

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

[9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!]]

#### The Epistle

#### Ephesians 1:3-6; 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

#### Gospel

#### Matthew 2:1-2

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

#### Pray for the Church and the Body of Christ

The Daughters of the King are dedicated to supporting the prayer needs of St. Paul's. They are available in the west corner of sanctuary every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for private prayer. You can also submit intentions in the prayer box in the narthex. To add names to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise renewed.  
Please pray for: *Fr. Godon, Cathy Hargrave, Julie*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 11 Sunday—5pm**—Investiture of the Rt. Rev. Robert Price; St Matthew's Cathedral, 5100 Ross Ave. Dallas. Reception follows.

**Jan. 17, Sat.**

- **8:00am** St. Joseph Guild
- **9:00am** Daughter's of the King—DOK

**2025-2026 APNET Events** - Opportunities to join with other small Episcopal churches for ministry and mutual edification. Please consider participating. Rural Churches play an important role in the fabric of the communities they serve. They are the outposts of the rural mission field for the Gospel. Often times these small missions and parishes struggle to remain viable having limited resources and small numbers.

- **January 3 – 4pm** Lessons and Carols at St. William Laud, Pittsburgh.
- **January 21—5:30pm**—ALPHA Course: St. Philip's Episcopal, Sulphur Springs, TX
- **February 20-21** – APNET Conference

#### Gospel continued

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

#### Cover Art

The Adoration of the Kings: Upper Tier Panel from The San Pier Maggiore Altarpiece Jacopo di Cione and workshop 1370-1; Painting

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church



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Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church*  
The Rt. Rev. Dr. George R. Sumner, *Bishop*  
The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Funk, *Rector*  
The Rev. Gordon Miltenberger, *Assisting Priest*  
David Gish, *Music Director*  
Mark Gilliam, *Organist*

**Second Sunday after Christmas Day**  
**January 4, 2026**

## Service Times at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

### SUNDAY

10:30 am. .... HOLY EUCHARIST  
11:45 am. .... FELLOWSHIP, CLARDY HALL

### WEDNESDAY

10:00 am. .... CHILDREN'S CHAPEL  
10:30 am. .... MORNING PRAYER II  
6:00 pm. .... BIBLE STUDY

### THURSDAY

8:00 p.m. .... COMPLINE SERVICE(access St. Paul's Facebook Page)

#### This Sunday, January 4th

**Lector/LEM** Debbie Shaffer

**Acolyte** David Kiriklin

**Vestry Person of the Day** Frank McKee, Elizabeth Porter

**Intercessory Prayer** Elizabeth Porter

**Tech Team** Director-Jeff Faunce; Titles-Jacob Faunce;  
Audio-Brad Mathis; Cameras-Nick Stone  
Social Media-Georgianna Harrison

#### Next Sunday, January 11th

**Lector/LEM** Matt Wolff

**Acolyte** Karen Smith

**Vestry Person of the Day** Frank McKee, Elizabeth Porter

**Intercessory Prayer** Nancy Wyant

**Tech Team** Director-Jeff Faunce; Titles-Jennifer Faunce;  
Audio-Brad Mathis; Cameras-Nick Stone  
Social Media-Georgianna Harrison

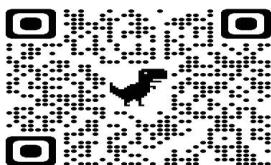
#### Altar Guild:

Laurel Pence, Nancy Wyant,  
Georgianna Harrison

#### More Than Enough

##### Donate Digitally!

Open your phone's camera and aim it  
at this QR code. This will take you  
directly to our donation page at  
[www.stpaulstx.org/giving](http://www.stpaulstx.org/giving) where you can  
donate to our Giving Program.



**5 p.m., Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Join us for this exciting event in the life of the  
Church as the Rt. Rev. Robert Price is seated in  
the cathedra, or bishop's chair, of St. Matthew's  
Cathedral, 5100 Ross Ave, Dallas; Reception  
follows. No registration required.



## Holy Eucharist Rite I

### The Word of God

#### Processional Hymn

H #83

#### O Come All Ye Faithful

BCP 323

Opening Sentence

BCP 323

Collect for Purity

BCP 324

Summary of the Law

H #S101

*Trisagion*

BCP 160

The Collect

BCP 84

The Lessons

Jeremiah 31:7-14

*The First Reading*

Psalm 84

*The Psalm*

Ephesians 1:3-6; 15-19a

*The Epistle*

H #128

*Gospel Hymn*

#### We Three Kings

Matthew 2:1-12

*Gospel*

The Rev. Gary Hill

*Sermon*

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

Prayers of the People (Form I)

BCP 328

The Confession

BCP 331

The Peace

BCP 332

Announcements

### The Holy Communion

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist.*

#### Offertory Hymn

A3 #115

#### Offertory Anthem

A3 #221

Doxology (Old 100th)

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer I)

BCP 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

Communion Hymn

#### Step by Step Humble Thyself

A3 #154

A3 #68

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

The Blessing & Dismissal

BCP 339

Recessional Hymn

H #99

#### Go Tell it on the Mountain!

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

H = Hymnbook (red)

A3 = Alleluia III (yellow)

### The Collect

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### The First Reading

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
"Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and  
those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

says the LORD.

### Psalm

#### Psalm 84

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.