

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

PRELUDE – Improvisation on “Conditor alme siderum”

THE ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #60 “Creator of the stars of night”

Conditor alme siderum

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

S76

Celebrant



Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TRISAGION

Mass for St. Paul's - William Bradley Roberts (1947)

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- 2 **Now our feet are standing ***
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
- 4 **To which the tribes go up,**
the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ***
"May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 **For my brethren and companions' sake, ***
I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

THE EPISTLE

Romans 13:11-14

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

THE SERMON

The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes

THE NICENE CREED – *Spoken; All Stand, as able*

BCP page 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: As salvation draws near, let us be awake, alert, and watchful for the One who has come and will come into our lives, saying: Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For the Church: especially for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury Designate, Sean our Presiding Bishop and Steve our Provisional Bishop, and our Diocese as we prepare to call a new Bishop Diocesan, that while surrounded by the darkness of selfishness, jealousy and greed, we may live as children of light and show God's love to those around us. Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For this Cathedral community, that in our worship and work we may live together in joyful hope. Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For peace in all troubled places, that God will teach the hearts of all the human family to turn swords into plows and resources for war into healing and development. Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For all who are burdened by the cares of life, that they may always be ready to welcome Christ wherever he reveals himself. Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For all who are busy and hurried, for refugees and travelers who are separated from homeland or family, for those who await God's healing and blessing, remembering especially, Judy, Miles, Clark, Geri, Dominic, Steve & Tracy, Lisa and family, Andrea, Larry and Diane, Byron, Chris, Joe, Carl, Lori, Larry, Carol, Renee, Sharon, Elaine, Don, Anne, Jim, Judy, and Shirley, that they may find God's care and compassion as others reach out to them. Holy God, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

For ourselves in this Advent time of waiting, that we may be thankful for all the blessings we enjoy and seek ways to share them with others. Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who have died, remembering especially, Juanita, Barbara, and Anthony, that they may walk in the light of the Lord. Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the communion of blessed Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Paul, Blessed Andrew the Apostle and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant: O God of Jacob for whom we long, hear our prayers and keep us ever watchful, that when Christ our Savior comes we may welcome him with joy and gladness. This we ask in his most holy Name. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE - All stand.

BCP page 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP page 358

Walk in Love, as Christ loved us and give himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – “Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us!”

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Sleepers, wake! a voice is calling,
It is the watchman on the walls:
Thou City of Jerusalem!
For lo! the Bridegroom comes!
Arise, and take your lamps!
Hallelujah!
Awake! His kingdom is at hand!
Go forth, go forth to meet your Lord!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B – BCP page 367

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

SURSUM CORDA

S120

The musical notation for the Sursum Corda consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with 'Celebrant' and 'People' labels above the corresponding parts.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us

heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name::

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

Roberts

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

THE MEMORIAL ACCLIMATION

S136

Celebrant

There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [] and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

THE GREAT AMEN

S147



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

S119

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP page 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Roberts

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP page 364

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination, to receive communion here at Saint Paul's. If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward to a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM – O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

John Goss (1800-1880)

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
They shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls
and plenteousness within thy palaces.
For thy brethren and companions' sakes
because of the house of the Lord our God
I will seek to do thee good
Peace be within thy walls
and plenteousness within thy palaces.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP page 365

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, **you have graciously accepted us as living members of**

your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

BCP page 339

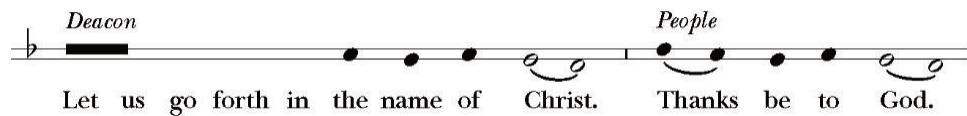
May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE RETIRING PROCESSION – #68 “Rejoice! rejoice, believers”

Llangloffan

DISMISSAL

S 174



POSTLUDE – Improvisation on “Llangloffan”

CATHEDRAL LIFE | NOVEMBER 30TH
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL – SPCBUFFALO.ORG

TODAY

- Bible Study – 9 a.m. lower level/Walker – coffee and discussion of scripture lessons for the week
- Coffee/Refreshments – after the 10:15 service, lower level/Walker

Christian Education and Formation at St. Paul's

Children's Christian Education: "Godly Play"

St. Paul's offers "Godly Play: is a Montessori-based program on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children.

Looking ahead...

Epiphany Centering Prayer Introductory Workshop

Centering Prayer is a receptive method of Christian silent prayer which deepens our relationship with God, the Indwelling Presence ... a prayer in which we can experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. A Centering Prayer Introductory workshop will be offered throughout the season of Epiphany beginning with a workshop on Saturday, January 10, 2026 from 10am - 3pm. Follow-up sessions designed for ongoing learning and group spiritual support will be held on January 17, 24, 31, February 7, and 14. The workshop will be by The Very Rev'd Rebecca Barnes, Dean, who is a commissioned presenter and facilitator trainer with Contemplative Outreach, Ltd.

Lent 2026 – Bible Study on the Gospel of John

More details will be available soon.

SAVE THE DATE: The Psychology of Christian Nationalism with The Rev. Dr. Pamela Cooper-White, Saturday, April 18, 2026

How do we overcome polarization in American society? How do we advocate for justice when one side won't listen to the other and cycles of outrage escalate? How do we talk with each other when people of different perspectives are seen as evil, immoral, or anti-American? Dr. Pamela Cooper-White has written a book entitled "The Psychology of Christian Nationalism: Why People Are Drawn In and How to Talk Across the Divide". To read more about her, see her

bio here www.linkedin.com/in/pamelacooperwhite

Dr. Cooper-White will address this topic at Holy Trinity on Saturday, April 18, 2026. She will also preach at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral on Sunday, April 19, 2026. Save these dates. More details will be available soon.

This event is sponsored by: Episcopal Diocese of WNY; Upstate NY Synod of the Lutheran Church in America; St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Buffalo; Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Buffalo, NY.

Know Your Rights Training and Court Accompaniment Training

St. Paul's Cathedral will be holding a Know Your Rights and Court Accompaniment Training in early December. The workshop will be led by an immigration attorney from Jericho Road and the Senior Manager of Community Engagement, Western New York from the New York Immigration Coalition. This event is open to clergy, parish leadership, and others interested in immigration issues. This is an email RSVP only event. For more information and to register, please contact Dean Rebecca at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org

Advent and Christmas at St. Paul's Cathedral

ADVENT:

Advent Study – A Child is Born: A Beginner's Guide to Nativity Stories by Amy-Jill Levine

In preparation for the celebration of the coming of the Christ child, this Advent, we will explore the fascinating connections between ancient birth stories and the Nativity of Jesus in this captivating four-week Advent study. This most recent book by renowned Biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine journeys through the births of Isaac and Ishmael, Samson, and Samuel revealing how they foreshadow and enrich the timeless Christmas story in the final chapter. Dr. Levine brings her expert knowledge of Scripture and careful consideration of the Christian story to show readers how Scripture's earlier birth stories anticipate the story of Jesus's birth and how the birth resonates and gives new meaning to those earlier stories. Transform your Advent season with fresh insights and inspiration from A Child is Born. Book is available on Kindle or in paperback from your favorite bookseller. Sessions will be held on Zoom on Mondays Dec. 1, 15, 22 and Tuesday, Dec. 9. at 7pm. Please use the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/3jetzz8k> – Meeting ID: 716 855 0900 Password: 4cathedral

2025 CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Longest Night/Blue Christmas, December 21 – 5pm

On the longest night of the year, we celebrate a service designed especially for those who have experienced loss, are going through a challenging time, or find the holidays difficult.

Christmas Eve, December 24

4:00pm - Lessons and Carols

At 4PM on Christmas Eve, December 24th, the cathedral choir will proclaim the birth of our Savior through word and song. This festive, family-friendly, hour-long service with roots at Truro Cathedral, and widely popularized by King's College, Cambridge, this annual service is much-loved throughout the world.

11:00pm - The Nativity of Our Lord - The "Christ-Mass"

The ChristMass: At 11pm on Christmas Eve, December 24th, the community is invited to gather for the ChristMass. This solemn, joy-filled, and candlelit Eucharist will include music by the cathedral choir and organ. During the Mass, the congregation will sing the beloved carol "Silent Night" by candlelight.

Christmas Day, December 25

10:15am – Christmas Day: The Nativity of Our Lord

On Christmas Day, December 25th, all are welcome to attend Christmas Mass at 10:15am. This Eucharist will include congregational singing of Christmas carols with organ accompaniment.

New Year's Day, January 1, 2026 - The Feast of the Holy Name

On New Year's Day, we will step into the New Year with the celebration of Holy Eucharist at 10:15am. This day we recall the naming of Jesus eight days after his birth and that God highly exalted Jesus "and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth."

January 6 - Feast of the Epiphany, 6pm

Join us as we celebrate the arrival of the Magi and the manifestation of Christ to the peoples of the earth.

Save the Date - Christmas Party Invitation

On Saturday December 27th Scott Sciumeca, one of our parishioners, will be hosting an adult Christmas Party at his home. The party will start at 5:00 PM and all members of the congregation and choir are invited, along with a guest if so desired. While there will not be a sit down dinner, there will be plenty of food, beverages, including adult beverages, and desserts for all everyone to enjoy. Guests need not bring anything, except perhaps their best holiday cheer. As we get closer to the date, everyone will be given an opportunity to contact Scott via email to let him know who, and how many, will be coming, for planning purposes.

Prayer and Pastoral Care

We lift up the following in prayer especially Judy, Miles, Clark, Geri, Dominic, Steve & Tracy, Lisa and family, Andrea, Larry and Diane, Byron, Chris, Joe, Carl, Lori, Larry, Carol, Renee, Sharon, Elaine, Don, Anne, Jim, Judy, and Shirley. We also remember all those who have died, especially Herbert, Catherine, Eva, Juanita, Barbara, and Anthony, and those whose anniversaries of death we mark this week. We pray for them and their loved ones who remember them.

ACROSS THE DIOCESE AND THE CHURCH

Creation Care & Environmental Justice - A Virtual Series

Economic and industrial development often disregard damaging environmental and health impacts on marginalized communities of color – “progress” for some at the sacrifice of others. This is racism in action. The WNY and NWPA Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination (CDRD) invites you to explore issues, past and current, where creation care and racial justice meet.

All four virtual sessions will begin at 7pm and be held virtually on Zoom. For details, go to the CDRD Website page: <https://tinyurl.com/dsdnxux8>

The fourth and final session will be on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025 - Buffalo's Rt. 33: Challenging Environmental Injustice and Damaging Health Impact

New or visiting today? Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the Hymnal in the pew (red or blue). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable.

Restrooms are located on the lower level. From the elevator, proceed through the double glass doors and look to your right for an accessible restroom. Additional restrooms are on the same level, to the left, near the kitchen.

Children are always welcome in worship and are invited to explore! Greeters can provide activity kits, available in the back of the church. Godly Play is also offered. For details: cathedral@spcbuffalo.org.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Kathy Reiss; Altar Guild
David Jemmott; Usher
Elizabeth Rundle; Coffee Hour Host
Tracy Thomas; Livestream Coordinator

Kathy Reiss, Michael Bonilla, Susan Hadden; Readers
Kathy Reiss, Delwyn Milander; Intercessors
Alex Hamilton; Guest Organist

The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes; Celebrant and Preacher

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<https://episcopalwny.org/>

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