



SAINT PAUL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Saint Paul UMC presents:

THE PROOF IN Christmas

November 27th to January 8th

*Sundays at 11:00 am &
Christmas Eve at 6:00 pm*

First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2022

864-235-3494 - 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

Saintpaulgreenville.org

Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc

Podcast: podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107

Staff

Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr.

Church Administrator: Melissa Campbell

Sexton: Gary Putnam

Please silence your mobile device. Thank you.

*Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" Bach

*Processional Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymnal no.211

Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle Psalm 30:5

Leader: The Lord's anger will come and go

People: But God's goodness lasts a lifetime.

Leader: There may be pain and weeping that stays the whole night.

People: But joy comes in the morning.

(Lighting of the first candle of Advent)

Leader: Christmas is proof that

People: Something better is coming.

* Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray

All: Oh Lord, our God in all grief, hurt, and lament, we cry out to you from the in between: we celebrate your first coming, but still wondering, and waiting about your return. Speak to us, this advent, tell us something better IS coming. 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.)

Welcome and Announcements

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/guardian.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 30:1-7

UM Hymnal pg.762

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.

*Sermon Scripture

Luke 3:1-6, 15-18

NRSV (pg.56 NT)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Something Better is Coming"

Anthem

"You Are Mine"

Haas

Bill Searcy, tenor

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>

*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

“Take Time to Be Holy”

Hymnal no.395

*Benediction

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

Postlude

“In Dulci Jubilo”

Bach

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 11/20/2022	Amount	Attendance
General Fund Memorials & Honorariums	\$1,823.37	11/20/2022
Other funds	\$833.73	In-person: 60
Total Giving:	\$2,657.10	Online Views: 19

Today's Servers:

Reader: Stephanie Gamble

Acolyte: Steele Gamble

Nursery: Heather Storey

Crucifer: Stephanie Gamble

Advent: The Ball family

Children's Worship: Donna Connelly

211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things
 3. O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on
 4. O come, thou Root of Jes - se's tree, an en - sign of thy

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times once gave the law
 peo - ple be; be - fore thee ru - lers si - lent fall;

Refrain

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 and cause us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 all peo - ples on thy mer - cy call.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

5. O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home.
The captives from their prison free,
and conquer death's deep misery.
Refrain

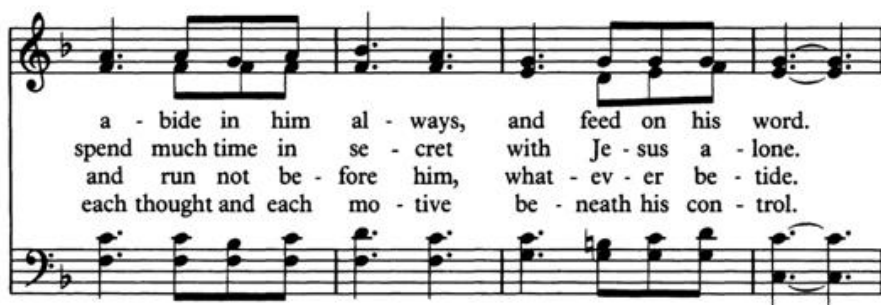
6. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thy justice here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Refrain

7. O come, Desire of nations bind
all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life;
deliver us from earthly strife.
Refrain

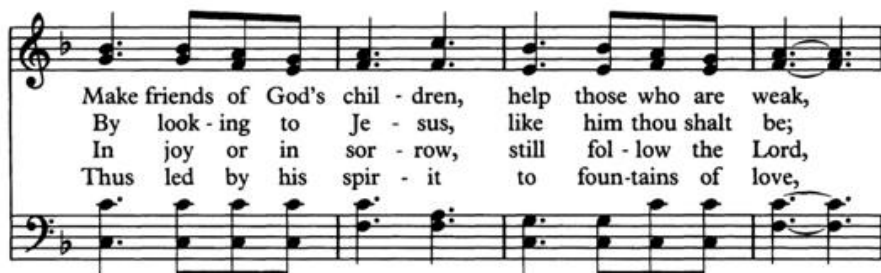
Take Time to Be Holy




1. Take time to be ho - ly, speak oft with thy Lord;
 2. Take time to be ho - ly, the world rush - es on;
 3. Take time to be ho - ly, let him be thy guide,
 4. Take time to be ho - ly, be calm in thy soul,



a - bide in him al - ways, and feed on his word.
 spend much time in se - cret with Je - sus a - lone.
 and run not be - fore him, what - ev - er be - tide.
 each thought and each mo - tive be - neath his con - trol.



Make friends of God's chil - dren, help those who are weak,
 By look - ing to Je - sus, like him thou shalt be;
 In joy or in sor - row, still fol - low the Lord,
 Thus led by his spir - it to foun - tains of love,



for - get - ting in noth - ing his bless - ing to seek.
 thy friends in thy con - duct his like - ness shall see.
 and, look - ing to Je - sus, still trust in his word.
 thou soon shalt be fit - ted for ser - vice a - bove.

Important Dates to Remember

Current week:

Mon, 11/28	Legacy Christmas gifts due at church	
Tues, 11/29	Women's Community: Roper home	7:00pm
Wed, 11/30	Chancel Choir rehearsal: Saint Paul	7:00pm

Upcoming events:

Sun, 12/4	Blessing of the Legacy Gifts	In worship
	Youth Group: Northside	5:30pm

From Pastor Matt

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

Thanks for being here today! I believe the number one reason for high church attendance is church attendance; your presence makes this a more excellent place to be on Sunday mornings.

In response to the pandemic, we had started live-streaming our services. As we are back in attendance, we have decided to temporarily stop live-streaming until a more permanent solution can be found; however, we will still be recording the service each Sunday and posting it on Facebook and our website for your viewing during the week. Thank you for your patience as we find the solution for moving forward with our technology.

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.

E-vangelism

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

Network: St. Paul Guest Password: Guest

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

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

Saint Paul Cares

Happy Birthday: Graham Johnson, 12/1; Blythe Knobloch, 12/2; Collins Cheshire, Jane Davis, 12/3; Charlie Stephens, 12/4

Happy Anniversary: Jason & Whitney Feaster, 11/27; Steve & Nicole Ackerman, 12/3

In your prayers, please remember:

Roger Barrett, Chelsea Biggers, Annette Bostic, Zonelle Boykin, Linda Bruce, Ray Byington, Cheyanne Cantwell, Connie Cox, *Eleanor Cunningham*, Natalie Davis, *Jesse Franks*, Catherine Gilstrap, Marie Good, Debbie Goodwin, Doris Goodwin, Lisa Harbin, Carol Head, Sue Howard, Bill Huff, Dot Huff, Lee Jenkinson, *Carol Johnson*, Jean Jones, Tinsley Lyles, Crystal McCoy, Chuck McLesky, Karsyn Miller, *Tavane Reposa*, Ronnie Roberts, Diane Robertson, Beth Rogers, Joyce Searcy, Nancy Smith, Suzanne Sprinkle, John Tate and family, Buddy Tompkins, Joe Whitmire, family of Darlene Wooten, 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, Legacy Elementary, Hinton Center

Upcoming Meetings



Trustees: Will NOT be meeting in December. Members are Ed Pool, Jason Cheshire, John Smith, Jimmie-Lou Vaughn, Debbie Goodwin, and Chris Cox. All are welcome!



S/PPRC: Will be meeting on 12/12 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Rebecca Roper, Tennille Crnobrnja, Jim Storey, Katie Knobloch, Donna Connelly, Troy Gamble, Eugenia Vicars, and Pastor Matt. This is a closed meeting.



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 12/19. Members are Becky Hollifield, David Knobloch, Melissa Campbell, Donna Connelly, Tommy Head, Eugenia Vicars, Tracey Biggers, Jason Cheshire, and Pastor Matt. All are welcome!



Church Council: Will be meeting on 12/26. Members are Tracey Biggers, Lori Cheshire, Heather Storey, Janet Cook, Peggy Whitmire, Collins Cheshire, Eugenia Vicars, Ed Pool, Jim Storey, David Knobloch, Becky Hollifield, Carol Head, Davis Lupo, MaryAnn

Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Elaine Byers, Mary Anne Terminato and Pastor Matt. All are welcome!

Announcements & Upcoming Events



Joint Youth Group: We will be meeting on 12/4, 12/11, and 12/18 at Northside at 5:30pm.



Basketball Registration is now open!! We will be partnering with Aldersgate UMC again this year. Please use the link below to get started. At this time, they are not taking requests for teammates. They are trying to keep the maximum number of players to 10 but must have 7 to 8 for a team to survive. Saint Paul will cover the cost of the program, but you will need to pay for your own jersey. Please email MaryAnn Stephens at maepool@hotmail.com if you have registered to play. Thank you!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecSSqSXuIrHFYZdTKbYIG7Xlj-fKfxlsgtx4JQUZPnrAnvNA/viewform>



Fellowship Dinner: We will not be having a Fellowship Dinner in December. We will see you again in January!



Fellowship Luncheon: We will not be having a luncheon in December. See you in January!



Women's Retreat: The St. Paul Women's Community Annual Retreat will be held at Montreat Conference Center in Black Mountain, NC on February 10-12, 2023. The approximate cost for the weekend is \$150.00 for a double occupancy room and \$230.00 for a single occupancy room. A \$60.00 deposit is due November 14. All ladies of St. Paul (and friends) are welcome! Please reach out to Tennille Crnobrnja (tennille.crnobrnja@gmail.com) if you plan to attend. We look forward to resuming our weekend retreat!



Help Needed: We are needing volunteers in two areas!

First, the pre-school/K5/1st Grade Sunday School class needs a second person to work with Teresa each Sunday. If you are interested in one Sunday or multiple Sundays, please contact Eugenia Vicars or Heather Storey.

Second, we are needing volunteers to run the camera during the services on Sunday. All you have to do is press record, check the sound, and set the camera or pan and zoom. Training will be provided. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the office or Mary Anne Terminato.



Golden Girls Bible Study and Luncheon: The Golden Girls will not be meeting in November or December. Enjoy the holiday break and we will gather again on January 19th.



Revolution!: Youth and parents, please mark your calendar. Revolution weekend is coming up January 27-29. More information will be coming soon.



S/PPRC is collecting for the **Staff Christmas Bonuses** for Melissa, Bill, and Gary from now until Sunday, December 18th. We ask that you please give generously as we work to thank our wonderful staff for their continued dedication and the critical roles they play for Saint Paul. We truly couldn't do it without them. Please ensure you designate your donation as "Staff Christmas

Bonus" when donating.

Opportunities to Serve

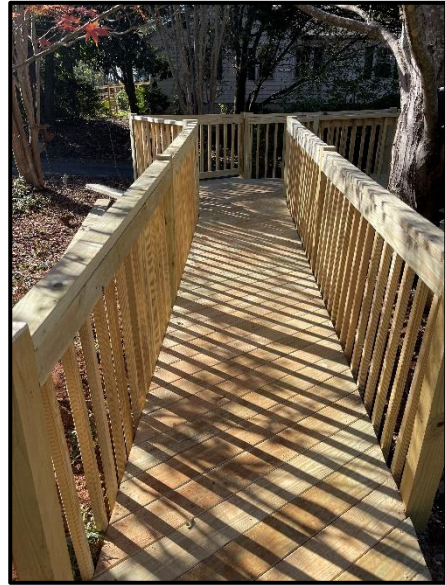


Legacy Christmas: Thank you to those who signed up to provide gifts for this Christmas for a Legacy child. You should have received information on your child in the mail. If you didn't, please contact Edna Patterson (ednaptterson04@gmail.com) or call the office directly. **All gifts will be due at the church by Monday, 11/28 for blessing**

on 12/4.



Furman Wesley Foundation: We will be collecting for the Furman Wesley Foundation the rest of November. Bring your dollars and choose Clemson, Carolina, or Furman. Let's see who can bring the most to help support the foundation.



The Youth, Missions Team, and Bill & Dot Huff would like to give a big thank you to the following people that came out on Saturday to help the youth build a ramp for the Huff family.

We truly appreciate you giving your time and talents to help!

Ryan Barber

David Pool

Charlie Stephens

William Pool

Marcus Stephens

Rowan Couch

Chris Cox

Henry Stephens

Chloe Johnson

Matt Greer

Camille Pool