



ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope;
to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come;
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in
the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION & WORSHIP OF GOD

4th Sunday in Advent; December 20, 2020, 10:30 A.M.

Nursery is provided for children aged three and under. The Cry Room located off the foyer is available, if needed for nursing mothers and moms with young children, at any time during worship. A simultaneous broadcast of the service is provided in the room. Children aged four through first grade will be dismissed following the Gloria. Parents, if you have not already registered your child, please accompany your child to their classroom and check in with our Children's Ministry Director, Donna Love.

The sounding of the bells is the call for meditation and prayer as we prepare to worship our holy God.

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

"WHAT CHILD IS THIS"
GREENSLEEVES

WELCOME

Please silence your phones and other electronic devices.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION

"SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS"
Noel Nouvelet; Traditional French Carol

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM ISAIAH 60

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

People: ***For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.***

Minister: And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

People: ***Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.***

Minister: They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD. Praise the LORD!



*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Minister and People: *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 forever. Amen.*

*OLD TESTAMENT READING

Pew Bible, page 778

MICAH 5:1-6

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The congregation is invited to kneel through the Pastoral Prayer.

Minister and People: *Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is rich in mercy to all who call upon You, hear us as we come to You in the name of your Son. We humbly confess our sins, and ask for your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken your holy laws by our thoughts, words, and deeds, as well as by the sinful affections of our hearts. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. Grant that we may serve You without fear and live in peace through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Please take a moment to silently confess your sins.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

Minister: Hear this good news! God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Unison: *Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—A LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS

Minister: For the incarnation of the eternal Son of God, the Word made flesh, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: *Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.*

Minister: For the Son of God who became a man so that men and women like us might become sons and daughters of God, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: *Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!*

Minister: For a great High Priest who is able to sympathize with us in our weakness, one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: *Blessed be the Lord forever! Amen and Amen.*

Minister: For the gospel of grace that assures us that Christ's incarnation, birth, life, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and promised return, is for us and for our salvation, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: *Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the Lord!*

PASTORAL PRAYER

*ADVENT HYMN #193

"LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE"
PICARDY

RENEWING OUR FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM
Questions #21, 23, & 26

Minister: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

People: *The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.*

Minister: What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?

People: *Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.*

Minister: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

People: *Christ executes the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.*

Unison: *Thanks be to God!*

*GLORIA PATRI #734

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

We welcome children for the entire worship service. However, a specifically designed time is provided in the New Testament Hall for children aged four through the first grade. Please meet the Children's Church leaders at the Fellowship Hall entrance of the Sanctuary at this time.

*GOSPEL LESSON *Pew Bible, page 807*

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

REV. JUSTIN BORGER

Advent According to Matthew:
"THE VISIT OF THE MAGI"
MATTHEW 2:1-12

Big Idea: With the visit of the magi, we see the clash of two kingdoms. This story is a study in contrast, which displays the difference between the true and false king, true and false centers of power, true and false people of God, and true and false worship. The dawn of Christ's dominion not only draws and delights true worshippers; it also disturbs every pretender to his throne.

1. The Magi come to Jerusalem (vv. 1-6)

2. The Magi go to Bethlehem (vv. 7-12)

RESPONDING IN THANKS

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #226

“AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD”

DIX

GIVING TO GOD & VOCAL OFFERTORY

“LO, HOW A ROSE E’ER BLOOMING”

Traditional German Carol;
Arr. by Michael Praetorius

*Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse’s lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow’ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.*

*Isaiah ’twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.*

*This flow’r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev’rywhere.
True man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us,
And lightens ev’ry load.*

*DOXOLOGY #733

LASST UNS ERFRUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: alleluia, alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN #203

“HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”

Verses 2 & 3

MENDELSSOHN

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

Refrain

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

INSTRUMENTAL POSTLUDE

“O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL”

ADESTE FIDELES

In our worship service this morning, Rev. Justin Borger will be ministering in the pulpit and Rev. Dan Thompson will be assisting. Leading us in musical praise is organist, Maria Schlehr; pianist, Mary Chris Rowe; clarinetist, Tamia Dawkins; flautists, Amanda Stewart and Caroline Wilson; trumpeter, Robert Krahn; trombonists, Jim Crandall and Larry Pike; percussionists, Devon Costanza and Matt Malhiot; guitarists, Tim Hunter and Josue Pizarro; all under the direction of our Director of Music, Ronald Owen. Leading the congregational singing this morning are vocalists, Peter Benyola, John Hill, Chris Hurt, and David Romaine. Peter Benyola will sing the Vocal Offertory.

Welcome Visitors!

If you are visiting St. Paul's today, we are so glad you have joined us for worship! We would love to get to know you. Email staff@stpaulpca.org to let us know your name, how you heard about St. Paul's, any contact information you would like to give, and any questions you may have. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastors or one of our ushers.

* Congregation standing

♣ Additional worshippers seated

HYMN #208

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, Begotten, not created;

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels;
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest;

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Late in flesh appearing;

HYMN #193

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
“Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

HYMN #226

AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly cradle bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy, pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last,
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

William Chatterton Dix, 1860
DIX

PASTORAL STAFF

JUSTIN BORGER
Senior Pastor

FRANK CAVALLI
Pastor Emeritus

MILES HAYES
Assistant Pastor of Prison Ministry

DAN THOMPSON
Assistant Pastor

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

JANET CHITTY
Children's Ministry Assistant

MARK DAVIS
Director of Youth Ministries

DONNA LOVE
Director of Children's Ministries

PHIL LOVE
Facilities Manager

RICK MADSEN
Director of Ministries

TRISH MICELI
Bookkeeping

RONALD OWEN
Director of Music

HANNAH PACCHIOLI
Music & Youth Ministry Assistant

LISA ROWLEY
Administrative Assistant

RUSTY TAYLOR
Event Setup

RULING ELDERS

GORDON CLOKE
BUD LEONARD
ED MCDUGALL
DAN PUGH
REEVES VALENTINE

JIM CRANDALL
JOHN MAYNARD
LARRY PIKE
STEVE RITCHIE

DEACONS

ANDREW AUER
MATTHEW GROSS
RICK MADSEN
MATT RAGSDALE
ANDY WEST

PHIL ELWOOD
DAVID JONES
JASON MAGES
DAVID SUTTON
JIM WALLS

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH BOARD

ANN CHRISTIAN
DONNA LOVE
LAURA RAGSDALE
MARTIE SALT
DEBBIE YERO

CAROLYN JACKSON
MARY MILLER
JULIA RANG
SHERRY SWINDLE
SIMONE YOUMANS

CHURCH ADDRESS

4917 ELI STREET • ORLANDO, FL 32804 • OFFICE: 407-647-7774
FAX: 407-647-7259 • EMAIL: STAFF@STPAULPCA.ORG • WEB: WWW.STPAULPCA.ORG