



**ST. PAUL'S**  
Est 1855  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 Worship, Love, Live the Message

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## Benicia, CA

### 8:45 AM Worship for Sunday, December 22, 2024

Eucharistic Prayer C

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### ENTRANCE HYMN: (H 56) O come, O come, Emmanuel

*All stand.*

(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

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

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p. 355

*Let us pray in unison*

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: (S 102) Kyrie Eleison

*The following is sung, all standing*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p. 357

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### THE LESSONS

#### FIRST READING:

Micah 5:2-5a

*The people sit.*

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow*

**PSALM:**

*Remain seated.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
**and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.**  
For he hath regarded \*  
**the lowliness of his handmaiden.**  
For behold from henceforth \*  
**all generations shall call me blessed.**  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
**and holy is his Name.**  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
**throughout all generations.**  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
**he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
**and hath exalted the humble and meek.**  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
**and the rich he hath sent empty away.**  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
**as he promised to our forefathers,**  
**Abraham and his seed for ever.**

**Canticle 3: The Song of Mary**

**SECOND READING:**

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>5</sup>When Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; <sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup>Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’ (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).” <sup>8</sup>When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

# GOSPEL HYMN: (H 57) Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending

*The following is sung, all standing*

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.



## **GOSPEL:**

**Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]**

*All stand*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON:**

**Bob Hall**

## **THE CREED**

**BCP p. 358**

*All stand.*

**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

*All remain standing.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 360

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

*Silence may be kept. Celebrant 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 Celebrant 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

BCP p. 360

*All stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRANSITIONS

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin anew. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP p. 376

### OFFERTORY HYMN: Suo Gan (Welsh Lullaby)

St. Paul's Chorus

*The following is sung*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

## SURSUM CORDA:

BCP p. 361

*The People remain standing.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

BCP p. 370

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



# SANCTUS: (S 130) Holy, Holy, Holy

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## BCP p. 370

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord...

...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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**



## BCP p. 370

### *The Celebrant continues*

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.  
**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 363

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

### *People and Celebrant*

**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 and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### FRACTION ANTHEM: (S 154) Christ Our Passover

#### *Celebrant and People*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## COMMUNION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMN: (H 324) Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*The following is sung*



1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and  
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on  
3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard  
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -  
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man  
on the way, as the Light of Light de -  
sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood  
scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,  
Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,  
he will give to all the faith - ful  
that the powers of hell may va - nish  
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"



our full hom - age to de - mand.  
his own self for heaven - ly food.  
as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

## COMMUNION HYMN: (H 337) And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love

*The following is sung*

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
\*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
\*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most  
bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so  
him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery  
forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and  
eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

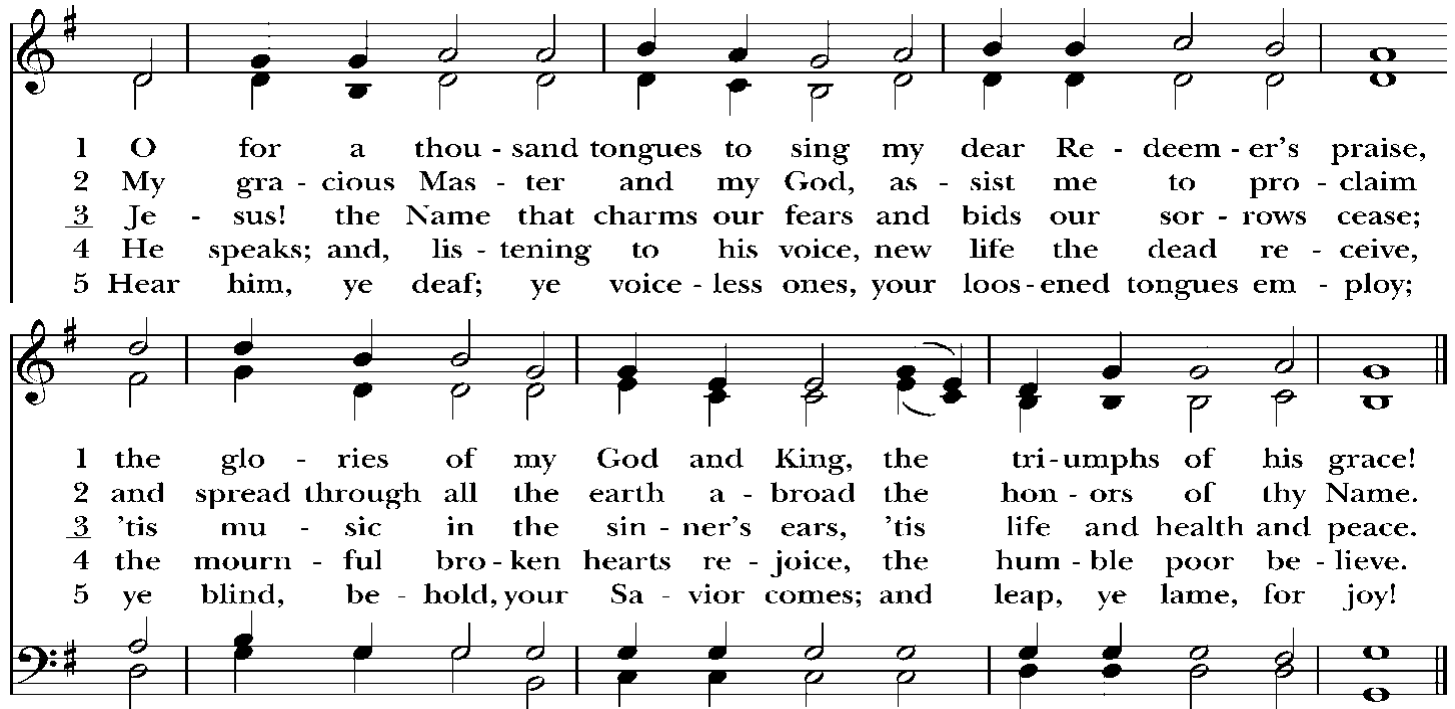
BCP p. 366

*The Celebrant blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN: (H 493) O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*The following is sung, all standing*



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first five lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next five lines of lyrics. The third system contains the final line of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is indicated by a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,  
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim  
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;  
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,  
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

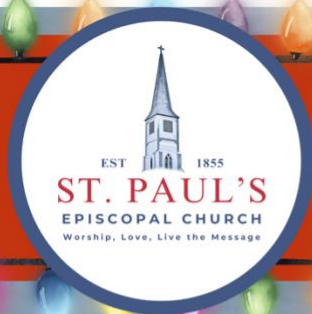
1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!  
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.  
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.  
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

## DISMISSAL

*The Deacon or Celebrant will dismiss the people*

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



# Christmas Events

**DEC 20**

**7 PM**

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

A quiet and reflective Christmas service for those seeking peace and comfort on the longest night.

**DEC 22**

**8:45 & 11 AM**

## ADVENT IV: EUCHARIST & "COME AS YOU ARE" CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The final Sunday of the preparatory season of Advent; Children's Christmas pageant at 11:00am Service.

**DEC 24**

**4 PM**

## CHRISTMAS EVE EUCHARIST

A festive and child-friendly celebration of Christ's birth.

**DEC 24**

**10 PM**

## CHRISTMAS EVE EUCHARIST

A traditional candlelit mass with carols and hymns.

**DEC 25**

**10 AM**

## FEAST OF CHRISTMAS EUCHARIST

A celebration of the joy of Christmas in the morning light.

**DEC 29**

**10 AM**

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS EUCHARIST

We continue the Christmas Season with a combined service.

**JAN 5**

**8:45 & 11 AM**

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS EUCHARIST

We return to two services.

**JAN 12**

**8:45 & 11 AM**

## FEAST OF EPIPHANY (TRANSFERRED)

We celebrate the arrival of the Magi.

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pledge Update**  
as of 12/15/2024

	2025	2024
# Pledges	54	70
Amount Pledged	\$277,770	\$303,374



## Thank You For Your Pledges!

We are grateful to everyone for your generous annual pledges, which play a vital role in supporting the mission and ministries of St. Paul's.

There's still time to turn in your 2025 pledge! Blank cards are available in the back of the church.



## Let's Welcome Back the Healing Prayer Ministry!

Healing prayer is offered at each service during communion to individuals who wish to have personalized, one-on-one prayer with a healing prayer minister. A healing prayer minister listens carefully and empathetically and prays with individuals about their specific concerns. Healing prayer ministers serve once a month at their preferred service. If you would like to be a part of this rewarding ministry, please contact me by email at [deacon@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:deacon@stpaulsbenicia.org). I will be happy to meet with you individually to discuss how to pray with others and to practice this important skill.



## Community Meal Volunteer Online Signups

If you would like to volunteer at the Community Meal on Mondays or Wednesdays, check our weekly Friday e-mail for a sign-up sheet - or contact the Parish Office at [admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org). Need to sign up for e-mails? Please contact the Parish Office.

Please note that we need only one volunteer each day.  
Thank You!



## Coffee Hosts Needed

**It's time to sign up for the New Year! We still need Coffee Hosts in January-** Please remember that beginning There is a sign-up sheet to the left of the coffee pots under the Cross Wall in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions about what's required, there is an awesome reference guide in the binder next to the sign-up sheet or feel free to reach out to our Coffee Hour coordinators Barry & Sally Cunningham at [bcunningsb@gmail.com](mailto:bcunningsb@gmail.com). Sign up with a friend and kick off your Sunday with caffeine and fellowship.

## Holiday Concerts:



**GVRD  
CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**

**DECEMBER 22** **ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



**SYMPHONIC BAND 3 PM**



**SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE!**



**ST. PAUL'S  
COMMUNITY MEAL  
PROGRAM**

Monday & Wednesday  
4:30 - 6 PM

Please donate to help us feed our community during this holiday season.



**JAZZ BAND 4 PM**

**FREE OF CHARGE**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Voluntary donations to the St. Paul's Community Meal program are appreciated.**

*weekday worship*  
**MORNING  
PRAYER**

### **Morning Prayer Weekdays at 9 a.m. in Church and on Zoom**

Join Zoom meeting (Link in Weekly Announcements online)

Meeting ID: 890 6264 3237

Passcode: 355908

One tap mobile +16699009128,,89062643237#,,,,\*355908# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 890 6264 3237

Passcode: 355908

## Updated Holiday Schedules:

**Family Ministries:** Please see the schedule below regarding changes to our Family Ministries programs through the holiday season

	12/22	12/24	12/25	12/29	1/5
<b>Nursery</b>	8:30-12:30	Closed	Closed	9:00-11:30	8:30-12:30
<b>Godly Play</b>	Short Godly Play, then Pageant Prep in undercroft	No Class	No Class	No Class	10:00-10:45
<b>Bible Study</b>	Short session, then Pageant Prep in undercroft	No Class	No Class	No Class	10:00-10:45

### **Eucharist & Bible Study**

#### ***Wednesday 12/25 – Christmas Day***

10:00 am Eucharist is moved from side chapel to main church

No Bible Study

#### ***Wednesday 1/1***

No Eucharist

No Bible study

### **Morning Prayer**

***Cancelled*** for Wednesday 12/25 – Christmas Day

### **Coffee with the Rector:**

***Cancelled*** for Thursday, 12/26 and 1/2

### **Parish Office Hours:**

The parish office closes at NOON on 12/24 and will remain closed through 1/1. ***We look forward to seeing you in the new year!***

**Community Meal: *Cancelled*** for Wednesday 12/25 & Wednesday 1/1

**The deadline for submitting announcements is Wednesday at noon.**

Please e-mail information to: [admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org)

Office phone: (707) 745-0307

#### **NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY**

When you enter a St. Paul's Episcopal Church service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, live streaming, and video recording may occur.



**PRAYERS**

**WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING**

Katie McGovern  
Jim Wolf  
Carmen Montoya  
James Carr  
Tyler, (Gerri's Grandson)  
Ambra, (Gerri's Daughter)  
Mark Park  
Judith Mooney

**WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL:**

Vicki Lynn Winger  
Doyle Morris  
Annie Muriel Marcus Wilkes

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR BIRTHDAYS &  
ANNIVERSARIES**

12/23 Lisa Pfost  
12/25 Tom Aldinger  
12/27 Albert Jouvenot-Sells

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR  
ARMED FORCES**

Major Russ Morris, U.S. Air Force Reserves  
SFC Mike Moverley, 1st Battalion 143rd Field Artillery, U.S. Army  
Warrant Officer Brandon Niemann, U.S. Army  
Airman Andrew Severa, U.S. Air Force  
SA Michelle Severa, PA, Air National Guard  
Staff SGT Jake Sackett, U.S. Air Force  
Major Xacasia Evans-Walp, U.S. Army

E-mail: [admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org) for updates or additions



# Calendar



**SUNDAY 12/22: Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**"Come as You Are" Christmas Pageant - 11 am Service**

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)  
 8:45 am +Communion  
 10 am Coffee Hour (P)  
 10 am Short Godly Play & Pageant Prep (Elementary School) (U)  
 10 am Short Youth Bible Study & Pageant Prep (Middle & High School) (U)  
 11 am +Communion  
 12 pm Coffee Hour (P)  
 3 Pm +GVRD Christmas Concert (Symphonic & Jazz Bands)  
 8 pm AA (P)

MONDAY 12/23	TUESDAY 12/24 Christmas Eve	WEDNESDAY 12/25 Christmas Day
9 am +Morning Prayer 4:30 pm Community Meal (P) 8 pm AA Meeting (P)	7 am AA Meeting (P) 9 am +Morning Prayer 4 pm +Christmas Eve Eucharist 10 pm +Christmas Eve Eucharist	7am AA Meeting (P) 9 am +Morning Prayer - Cancelled 10 am +Christmas Eucharist 11 am Bible Study (P)- Cancelled No Community Meal (P)
THURSDAY 12/26	FRIDAY 12/27	SATURDAY 12/28
7am AA Meeting (P) 7:30 am Coffee w/ Rev. Annie - Cancelled 9 am +Morning Prayer	7 am AA Meeting (P) 9 am +Morning Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting (P)	7 am AA Meeting (U)

**SUNDAY 12/29: First Sunday after Christmas**

**KEY**  
 + = Church  
 P = Parish Hall  
 U = Undercroft  
 R = Rectory  
 K = Kitchen

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)  
 10 am +Communion - Single Service  
 10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U) - Cancelled  
 10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U) - Cancelled  
 11 am Coffee Hour (P)  
 8 pm AA (P)

<b>SERVING THIS WEEK - December 22, 2024</b>		
	<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
Celebrant	Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	Bob Hall	Rev. Annie Mertz
Deacon	Rev. Beth Gaines	Rev. Beth Gaines
Music	Dr. Matthew Welch	Cameron De Palma
Lector	Ann Lindsay	Christmas Pageant
Intercessor	Charlie Kilbourne	Donna Patey
LEM	Charlie Kilbourne	TBD
Ushers	Lisa & Jorge Pena	Helen Kennedy-Lazar & Donna Patey
Altar Guild	Cathy Cellini & Steve Rodekohr	
Flower Guild	No Dedications this Week	
Office Angels	Ann Lindsay	
Verger	Joe Brien	

<b>Parish Leadership</b>		
<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Vestry</b>
<p><b>The Rev. Annie Mertz</b>, <i>Rector</i>  <b>The Rev. Beth Gaines</b>, <i>Deacon</i>  <b>The Rev. Canon Mary Goshert</b>,  <i>Associate Priest</i>  <b>The Rev. Pamela Higgins</b>, <i>Associate Priest</i>  <b>The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder</b>,  <i>Associate Priest</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Matthew Welch</b>, <i>Traditional Music Director</i>  <b>Cameron De Palma</b>, <i>Contemporary Music Director</i>  <b>Eric Foster</b>, <i>Communications Director</i>  <b>Lisa Lannoy</b>, <i>Parish Administrator</i>  <b>Tim Markley</b>, <i>Archivist</i></p>	<p><b>Jeff Jarvis</b>, <i>Senior Warden</i>  <b>Chris Prevolos</b>, <i>Junior Warden</i>  <b>Donna Marshall, Ed Curtis,</b>  <b>Laura Peabody-Park, Jill Morris,</b>  <b>Lisa Pena, Ann Lindsay, Gerri MacGregor</b></p>



# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Benicia, California

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## MISSION

St. Paul's welcomes all people at any stage of their spiritual journey to worship together, care for the community, and live the message of Jesus Christ.

## VISION

We strive to be an active, diverse, and welcoming community where people come together to worship and deepen their faith.

## VALUES

Community	Inclusion	The Message of Jesus Christ	Spiritual Growth
<p>We support our neighbors through service and compassion. We are a safe space and a supportive community where members are cared for by one another.</p>	<p>We are an inclusive community where people of all identities, backgrounds, and histories are welcome to find and continue their spiritual journey.</p>	<p>We believe in striving to live the message of Jesus Christ every day. At St. Paul's, we walk the way of love together.</p>	<p>At any point in a person's spiritual journey, there are opportunities to learn, grow, and strengthen one's faith at St. Paul's.</p>