



St. Paul Church  
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY



# Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

## 5:00 PRELUDE

String Quartet	
<i>His Light in Us</i>	K. A. Arnesen
<i>Jesus Christ the Apple Tree</i>	E. Poston
Chancel Choir	
<i>Glory to God from Messiah</i>	G. F. Handel
Lorin Bridges, soloist	
<i>Psallite</i>	M. Praetorius
<i>Away in a Manger</i>	arr. R. Jacques
<i>Ding, Dong! Merrily on High</i>	arr. C. Wood
Chancel Choir	
String Quartet	

## 10:30 PRELUDE

<i>Carol of the Bells</i>	Leontovich/Wilhousky
<i>Good Christian Friends Rejoice</i>	IN DULCI JUBILO
<i>All Is Well</i>	Smith/Carson/Larson
Youth Choir	
String Quartet	
<i>His Light in Us</i>	K. A. Arnesen
<i>Jesus Christ the Apple Tree</i>	E. Poston
Chancel Choir	
<i>Glory to God from Messiah</i>	G. F. Handel
Lorin Bridges, soloist	
<i>Away in a Manger</i>	arr. R. Jacques
<i>Ding, Dong! Merrily on High</i>	arr. C. Wood
Chancel Choir	

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

You are invited to speak and sing aloud the portions of prayers and songs printed in **bold**. Also, please stand during the parts of the service where there is an asterisk\*, if comfortably able to do so.

### Welcome

Rev. Darren Brandon

### \*Hymn 234

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
Stanzas 1,2,3, & 6

ADESTE FIDELES

### \*Lighting of the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

(5:00) Heidi and Abe Pena

(10:30) Ryan and Beth Ann Keith, Eleanor, Caroline

Advent has been a time of waiting, dreaming, healing, and promise. Each week during Advent we lit another candle on our wreath, and each week the light shone more brightly.

**We have read scriptures that have spoken to us of God's faithfulness and of the hope of God's people through the ages. The people waited and dreamed for a Messiah who would bring healing and peace. God's promise was kept. The Savior has come!**

Tonight we celebrate this child born in Bethlehem. We know him as Emmanuel – God with us; we know him as Jesus – the one who saves; we know him as the fullest expression of God's love for us.

Tonight we light the Christ Candle, the candle that reminds us of Jesus. It is the center of this wreath, just as Jesus is the center of our lives.

**Generous God, you have given new life to all who will receive. May we make room for you as we experience the presence of Emmanuel, God with us, today and always.**

### \*Hymn 238

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

### Anthem

*Angel Tidings*  
Chancel Choir

J. Rutter

### \*Gospel Acclamation (sung to the refrain of The First Noel)

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Born Is the King of Israel!

**Congregation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Born Is the King of Israel!**

### \*Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:1-20

(5:00) Emily Woods; (10:30) Lori Brandon

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

### Anthem (10:30 only)

*Sleep Little Jesus Child*  
Youth Choir sopranos and altos

J. McFarland

### Meditation

*A Song and a Prayer*

Rev. Darren Brandon

### \*Hymn 218

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

CAROL

### Prayers of the People

(5:00) Rev. Dustin Woods

### Offering

*Star Carol*  
Chancel Choir

J. Rutter

## Invitation to Holy Communion

Rev. Darren Brandon

## Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Please turn to page 12 in the hymnal.

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Congregation is asked to sing the following responses: (to the tune of *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*)

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and of might, heav'n 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 born today, Christ is born today.**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again for us. Christ is born today, Christ is born today.**

**Amen, Amen, Amen. Christ is born today, Christ is born today.**

## Distribution of the Sacrament

United Methodists practice communion in a variety of ways. Tonight we are using pre-cut bread, served with tongs and the cup served from the tray. As the ushers direct, the congregation will come down the side aisles and receive bread and cup. After receiving you may kneel at the altar rail if you wish. Empty cups may be placed in the receptacles as you return up the center aisle to your seats. Prepackaged elements are available for those who prefer them. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

**Distribution Music** (Please join us in singing the hymns listed.)

<i>I Wonder as I Wander</i>	Niamh Lutes, soloist; String Quartet	Niles/McFarland
Hymn 230	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	ST. LOUIS
Hymn 217	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	AWAY IN A MANGER
<b>Solo</b>	<i>O Holy Night</i>	A. Adam
	Karla Temple (5:30 soloist); Lorin Bridges (10:30 soloist)	

## \*Hymn 239

*Silent Night, Holy Night* STILLE NACHT

*Candles will be lit at this time. Please tilt your unlit candle towards the lighted candle.*

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!**

## \*Benediction

Rev. Darren Brandon

### The Poinsettias in the St. Paul Sanctuary are given

#### In loving memory of:

Dr. Robert Couch by Wilma, Mary Claire, and Julia Couch	Helen Barrier, by Wilma, Mary Claire, and Julia Couch
George, Jean, and Karen Hauck, by Lynn and Harvey Hite	Ray and Donna Stoess, by their loving family
Our Dad, Bob Miller DeWeese, MD, by John, Craig, Amy, and Steve	Les Black, by Ruth Black and Family
Deane H. Eller and Susan Eller Garrison, by their grandchildren	Lyman Armstrong, by Karen Armstrong
Our loved ones, by the Baker and Baber families	
Gil and Jo Whittenberg and Kathleen W. Reed, by Deby Whittenberg	
Barbara Koch Todd and Eva Ellen Simmons, given by Lisa Koch Bryant	
Christopher D. Bryant and Buffy Bryant Hobart, by Eric Bryant-Gee and Rebecca Lysle Bryant	
Mr. and Mrs. George F. Koch III and Mr. and Mrs. H. DeBaun Bryant, by Lisa Koch Bryant and Rebecca Lysle Bryant	

#### In Honor of:

Martha Abbott, by her children  
Mary Claire and Peter Barnes, Julia and Hayden Copeland, by Wilma Couch  
Rev. Darren and Lori Brandon, by Ruth Black

Tonight's online greeter for the streaming service at 5:00pm is Cathy Miller

## Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

December 29th & 30th  
5:30pm & 8:00pm

Reception following each performance in McAdams Hall  
Free tickets are available. Call the church office at 502.459.1595, or stop by Monday-Thursday from 10am-2pm. Also available by emailing [genie@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:genie@stpaulchurchky.org), or by ordering online at <https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/boars-head/>

### ST. PAUL ACTIVITIES

**Wesley Night** | Wednesday night dinner, Adult and Youth Small groups, and Children's choirs will resume Wednesday, January 10th. Wesley Night has something for everyone.

**Wesley Night Adult Study** | The adult study will be *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*.

**The Youth of St. Paul** (7th-12th grade) will have a Progressive Dinner on January 6 and begin meeting for the spring semester on January 14. Our activities begin with dinner at 6:00pm in McAdams Hall. If you have any questions about the program, contact [youth@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:youth@stpaulchurchky.org).

**Children's Activities** | There are many ways for kids to get involved! Please email [tracy@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:tracy@stpaulchurchky.org) for information about childcare (birth - 5 years), acolytes (4th - 6th grade), Sunday School (K - 6th grade), Parent's Night Out (birth - 6th grade), and Tweens (4th - 6th grade). And mark your calendars - our annual Easter Eggstravaganza will be March 23.

### BECOME PART OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY AT ST. PAUL

**Chancel Choir** meets on Thursdays, 7:15-9pm and will resume on January 11th. Contact [jim@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:jim@stpaulchurchky.org).

**Youth Choir for grades 7-12**, meets Sundays 5-6pm and resumes Sunday, January 10th. Contact [karla@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:karla@stpaulchurchky.org).

**Children's Choirs for ages 3-grade 6** meet on Wednesdays during Wesley Nights (Resumes January 10th). Music Milestones Class (ages 3-5) 6-6:30pm, Choirs for grades 1-3 and 4-6 meet 7-8pm. Contact [karla@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:karla@stpaulchurchky.org) for more information.

**Koinonia Worship Team** meets for rehearsal at 7:30am on Sunday mornings to lead worship at the Koinonia service at 9am. Instrumentalists and vocalists from 9th grade to 99 are welcome. For more information contact [lori@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:lori@stpaulchurchky.org).

**The Bells of St. Paul Handbell Ensemble** rehearses on Wednesday nights from 8-9pm. New Ringers are always welcome no matter their ability. Contact [jim@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:jim@stpaulchurchky.org).

## GET INVOLVED AT ST. PAUL

**Diaper Drive for MIHOW** | The St. Paul Adult Ministries for Seniors (SPAMS) will be collecting diapers for MIHOW (Maternal Infant Health Outreach Workers) at Henderson Settlement. Most needed sizes: Newborn, 1, 4, 5, 6, pull-ups - Donations can be placed in the blue tubs in the lobbies. You may also contribute financially by writing your check to St. Paul UMC, designating it for "MIHOW" or "diapers."

**Women of the Word Bible Study** | Wednesdays, 10:00am, Room 113 | Grammy Award-winner Laura Story's five-week DVD study *When God Doesn't Fix It: Lessons You Never Wanted To Learn; Truths You Can't Live Without*.

**Men's Group** | Every other Monday at 7:00pm in the Common Cup Coffee shop | Next meeting is January 8.

**United Women in Faith** | Second Tuesdays, 10:00am, Room 113 | On Tuesday, January 9, we will introduce the 2024 United Women in Faith reading program.

**Prayer Beading Group** | Second Sundays, 1:00pm, Common Cup | Prayer beads are given to those who are in the hospital or grieving. They are also given to those who have joined St. Paul.

**St. Paul Mobile Resource Center** | at Fourth Ave UMC's Open Door Community Ministry | Second Saturdays, 11:15am-1:00pm | The St. Paul Mobile Resource Center provides clothing, shoes, hygiene products, and more to guests of the Open Door Community Ministry's lunch program.

**Highlands Community Blood Drive** | Monday, January 22, 2024 | 1:00pm to 5:00pm in the Youth Center | To schedule an appointment, please log on to [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: [stpaulumclouky](mailto:stpaulumclouky) or contact the church office at 502-459-1595.

**Casual Conversation and Coffee with Pastor Darren** | January 28, 10:10-10:40am, McAdams Hall | Pastor Darren invites you to McAdams Hall for casual conversation and coffee. All are welcome. Whether you've been here a long time or it's your first Sunday, Darren would love to visit with you.

**Agape Valentine's Day Party** | Saturday, February 10, 5:00-7:30pm, Gym | All are invited to enjoy food, fun, music, dancing, games, and entertainment!

DEC. 31 ONE SERVICE (GYM) | 10:00AM

REGULAR SUNDAY  
WORSHIP TIMES

KOINONIA, Contemporary Service

9:00am in the Gym

Traditional Service

11:00am in the Sanctuary

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Darren Brandon, Senior Pastor

[darren@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:darren@stpaulchurchky.org)

Rev. Dustin Woods, Associate Pastor

[dustin@stpaulchurchky.org](mailto:dustin@stpaulchurchky.org)

### CONNECT WITH US

Scan the code to learn more about St. Paul's ministries and activities.

