



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*

Epiphany Sunday **January 01, 2023**

864-235-3494 - saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com

Watch our recorded service each week 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. At the Chiming of the Hour, please take your seats and quietly reflect on the coming service. Thank you.

*Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Traditional

*Processional Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Hymnal no.224

Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship

Leader: You were the Word at the beginning;

People: one with God the Lord Most High.

Leader: Your hidden glory in creation;

People: now revealed in You, our Christ.

Leader: What a beautiful Name it is,

People: The Name of Jesus Christ my King!

Opening Prayer

All: We praise our God who spoke creation into existence, parted seas, and made mana rain down. We praise our God who was born in a manger, brought Shalom, crucified, and resurrected. We praise our God who provides us with Fruits and Gifts. We praise our God who is three in one. 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

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.

*First Scripture Reading John 1:1-9, 14 NRSV (pg.87 NT)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

*Second Scripture Matthew 1:18-23 NRSV (pg.1 NT)

Sermon series "Christmas is Proof That..."
Part 5 "Our God is 3 in 1"

Anthem "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
Steve Vaughn, bass Traditional

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.**

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.

*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.

Sacrament of Holy Communion UM Hymnal p.12

*Giving the Bread and Cup
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. Gluten-free wafers are available. You may remain in prayer, then return to your seat via the outside aisles.

Closing Prayer

Sending

*Closing Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Hymnal no.230

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

Postlude "He is Born" Traditional

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 12/24-25/2022	Amount	Attendance
General Fund Memorials & Honorariums	\$1,832.45	12/24-25/2022
The Sullivan Center	\$1,337.97	In-person: 85/25
Total Giving:	\$3,170.42	Online Views:

Today's Servers:

Reader: John Tate Crucifer: John Tate
Acolyte: Edna Patterson Children's Worship: Not available today
Nursery: Not available today

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 224

1., 2., 3. Good Christian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and

voice; give ye heed to what we say: News, news!
 voice; now ye hear of end - less bliss: News, news!
 voice; 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
 Je - 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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle 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!

Important Dates to Remember

Current week:

Mon, 1/2/2023

Wed, 1/4

Office Closed for New Year

Fellowship Dinner: Saint Paul

5:30pm

Chancel Choir rehearsals: Saint Paul

7:00pm

Upcoming events:

Sun, 1/8

Youth Group: Saint Paul

5:30pm

Mon, 1/9

S/PPRC Meeting: Zoom

8:00pm

Tues, 1/10

Fellowship Luncheon: TBD

11:30am

Fri, 1/13

Parents Night Out: Saint Paul

6:00pm

Jan 27-29

Revolution! Youth Event: Columbia

all weekend

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 or contact the office via the church email and phone during these hours. The office will be closed on 1/2 and 1/16.

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: Taylor-May Stephens, 1/1; Brooks Kanipe, Ethan Roberts, ¼; Chelsea Biggers, 1/8

Happy Anniversary: There are no anniversaries this month.

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, Buddy Tompkins, Joe Whitmire, 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 be meeting in January. Please watch the announcements for more details. Members are John Smith, Jimmie-Lou Vaughn, Deborah Goodwin, Chris Cox, Neal Franks, and John Sprinkle. All are welcome!



S/PPRC: Will be meeting on 1/9 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Rebecca Roper, Tennille Crnobrnja, Troy Gamble, Steve Vaughn, Edna Patterson, and Christine Hall. This is a closed meeting.



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 1/16 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Becky Hollifield, David Knobeloch, Tommy Head, Stephen Newman, Eugenia Vicars, and Tracey Biggers. All are welcome!



Church Council: Will be meeting on 1/23 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Tracey Biggers, Heather Storey, Peggy Whitmire, Collins Cheshire, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobeloch, Becky Hollifield, Carol Head, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Elaine Byers, Davis Lupo, and Mary Anne Terminato. All are welcome!

Announcements & Upcoming Events



Fellowship Dinner: Join us on 1/4 at 5:30 in the social hall to share a meal and enjoy fellowship. Please RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/zfzqftj4mF68A9Zn8>



Joint Youth Group: We will resume meeting on 1/8 at 5:30pm at Saint Paul. See you then!



Fellowship Luncheon: Please join us on 1/10 at 11:30 for a lunch filled with laughter, good conversation, and food. Location TBD. Please RSVP at:

<https://forms.gle/XxAL4STVpi37LGQN6>



Parents' Night Out: Parents, you made it through the holidays. Now take a night just for the two of you. Drop off the children at 6pm on 1/13 and three hours just enjoying the quiet. A dinner and activity will be provided. Please RSVP at:

<https://forms.gle/j9azgCW1XvuWDVY77>



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.



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

Opportunities to Serve



Furman Wesley Foundation: We will be collecting for the Furman Wesley Foundation at Furman University on 1/8, 1/15, and 1/22. Please support your favorite team (Clemon, Carolina, or Furman) by dropping your dollars in the team bucket.

Sunday School & Children's Worship

There will be no Sunday School or Children's Worship on 1/1. If you would like to volunteer for the Sunday School hour or for Children's Worship, please contact Heather Storey at heatherb323@gmail.com or Eugenia Vicars at eugeniavicars@aol.com. The more people that volunteer, the longer out the rotation so please consider helping support our children and youth.



The Shepherd's Story

Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

*Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.*

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

*I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.*

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

*And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

John Wesley

