Anthem "O Holy Night" Adam, 1847  
William Searcy, tenor

Christmas Love Offering

100% of tonight’s offering goes to support the clothes closet at Legacy Elementary children. Text **saintpaul legacy \$(amount)** to **73256** to give to the Legacy ministry. Standard text message rates do apply.

Offertory “Jesus Name, Jesus Name” Moravian Hymn

\*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.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving Hymnal, pg. 13

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Pastor: The Lord be with you.   | <b>People: And also with you.</b>                                  |
| Lift up your hearts.  | <b>We lift them up to the Lord.</b>                                |
| Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.   | <b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b>                  |
| (Pastor praises the Father)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn! | <b>(singing) Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!</b> |
| (Pastor praises the Son)... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.                | <b>Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again</b>    |

## 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.**

## \*Giving the Bread and Cup

This is the Lord's Table. Everyone seeking the grace of God in Jesus Christ is invited to participate. The ushers will direct you to come forward in small groups and kneel at the altar rail. You will receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice to eat and drink with your group. Individually wrapped cups and wafers and gluten-free wafers are available. You may remain in prayer, then return to your seat via the outside aisles.

Hymn No.217

Hymn No.230

Hymn No.219

Hymn No.249

"Away in a Manger"

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

"What Child Is This"

"There's a Song in the Air"

## Closing Prayer

### Service of the Light

Lighting of the Candles  
"Silent Night"

John 1:1-5  
Hymn No.239

## \*Benediction

\*Hymn Response

"Joy to the World" (verse 1)

Hymn No.246

Go into the world, singing the joy of Christmas, and extinguish your candles as you leave the sanctuary.

## \*Postlude

"Joy to the World"

Jay Althouse

## Today's Servers:

Reader: Stephanie Gamble

Crucifer: Stephanie Gamble

Acolyte: Steele Gamble

Advent: Matt, Charmaine, and Benjamin Pool

## Stay connected to your Saint Paul family:

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

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

[Goldysermons.podomatic.com](http://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



## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O  
 1. *A - des - te, fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes; ve -*  
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal,  
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O  
 \* 4. See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra - dle,

come ye, O come ye, to Beth - le - hem.  
*ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem.*  
 lo, he shuns not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!  
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
*Na - tum vi - de - te Re - gem an - ge - lor - um.*  
 Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;

## Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,  
*Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,*

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.  
*ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, Do - mi - num.*

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 224

Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and

voice;

1. give ye heed to what we say: News, news!
2. now ye hear of end - less bliss: News, news!
3. now ye need not fear the grave: News, news!

Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and ass be -  
 Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - pened  
 Jē - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and

fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 heav - en's door, and ye are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day, Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

WORDS: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855  
 MUSIC: German melody; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

IN DULCI JUBILO  
 66.727.78.55

## 240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th' in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

## BIRTH AND BAPTISM

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

## Away in a Manger

217

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes;  
 close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray;

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky  
 bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.



## O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - le town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;  
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given;  
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 so God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
 O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

## What Child Is This

219

1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Ma - ry's  
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and  
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant,

lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tians, fear, for  
 king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

## There's a Song in the Air

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
 2. There's a tu - mult of joy o'er the won - der - ful birth,  
 3. In the light of that star lie the a - ges im - pearled;  
 4. We re - joice in the light, and we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer and a ba - by's low cry!  
 for the vir - gin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.  
 and that song from a - far has swept o - ver the world.  
 that comes down through the night from the heav - en - ly throng.

And the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,  
 Ay! the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,  
 Ev - ery hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing  
 Ay! we shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring,

for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!  
 for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!  
 in the homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!  
 and we greet in his cra - dle our Sav - ior and King!

## Silent Night, Holy Night

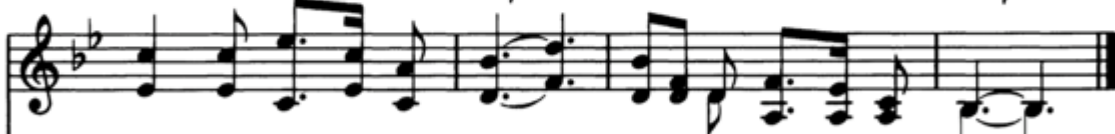
239



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright  
 1. *Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft, ein - sam wacht*  
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight;  
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won - drous star, lend thy light;



round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
*nur das trau - te hoch - hei - li - ge Paar, Hold - er Kna - be mit lock - i - gem Haar,*  
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,  
 with the an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;



sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
*schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh, schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!  
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!




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

STILLE NACHT  
 Irr.

## 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,

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

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 - heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is  
 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,