

St. Paul Church
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY

Welcome to worship! Please use the yellow card to communicate with us. We would gladly receive your prayer request or other information you want to share.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 | 11:00am WORSHIP

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Gathering Music

Welcome

Rev. Darren Brandon

Prelude

Wachet auf, ruf uns die Stimme
Laura Lee Duckworth

J. Walther

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Cory and Whitney Meadows, Samuel and Jack Harrison

From deep in the past, the prophet Jeremiah calls to us, "The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah" (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of all creation; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace, will receive their fulfillment.

While fear and unrest surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God's kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

*Opening Hymn 211

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
stanzas 1,2,4,7

VENI EMMANUEL

Invitation to Holy Communion

Confession and Pardon (hymnal p 12)

Rev. Darren Brandon

PROCLAIMING

Prayer for Illumination

Lori Brandon

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 25:1-5 (UMH p 757)

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

Gospel Lesson

Luke 21:25-36 (NT, p 80)

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

Sermon

Rev. Darren Brandon

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

The Great Thanksgiving

Musical Setting A, p. 17 in the hymnal

Distribution

St. Paul intentionally celebrates communion in a variety of ways. Today 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, kneel at the altar rail as you are able, and receive bread and cup. After receiving the elements, the pastor will dismiss each group with a blessing. Then you may return to your seat by the center aisle. Prepackaged elements are also available. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Lori Brandon

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

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love
Chancel Choir

E. Titcomb

*Doxology (Hymn 94)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CCLI Song # 3063266 | Gilbert H. Vieira | Ralph Vaughan Williams | Thomas Ken |

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*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn 196

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*Benediction

Rev. Darren Brandon

*Choral Benediction

Postlude

Plain Jeu from Magnificat
Laura Lee Duckworth, organ

J. F. Dandrieu

*Stand as you are able.

COMMUNION AVAILABLE FOR THE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

If you would like to receive home communion, please contact the pastor at darren@stpaulchurchky.org, call the church at 459-1595, or contact Gail Henson with the Congregational Care team at 648-2201 or grhenson@gmail.com.

Next Week in Worship

Koinonia 9:00am – Gym | Traditional 11:00am – Sanctuary

Livestream at 11:00am on Facebook

Sermon | Rev. Darren Brandon

Scriptures for the Week: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79;

Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Acolytes: Melody Krause & Jack Harrison Meadows

Save the Date - Holiday Services

Advent Worship Service – Music by Children and Youth, December 8, 6:30pm, Sanctuary

Lessons and Carols

December 15, 9:00am and 11:00am, Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services

December 24, 5:00pm and 10:30pm, Sanctuary

One-Service Sunday

December 29, 10:00am, Gym

WORSHIP TODAY

TODAY'S ONLINE GREETER is Sara Ferebee

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today xx.

ACOLYTES today are Kayla Martin and Josephine Dock

YELLOW CONNECTION CARDS are a way you can request more information about our church or ask for prayer. You may place your card in the offering plate or give it to an usher after the service. You can also fill out an online connection card using the Flowcode below.



CHILDREN

CHILDCARE is available for infants through pre-k from 8:45am-12:15pm in room 200.

All children are invited to participate in worship by choosing worship materials from the Children's Worship Cart located in the Narthex.

TO ADULTS WITH KIDS: Relax! God put the wiggle in children, and you don't need to suppress it in God's house. Consider sitting toward the front where it might be easier for your kids to see and hear. If you need to leave the service at any point, feel free to do so - but please come back! We want you and your kids to feel welcome and cherished.

TO OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH: the presence of children is a gift and a reminder that our faith is alive! Please welcome our kids and give a smile of encouragement to their adults.

THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 1-7, 2024

TODAY

8:30am Coffee & Donuts (Common Cup)
9:00am Worship - KOINONIA (Gym)
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)
8:00pm AA Meeting (100)

MONDAY

Office Open 10am-2pm
5:30pm AA Meeting (100)

TUESDAY

Office Open 10am-2pm
10:45am Staff Meeting (Youth Center)
7:00pm AA Meeting (100)
7:00pm Scouts (Gym)
7:30pm DBSA (110, 113)

WEDNESDAY

Office Open 10am-2pm
10:00am Women's Bible Study (113)
6:00pm Wesley Night Activities (see below)

THURSDAY

Office Open 10am-2pm
6:00pm AA Meeting (111)
7:00pm Chancel Choir (302)

FRIDAY

Office Closed

SATURDAY

10:00am AA Meeting (100)
10:00am Boar's Head Rehearsal & Costume Fitting (Sanctuary)
8:00pm AA Meeting (100)

WESLEY NIGHT | Wednesdays | 6-9pm

Dinner | 6-7pm | McAdams Hall | Meal: Chick-fil-A

RSVP for Dinner here: <https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/ministries/wesley-night/>

Music Milestones (Ages 3-K) | 6-6:30pm | Room 306

Open Gym and Homework Help for 1st-6th Grade | 6-6:30pm | Gym

Youth Jam and Hangout | 6:30-8pm | Youth Center

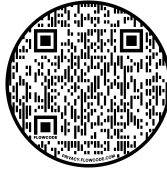
Joyful Song Choir (1st-3rd Grade) | 7-8pm | Room 306

Wesleyan Choir (4th-6th Grade) | 7-8pm | Room 302

Adult Book Study | *Don't be Afraid* with Rev. Tom Grieb | 7-8pm | McAdams Hall

Bells of St. Paul Handbell Choir | 8-9pm | Room 303

Check the St. Paul Website (stpaulchurchky.org) for more information on these and other activities or scan the QR code to the right for quick links to lots of St. Paul info!



Prayer requests can be sent to 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Boar's Head Festival Cast Rehearsal & Costume Fitting | December 7, 10:00am-Noon

SPAMS Outing to see "A Wonderful Life" at Derby Dinner Playhouse | Friday, December 13 (Bus leaves at 11:00am) | Lunch is from 11:45am-12:45pm with the show starting at 1:00pm. Cost: \$40.00; due by November 29. No refunds after this date. This is always a popular event, so sign up soon at the Information Center or call the church office at 459-1595.

"O Come, Let Us Adore Him" Evening Advent Service | Sunday, Dec. 8, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary | Come enjoy music of Advent and Christmas as our children's choirs and youth choir lead us in worship! Please bring your Waller Williams Christmas stockings to place under the tree during this service!

Breakfast with Santa | Saturday, December 14 | 9:00-11:00am | Come enjoy a pancake breakfast with Santa Claus! Games, crafts, and an affordable Holiday Shop so the kids can do their Christmas shopping.

Cookie Exchange, Story Time, and Sing-Along | During Wesley Night on December 11, Pastor Darren and D'Anna Switzer will lead us. The fun begins at 7pm after the Wesley Night meal. Bring 1-2 dozen homemade cookies and a container. You'll be able to exchange your dozen or two for samples of other folks' yummys!

Cookie Baking Workshop | December 11 4:30-6:00pm | Room 100 Kitchen | Come and make Ting-a-lings (or haystacks - no bake); Spritz; Decorated cut outs!; Oreo yummys (no bake). Bring a container; led by Gail Henson

Habitat Methodist Build | The Methodist Habitat build at 6511 Hackel is going well. The new partner family, Mustaf and Arbay and their three boys and two girls are excited to be working on their own house. Work will continue on most Thursdays and Fridays. Check with Ray Fore (papa.fore@gmail.com) about days, and you are welcome to help build.

Resource Center Needs | The colder nights are upon us. We need coats, jackets, JEANS/warm pants, long-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts/sweaters, gloves, hats, scarves, bras, and blankets. And we still need men's shoes and boots!

The United Methodist Mountain Mission | Please drop off your donations to St. Paul no later than Monday, December 2 at 2:00pm. Their current Urgent Needs list includes bedding, linens, new Christmas toys, new children's coats, and new children's shoes. A full list of needs can be found on church bulletin boards.

SERVING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

HCM Christmas Drive "Elf Day" 2024 | We will again support the work of Highlands Community Ministries in brightening the holiday season for their clients. We have been asked to collect: Throw Blankets, \$25 gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target, or Kroger. If you can help out with this opportunity, please drop off your donations by Tuesday, December 3 at 2pm.

Waller-Williams Christmas Stockings | Thank you, St. Paul! All of the Christmas stockings have been claimed! Please remember to bring your completed stocking to St. Paul no later than Monday, December 9. Better yet, bring it to the Advent Service on Sunday, December 8 at 6:30pm and place it under the Christmas tree!

Scarf Sale Fundraiser | Sunday, December 8, 9:30-11:30am in the Common Cup | The Resource Center received some brand new, high-quality scarves from colorful cotton to 100% cashmere and alpaca. Many were originally priced over \$100, our prices will range from \$10-\$30! We also have some donated costume jewelry and used scarves that we will sell as well. Cash or check only, please. All proceeds benefit the St. Paul Resource Center Fund.

Breakfast with Santa Donations | We are collecting small trinkets to sell in our affordable Holiday Shop during Breakfast with Santa. Please place donations into the collection bin in the lobby. Thank you for making this possible for the kids who attend!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing | Friday, December 20 | 11:00am-5:00pm | Come ring the Salvation Army bell at the Highlands Kroger (2440 Bardstown Rd). Email tracy@stpaulchurchky.org to sign up for a 30-minute or 1-hour slot. Last year we raised \$483.58... let's beat that amount this year! Festive attire and holiday tunes welcome.

It's time to hop on "Boar"d | Casting and planning for our 2024 Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival are well underway but we still need plenty of volunteers in order to present our annual performances and receptions as a gift to our city! Festival performances are December 29 and 30, 5:30 and 8:00 pm. Volunteers are needed for the following areas: ushers, reception servers, costume sewing and repairs, cast members (ages 5-adult), and set up (December 26). Please contact Karla Temple for more info.

SERVE

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CONTACT US

Rev. Darren Brandon (270) 570-2004 - cell



DECEMBER 1, 2024