



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 24, 2023
8:45 am & 11:00 am

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

*The mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to explore and celebrate
God's infinite grace, acceptance, and love.*

Welcome! We are glad that you are with us.

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The *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) is the red book.

The *Hymnal 1982* (H) is the blue book.

The service starts on page 355 in the *Book of Common Prayer*.

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand at the tolling of the bell.

HYMN: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

H 56

Please remain standing.

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

BCP 355

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider 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: HOLY GOD, HOLY AND MIGHTY

S-100

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

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The lector closes the reading, saying

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence and stillness

THE CANTICLE: TELL OUT, MY SOUL

H 438



1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*

Music: *Woodlands*, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)

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THE SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The lector closes the reading, saying

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence and stillness

Children in second grade and below are invited to follow the cross and process to Children's Chapel. They will return at the Peace to take Communion with their families.

HYMN: REDEEMER OF THE NATIONS, COME

H 55

11:00 service only

THE HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38

Please stand.

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

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

Please 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

Our prayer list can be found online at www.tinyurl.com/stpaulsfay-prayer

Prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, its members, and its mission; the Nation and all in authority; the welfare of the world; the concerns of the local community; those who suffer and those in any trouble; and the departed.

Please add your intercessions aloud or in silence after each petition.

At the end of each petition, the following is said:

Litanist Our soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
People our spirit rejoices in God our Savior.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Silence may be kept.

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 ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

THE PEACE

BCP 360

Please stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly announcements can be found online at www.stpaulsfay.org/s/epistle.pdf

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Gifts can be made online at www.tithe.ly/give?c=454227



8:45 ANTHEM: MAGNIFICAT

SCHRAM

11:00 ANTHEM: THE ANGEL GABRIEL

SHEPHARD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

Please stand.


Spoken at 8:45 and sung at 11:00

Celebrant *People*




The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*



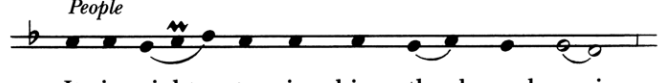
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

H S-124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Please stand or kneel.

The Presider continues

BCP 362

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation...

...Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Presider continues

BCP 363

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all...

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Presider and People



THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM: LAMB OF GOD

H S-161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Whoever you are and wherever you are in your pilgrimage of faith,
you are welcome in this place; you are welcome at God's table.*

To receive Communion, come forward down the center aisle. Hand sanitizer is available. You may come up the chancel steps to the altar rail or receive at the floor station in front of the pulpit. If you need the clergy to bring Communion to your pew, please let an usher know. To receive the bread, extend your open palm to the minister. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. To receive the wine, guide the base of the chalice with your hand so that you can sip from the cup. You may also intinct/dip the bread into the wine if you prefer. If you prefer not to receive in either or both kinds, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intention. Return to your pew by the side aisles.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those joining us at home

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beg you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Minister In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that *[names of recipients]* may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.**

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel.

Presider 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.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

After the dismissal sentence

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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