



Welcome! We are so glad you have joined us for worship. Online family, please feel free to share your prayer requests and other reflections in the comments.

SUNDAY, December 5, 2021 | 11:00am WORSHIP

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulumcky>

## 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

### GATHERING

Welcome

Rev. Dustin Woods

Prelude

Dr. Jim McFarland, organ

*Lighting of the Candles - the Entrance of the Light of Christ*

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Mark and Amy Johnson

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. (Romans 13:11-12)

We light the first candle as a symbol of Christ, our Hope.

We light the second candle as a symbol of Christ, our Peace.

**All: Jesus is the light of the world, may we welcome that light into our hearts today and every day, and may we illuminate the world around us with the light of His love.**

Hymn 211

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

CCLI Song #31982 | © Words and Music Public Domain

**O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;**

**to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. Refrain**

\*Responsive Reading Hymnal p. 208

Rev. Darren Brandon

Refrain:



Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to set the chosen people free.

**The Lord has raised up for us a mighty savior from the house of David,**

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old, to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us.

**To show mercy to our forbears, and to remember the holy covenant,**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

**To set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship without fear, holy and righteous in the Lord's sight, all the days of our life. [Refrain]**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**To give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. [Refrain]**

# PROCLAIMING

## Prayer for Illumination

Brad Mathews

### Old Testament

Malachi 3:1-4

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

Rev. Dustin Woods

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Prepare: Making Straight Paths*

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## Anthem

*Carol of the Advent*

arr. P.R. Dietterich

*CCLI Song # xx | © Copyright 1962 Abingdon Press*

People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the rose, in on the way. Birds, though ye long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are froz'n, He for fledging time has chosen. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way. Angels, announce to man and beast Him who cometh from the East. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

(Musicians: Chancel Choir, Jim McFarland)

## Invitation to Holy Communion

Rev. Dustin Woods

Confession and Pardon (hymnal p 12)

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, our God. Christ is coming soon, Christ is on his way.** (Sung to Good Christian Friends Rejoice IN DULCI JUBILO)

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again for us. Christ is coming soon, Christ is on his way.**

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen, Amen, Amen, Christ is coming soon, Christ is on his way.**

## Distribution

United Methodists practice communion in a variety of ways. Today you are invited to pick up the prepackaged cup and wafer at the table by the entrance and bring it to your seat. You may then take your communion at your seat or take it home with you to take there. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

### During Distribution

*Catalonian Carol*

arr. J. McFarland

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dustin Woods

**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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

Rev. Darren Brandon

\* Doxology

CAROL

CCLI Song #56204 text | © Words and Music Public Domain

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

(Tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)

\*Hymn 567

*Heralds of Christ*

EVENTIDE

Stanzas 1 & 3

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Heralds of Christ, who bear the King's commands, immortal tidings in your mortal hands,  
pass on and carry swift the news you bring; make straight, make straight the highway of the King.

Lord, give us faith and strength the road to build, to see the promise of the day fulfilled,  
when war shall be no more, and strife shall cease upon the highway of the Prince of Peace.

(Musicians: Jim McFarland, Chancel Choir, Congregation)

## SENDING FORTH

\*Benediction

Rev. Dustin Woods

\*Choral Benediction

Postlude

Dr. Jim McFarland, organ

*Candles Are Extinguished as the Light of Christ Precedes Us into the World*

*\*Stand as you are able.*

*Acolyte today is Jenny Ebendorf.*

*Today's online greeter is Cullen Hornaday.*

*Register your attendance today and share prayer requests by scanning the QR code to the right*



### *Advent & Christmastide Services*

Dec 12 – Third Sunday of Advent: Service of Lessons and Carols  
9am & 11am in the Sanctuary | FaceBook Live 11am

Dec 15 – Wednesday, Longest Night Service | 7pm | Youth Center

Dec 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Koinonia @ 9am | Traditional @11am| FaceBook Live 11am

Dec 26 – Christmastide 1 [In person & FaceBook Live]  
@10am in the Gym led by Koinonia Team

Jan 2 – Christmastide 2 [In person & FaceBook Live]  
@10am in the Gym led by Traditional Team

### *Louisville Yule Log and Boar's Head Festival*

December 29, 30, 31

all performances at 7pm | Sanctuary

### *Christmas Eve*

Journey to Bethlehem

A service for families | 4pm | Gym

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

5pm Prelude | 5:30pm Service | Sanctuary  
Chancel Choir, Holy Communion, and Candlelit Carols

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

10:30pmPrelude | 11:00pm Service |  
Sanctuary

Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Holy Communion, and Candlelit Carols

## Final Wesley Night for 2021

**Meal** | 6-7pm | Please register in advance by Tues. Noon by emailing [tori@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:tori@stpaulchurchky.org) or calling the church office at 459-1595

**Children's Choirs for ages three through sixth grade** | 6pm Music Milestones Class for ages 3-5 | 7pm Joyful Song Choir for grades 1-3 | Wesleyan Choir for grades 4-6.

**Kids Club** | Grades 1-6 | 6:30-7:00pm | Gym

**Youth Jam and Hang Out** | Grades 7-12 | 6:30-8:00 | Youth Center

**Wesley Night Bible Study** | *Meanings of Advent* | Led by Rev. Darren Brandon | In Person Meeting in McAdams Hall on Wednesday from 7-8pm | Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87364493003?pwd=bWhiQ1A1UGVxMGdiZFVQN3ZHh0R3dz09>

**A charge conference is called for St. Paul today, December 5, 2021 at 2pm by Zoom to review the recommendation of United Methodist lawyers in conjunction with Annual Conference leadership and the Council of Bishops as to whether or not to approve the BSA plan of reorganization, and to vote on the plan on behalf of the church.** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86350583979>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December Mission Focus - Zora's Cradle** | "Zora's Cradle is a maternity program that provides essential services to expectant mothers through a holistic approach. One of the primary objectives of the program is to address the racial disparities that persist in maternal morbidity and infant health amongst Black Women." Zora's Cradle offers housing, telehealth, therapy and case management, doula/midwife, OBGYN services, and career counseling. St. Paul will be collecting breast pumps, new motherhood books, nursing bras, pads, and other breast feeding items. Drop off your donations at St. Paul by Wednesday, December 29.

**Meanings of Advent - Wesley Night Study in Person in McAdams Hall** | Concludes this Wednesday, December 8 from 7-8pm | We'll explore Mary's question, "How can this be?" | Please read Luke 26-38. | At 7:30pm we pause for Advent Evening Prayer going live on Facebook. | To join by Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87364493003?pwd=bWhiQ1A1UGVxMGdiZFVQN3ZHh0R3dz09>

**Breakfast with Santa** | Saturday, Dec. 11, 9am-12pm | Free Breakfast – Games & Crafts, Photo with Santa!

**St. Paul Mobile Resource Center at Fourth Avenue UMC's Open Door Ministry** | Saturday, December 11, 11am-1pm | To simplify your donations, use our Amazon or Dollar Days wish lists, which you will find at the St. Paul website under Serve: Resource Center | To volunteer, sign up at this SignUpGenius form: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-mobile>

**Longest Night Service** | Wednesday, December 15 at 7pm | This lay-led candlelight service will include prayers of consolation, Scripture readings, poetry, meditative harp music, and Holy Communion. It will provide a time to gather with others who find the holidays to be difficult and recognize that God's presence can bring light in our darkness. Come for yourself or to support others who are experiencing life's struggles. For more information, contact Lori Elbert at [lori@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:lori@stpaulchurchky.org).

**Journey to Bethlehem with St. Paul Children's Ministry** | Our children will be sharing pictures and scriptures daily as we make our way to Bethlehem during the advent season! Starting THIS Sunday! If you are not able to be in person at church, please send Ms. Tori pictures and scriptures at [tori@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:tori@stpaulchurchky.org) View post here: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulchurchkids>

**Boars Head and Yule Log Festival** | St Paul's annual tradition and gift to the city is back this year! Performances are December 29, 30, 31, 7 PM. | Tickets available Dec. 13 | Ticket office (in St. Paul Common Cup) open Monday and Wednesdays, 10am-1pm Dec. 13, 15, Dec. 20, 22 Available by: Email: [music@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:music@stpaulchurchky.org) | Phone (502) 459-1595, ext. 38 | In person during ticket office hours

**Epiphany Celebration** | January 2, 11am-1pm | Join St. Paul Children's ministry as we Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany! Activities, Crafts, Games, a Snack Feast, and a surprise special guest!

**United Methodist Mountain Mission** | Next Pick-up: December 14 | Last Drop-off Date: December 13 by 1:00pm | Pack donations in a box and drop off at St. Paul on Mondays or Wednesdays, 10am-1pm

**Habitat** | If you would like to volunteer at the work site in the coming weeks, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-habitat> | To help provide lunch for the workers, contact Glenna Heimerdinger at 777-2776 or [purplgrl58@gmail.com](mailto:purplgrl58@gmail.com). | We haven't reached our goal of \$25,000 yet and are still collecting donations to fund the Habitat House.

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., and Weds. 10:00am-1:00pm

Check the St. Paul Website ([stpaulchurchky.org](http://stpaulchurchky.org)) for more information on these and other activities.

Prayer requests can be sent to [prayer@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:prayer@stpaulchurchky.org).

Sign up for the St. Paul weekly email and Tower newsletter at the website (bottom of homepage) or by emailing [info@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:info@stpaulchurchky.org).

### Youth Choir and Regular Youth Activities

Sundays | Choir - 5pm | Youth Group - 6pm |  
Wednesdays 6:30-7pm Youth Jam and Hangout

**KICS and Tweens** | See January Tower for the New Schedule

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## CONTACT US

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