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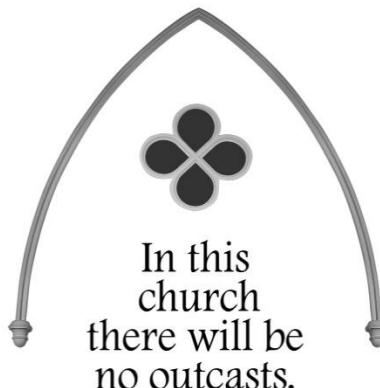
Monday - 9:00 AM

Tuesday - 1:00 PM

Wednesday - 12:01 AM (Tuesday midnight)

Thursday - 11:00

Welcome



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023

MORNING PRAYER: RITE II

8:00 & 9:30 AM

Music notations for 9:30 service only.

**In the name of Christ,
we are truly delighted to worship together.**

Prelude

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

THE WORD OF GOD

Gathering

Whether worshiping in person, online or tv, we are One in Christ. *Please place your offering in the basket as it is passed during the offertory, or give [online](#). Thank you.*

Hymn 67 **Comfort, comfort ye my people**

Psalm 42

Words of Welcome

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Second Sunday of Advent

Leader: Dear Friends in Christ, today is the Second Sunday of Advent, on which we look to great messengers throughout history who have shown us how to be more like Jesus. We remember especially John the Baptist, who calls us to make way for a new beginning, and St. Nicholas, who calls us to make way for more generosity.

As we light two candles on the Advent wreath, let us prepare our hearts to bear witness to Jesus in our lives.

TWO candles are lit.

All: Be our light in the darkness, O Lord: Shed your eternal light upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives bless you and our worship give you glory; for the love of our Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN.

-adapted from The St. Nicholas Center Advent Customary and Evening Prayer, BCP, page 123.

Opening Sentence

Prayer Book page 75

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

*The following Antiphon is said before and after the Invitatory Psalm (Venite).
Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come let us adore him.***

Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

(continued on page 3...)

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice.

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13 *Sung by the cantor at the 9:30 only*

1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

(continued on page 4...)

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 11 The Third Song of Isaiah Said in Unison Prayer Book page 87

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

At 8:00: Spoken**At 9:30: S 242 in the 1982 Hymnal**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
 the Almighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
 in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
 and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
 and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
 to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THIRD READING**Mark 1:1-8**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with

camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Homily

Nathan Leach (at 8:00)
Church School (at 9:30)

The Apostles Creed

Prayer Book page 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.

 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.

 He descended to the dead.

 On the third day he rose again.

 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

 He will come again to judge the living 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.

THE PRAYERS

Prayer Book page 97

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

(continued on page 8...)

Officiant and People

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,

for ever and ever. Amen.

SUFFRAGES A

Prayer Book page 97

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Prayer Book page 99

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A COLLECT FOR MISSION

Prayer Book page 100

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**At the 9:30 only Please BE SEATED for the bell choir as they play Hymn 66:
Bells for Beginners Come, thou long-expected Jesus Stuttgart**

Prayers of the People St. Paul's Prayer List Bulletin page 12

The Peace

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Life's Milestones

Offertory Sentence "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God."

(continued on page 10...)

Offertory Anthem A dove flew down from Heaven Johannes Brahms

Text: David Gregor Corner (1585-1648)

A dove flew down from heaven, a dove rare and pure,
in angel garb appearing, to greet a maid demure:
"All grace I bring you, tender, lovely maid,
no soul with such adorning has ever been arrayed." Kyrie eleison.

"I bring you joyous greetings: The Lord is with you!
A child you will be bearing: you must believe it's true.
So welcome, welcome, open wide your heart,
that God upon this visit his favor may impart." Kyrie eleison.

To this the virgin bowing, responded with awe:
"If this is what God wishes, this wish shall be my law.
Yet more than willing I surrender me,
if such love is my master, his servant I will be." Kyrie eleison.

And so the gift was given, our helper in need,
new life to dwell among us, eternal God indeed!
This Jesus Christchild, son whom Mary bore,
is come to be our Savior, to heav'n our open door. Kyrie eleison.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM *Said in unison.*

Prayer Book page 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one
accord to make our common supplication to you; and you
have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two
or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the
midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions
as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of
your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Prayer book page 102

Let us bless the lord.
Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

Hymn 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

Announcements

Postlude

Declamation on Psalm 42

Craig Phillips



THE ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

For the Church: St. Thomas', Bethel; Christ Church, Bethlehem; Old St. Andrew's, Bloomfield; Ministries to the homeless, for parishes that offer a temporary or permanent shelter. For Chapel on the Green, New Haven, Church by the Pond, Hartford, and all Ecclesia ministries. The Church of Pakistan (United); and for the people of St. Paul's particularly for our children and families, and for all those who have helped with Wallingford's Holiday for Giving.....

For the world, nation, and community: For Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's continued healing and all others dealing with sickness or injury; for the peoples of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, and all who live in the depths of war; for all who suffer and all who die from gun violence. Let us pray for our leaders to find solutions to heal this broken world as we pray for comfort and daily strength for those in need; and for other concerns mentioned now silently or aloud.....

In Thanksgiving: For the many blessings of this life and for the opportunity this Advent to worship, learn, and prepare together; and other thanks offered now silently or aloud.....

For those in any need or trouble, mentioning by name today: Gavin Tormollan, Sue Butler, Tom T., Karl Swenson, Nancy & Jim Jermine, Sean Schenk, Linda Gervais, Nancy Hall, Dave Falasco, Richard Chevalier, Ottlie Bulakites, Ken Berry, Kylie, Maria Rosa, Ava Mae, Richard Lammlin, Stephanie Leone and her family, Richard Libassi, Sandra Hanson, Kaley, Velta Inglis, Sophia and Benny, Donna Calvi, Garth Singer, **Beverly Chevalier, William Voigt, Phil, Joyce Boisvert, Laura Moran, Donna Banatoski, Colleen Rommel, Eli Pattberg**, David Clarke, William, Jane, Charles Parker, Aksel Kohn, Madison "little bird" Barbieri, James Padgett, Sue Esposito, Dorothy Adams, Bruce Corriveau, June Casso, Barbara Busque, Deborah Rice, Cooper Anthony, Christine Pollnow, Ellen Shea, Nancy Benhart, Anthony Gagliardi, Donna Smith, Jessica M., Linda Coleman, Louise Ferrando, Gail and George Blicharz, The Charles Family, Madison Oquendo, Matt, Remmy & Shannon Sullivan, Shirley, Stan Rogalski, Caley, John Ferrara, Lydia Scott, June Lape, Todd Hlavac, Chuck Guglielmino, Bob Bartosiak, Josh Oquendo, Chuck Johns, Mary Tondalo, The Torres Family, Cole Geib, Michele M., Lauren Dorio, Maria Feola, Sharon Lentine, Jacob Thieringer, Ann P., Karen Burgess, Terri Flynn, Jackie Iversen, Shirley J. Thomson, Walter Gordon, Moe Hanson, Mark Kohn, Lucy Smith, Ethan Tidd, Ann Winberg, Claire Mills, James Guimond, Hayley Martini, Jeanne Cohen, Patrick Leveille, Beverly Jean Martin, Christopher Bean, Steven Eddy, Allen Gervais, Zack Bernier, Mark Gervais, Roger Haynes, Sarah, Michael Lentine, Karen Doonan, Lui Nobrega, Gail Hart, Cheryl Schmidt, The Baxter family, Mac Sjovall, Liz Stokes, Eileen Grady, Rene Moran, Angie G., Carmen Brown, Marilee Reitman, Kate Johnson, Dee Roselle, Pat Martini, Kristine Mullin, Tom Rice, Ralph Cuomo, Courtney Nicole Masie, Gino Castillo, Scott C., Wayne Jones, Sam Jones, Cynthia Ayers, Rob & Melanie Tanner & family, Catherine Rose Hall, Kara Boettger, Brittany Landers, Kenneth, David Barr, Jr., Roger Campbell, Pete Weisner, Judith Terrill, Donna Z., Lara Luppi, Julia Gwynn, Bea White, Andrew Speyer, Judi Petro, Crystal Gordon; and others named silently or aloud.....

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Morton and Margaret Stone.

For the departed: For those named now silently or aloud.....

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life – This week's word is TURN. As we continue this season of Advent, the prophets from Isaiah to John the Baptist ask us to turn towards the coming of God's light into the world. What does that mean for us? What habits and thoughts do we need to turn away *from*, and what do we need to turn *towards*?

WELCOME – and thank you for your presence and prayers today. Thank you to Darlene James for volunteering to play the 8:00 Prelude: Es ist ein Ros entsprungen by Johannes Brahms. Thank you to Nathan Leach (8:00 & 9:30 officiant), Patti Cullen (8:00 crucifer/intercessor/3rd reading), Karen Hlavac (8:00 1st reading), Raymond Rys (8:00 2nd reading), Gene Gervais (8:00 usher), Linda Liversidge-Daley (9:30 crucifer), Helen Stowe (9:30 usher) and Samantha Martinez (cantor). Thank you to the Tech team for tech support.

Today, December 10th is Healing Prayer Sunday - Please see Healing Prayer team members with your prayer requests.

Lighting the Advent Candles – One of the ways we mark the four expectant weeks of Advent is by lighting the candles on the Advent wreath every week at each service. If you would like to do this during one of the four weeks of Advent, please be in touch with Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers or you may also contact the parish office at 203-269-5050 or office@stpaulswallingford.org. Single folks, empty-nesters and families' welcome! Today at the 8 a.m. service, Pat and Art Sousa will light our second candle. Today at the 9:30 a.m. service, Claire Minneman will light our second candle. The remaining Sundays of Advent are December 17th and 24th.

Holiday for Giving - St. Paul's is partnering with Wallingford's "Holiday for Giving" to help those in need in our community have a wonderful holiday. **Our drive this year ends TODAY, Sunday December 10th.**

Christmas Memorials 2023 DEADLINE IS THIS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th - Christmas is a special season to remember your loved ones. And what better way to honor their memory than with a Christmas memorial flower. If you would like to make a donation to the Christmas memorials, please submit a form with the names of those you would like remembered along with your **check payable to St. Paul's Flower Fund** in the amount of \$25.00. Forms can be found at both entrances. You may place your form in the collection plate or drop it off at the church office on Wednesdays or Fridays between 11:00 and 2:00, or at the Food/Diaper Drive on Saturday, December 9th. **The deadline is December 12th.** Please be sure to include your name, address and phone number. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rogalski at 203-678-4824.

Opening and Closing the Church - Looking for a couple of people to open the church for Sundays at 7:00AM and close the church after the 9:30AM service. Also looking for a person for opening and closing for funerals. Training will be provided. Contact Gene Gervais at (203) 314-9368.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January Newsletter deadline is THIS Tuesday, December 12th by NOON. Please [email](#) in your articles or call the parish office to make other arrangements. Thank you!

Adult Forum: The Psalms of Advent - Adult Forum has returned to **Zoom** for an Advent program that explores the **Advent themes of hope, peace, joy, and love through the psalms** appointed for the four Sundays in Advent. Join us via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20. If you would like to participate, please email Amy Foster at foster9092@gmail.com.

Advent Devotional Booklets - During Advent there are devotional booklets available at both entrances to the church---*Living Well Through Advent 2023: Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. Published by *Living Compass*, the booklets include day-by-day reflections offered by gifted writers that focus on wonder as a spiritual practice. In addition to the reflections, there is a collection of quotes, Bible verses, prayers, poems, and contemplative practices. All are welcomed to pick up a copy and journey with wonder during Advent.

Memorial Service for Howard Inglis - Many of you may know that Howard Inglis died on October 26, and we have received word of his memorial service. Howard's wife, Velta Inglis, is a long time member of St. Paul's, and in recent years it has been hard for her to get to church. A memorial service for Howard Inglis, loving husband of Velta Inglis, will be held on Tuesday, December 19th at The Library Wine Bar and Bistro, 60 N. Main Street, Wallingford, CT, in the Reading Room. There will be a short service and lunch. For anyone who would like to attend, please contact Velta's daughter, Stephanie, at stephanie.inglis@gmail.com.

Pledging your wealth, work and wisdom to God never ends. However, the Vestry needs your pledge for 2024 as soon as possible in order to prepare our budget (and certainly before the end of the year). There are pledge cards available in the sanctuary, or you can pledge online. Thanks for your help -Stewardship

Worship Leaders - Calling all readers, crucifers, ministers of communion! Sign-up sheets are available on the easel in the back of the church.

The church is open Wednesdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm for prayer & reflection, with healing prayers offered noon-1:00.

The Parish Office Hours - The parish office is open to the public on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11AM-2:00PM. Please email or call the office at (203) 269-5050 to arrange any additional times to meet during the week. Calls, emails and other matters will generally be addressed during business hours of 9:00-3:00 Tuesday-Friday.

CONTACT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



Drawing of St. Paul's Church by Dan Lyon

CHURCH & PARISH OFFICE
@ St. Paul's Episcopal Church
65 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT

(203) 269-5050   

<https://www.stpaulswallingford.org/>
office@stpaulswallingford.org

Online Directory: stpaulswallingford.ctrn.co

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SUBSCRIBE to our channel and please “LIKE” the service:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintPaulsEpiscopalChurchWallingford>

Jennifer Parsons, *Administrative Assistant*
office@stpaulswallingford.org

James Lindsay, *Music Director*
musicdirector@stpaulswallingford.org

Nathan Leach, *Director of Christian Education & Formation*
christianeducation@stpaulswallingford.org