

- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

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: Father Gordon, *Cathy Hargrave, Julie*

Luke 2:1-20 (cont.)

[When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]



FLOWERS FOR THE FESTIVAL OF THE HOLY NATIVITY WERE GIVEN BY:

Dana Medford & Ginger Higgins	In loving Memory of Lori Medford Morgan
Elizabeth Porter	With thanksgiving for the service of the Funk family these past seven years.
Harold Roseberry	In loving memory of Hazel Roseberry and Charley Roseberry.
Debbie Shaffer	In thanksgiving for my children and grandchildren.
Suzanne Taylor	With thanksgiving for Baby Jesus.
Ray & Myrna Pendley	In thanksgiving for God's gift.

A Very Special Thank Your to Eileen Jenkins and family for their donation of our beautiful creche in honor of Tommy Jenkins, Eileen's husband, that will adorn our altar for many years to come.

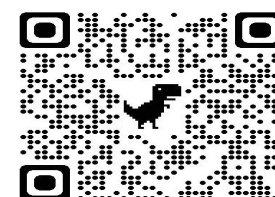
With thanksgiving for all who supported St. Paul's Altar Guild throughout 2025



More Than Enough

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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 where you can donate to our Giving Program. Thank you for your support!



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*
John Shasteen, *Organist (Carols & 11:00 p.m.)*

Christmas Eve: December 24, 2025

10:30 p.m.—Carol Singing				
<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>		<i>H #87</i>		
<i>It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (Carol)</i>		<i>H #89</i>		
<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>		<i>H #96</i>		
<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem (St. Louis)</i>		<i>H #79</i>		
<i>God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (God Rest You Merry)</i>		<i>H #105</i>		
<i>Away in a Manger (Cradle Song)</i>		<i>H #101</i>		
<i>On This Day Earth Shall Ring</i>		<i>H #92</i>		
<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>		<i>H #107</i>		
<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>		<i>H #56</i>		
<i>The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (Gabriel's Message)</i>		<i>H #265</i>		
<i>What Child is This, Who, Laid to Rest (Greensleeves)</i>		<i>H #115</i>		
<i>Silent Night</i>		<i>H #111</i>		
<i>Chiming Bells will mark the end of the carols and preparation for the Christmas Eve service.</i>				
Morsels for Meditation				
"Miracles are not contrary to nature, but only contrary to what we know about nature." -St. Augustine				
"Show me where a man spends his time & money, and I'll show you his god." -Attributed to Martin Luther				
"We are not building the Kingdom of God. He is building His kingdom, and we are praying for the privilege of being involved." -Francis Schaeffer				
"Some people talk about finding God—as if He could get lost." -Unknown				
"One can acquire everything in solitude—except character." -Stendhal, "On Love"				
Lector/LEM:	Jim Pence (7:00 p.m.)	Matt Wolff (11:00 p.m.)		
Acolyte:	Matt Wolff (7:00 p.m.)	David Kirklin (11:00 p.m.)		
Thurifer:	Laurel Pence (7:00 p.m.)	Jeff Faunce (11:00 p.m.)		
Vestry:	Frank McKee (7:00 p.m.) Elizabeth Porter, David Kirklin (11:00 p.m.)			
Altar Guild:	Laura Funk, Laurel Pence, Georgianna Harrison, Nancy Wyant			
Tech Team:	Director-Jennifer Faunce; Titles-Nick Stone; Sound-Jacob Faunce; Cameras-Brad Mathis; Social Media-Georgianna Harrison			
Cover Art				
Duccio di Buoninsegna, <i>The Nativity with the Prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel</i> (Washington DC: National Gallery, 1308/1311), tempera on single panel.				

7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite I		
<i>The Word of God</i>		
Prelude		
Processional Hymn (11:00 pm only)		H #83
<i>O Come all Ye Faithful (Adeste fideles)</i>		
Opening Sentence		BCP 323
Collect for Purity		BCP 323
<i>Gloria in excelsis</i>		H #S280
The Collect		BCP 212
The Lessons		
First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7		
Psalm Psalm 96		
Epistle Titus 2:11-14		
Gospel Hymn (11:00 pm only)		H #93
<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory (Regent Square)</i>		
Gospel		Luke 2:1-20
Sermon	“Christmas Wonder”	
	The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Funk	
The Nicene Creed		BCP 326
Prayers of the People		BCP 328
The Confession		BCP 331
The Peace		BCP 332
Announcements		
<i>The Holy Communion</i>		
Offertory (11:00 pm only)		H #79
<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem (St. Louis)</i>		
Offertory Anthem		A3 #221
<i>Doxology (Old 100th)</i>		
The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer I)		BCP 333
The Lord’s Prayer		BCP 336
<i>Agnus Dei</i>		H #S157
Prayer of Humble Access		BCP 337
The Presentation		BCP 338
Communion Hymn ((11:00 pm only)		Choir
<i>Lo How a Rose E’er Blooming (Es ist ein Ros)</i>		
		H #81
<i>The First Nowell (The First Nowell)</i>		
		H #109
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
The Blessing & Dismissal		BCP 366
Recessional Hymn (11:00 pm only)		H #100
<i>Joy to the World! The Lord is Come</i>		
<i>All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist.</i>		
BCP = Book of Common Prayer H = Hymnbook (red) A3 = Alleluia III (yellow)		

The First Reading **Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Psalm **Psalm 96**

Cantate Domino

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!