



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

Journeying Together Since 1885

9:00 & 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 26, 2023

CELEBRATING THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome you to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. All are celebrated here and all are safe. This bulletin will guide our service today. More helpful information can be found following the order of worship.

Gathering for Worship

(* - please stand in body or spirit)

Announcements (10:30 only)

Prelude (10:30 only)

*Call to Worship (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Leader: The power of dreams lies in waking up. For when we close our eyes,

ALL: We can see a better world.

Leader: When we close our eyes,

ALL: We can dream a better dream.

Leader: But when we open our eyes,

ALL: We begin the work of faith.

Leader: The power of worship is the same. When we enter this space,

ALL: We can see a better world.

Leader: When we enter this space,

ALL: We dream a better dream.

Leader: But when we leave this space,

ALL: We begin the work of faith.

Leader: So come in. Dream your dream.

ALL: Find hope here.

Leader: For in an hour,

ALL: We will begin the work of faith.

Leader: Let it be so.

*Hymn #117 (9:00 & 10:30) *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Lighting the Advent Candle (9:00 & 10:30)

Phil & Anne Rush (10:30 AM)

Reader A: I dream of sunflower fields.

Reader B: I dream of key lime pie with a mile-high meringue.

Reader A: I dream of the days when we could be part of a crowd.

Reader B: I dream of snow days.

Reader A: I dream of empty beds in jail cells.

Reader B: I dream of a world that will let kids be kids.

Reader A: I dream of full tables instead of empty bellies.

Reader B: I dream of schools with enough money to teach.

Reader A: I dream of parents with enough money to feed.

Reader B: I dream to keep awake, because if we don't dream of better days, then we might forget that this is not what God imagined.

Reader A: So today we light the candle of hope, for hope is the very thing that keeps dreams afloat.

Candle Lighting.

ALL: May this light be an invitation to keep awake. May this light be our invitation to be Advent people — people who dream. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Proclamation of the Word

Luke 1:5-20 NRSVUE (9:00 & 10:30)

Pew Bible: New Testament p. 56

⁵In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord.

⁷But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #213 (9:00 & 10:30) *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Sermon (9:00 & 10:30)

Dreams of an Old Man & a Young Woman

Angela Pupino

Wesley Seminary Student

Response to the Word

Invitation to Giving (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Offerings by check may be made out to St. Paul's UMC. Scan the QR code here to see one-time and recurring online giving options at stpaulsk.org. Thank you for supporting all of St. Paul's efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory (10:30 only) *A Voice Cries Out “Prepare the Way of the Lord”*

Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir with Travis Stalcup, tenor

*A voice cries out, “Prepare the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up and every mountain made low.”*

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed;
All people shall see it together.
The mouth of the Lord has spoken it.*

*Comfort, comfort my people;
Proclaim the promise of the Lord:
His name shall be called Emmanuel!*

*Doxology #94 (9:00 & 10:30)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Holy Communion (9:00 & 10:30)

The United Methodist Hymnal

The Invitation

Confession & Pardon – *UM Hymnal* p. 12

Passing the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving – *UM Hymnal* p. 13-14

The Lord’s Prayer – *UM Hymnal* #895

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread & Cup (*Communion bread is gluten-free.*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (9:00 & 10:30)

**All: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have
given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of
your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Sending Forth



1. God Al - might - y, we are wait - ing for a
2. God In - car - nate, we are wait - ing for the
3. God the Spir - it, we are wait - ing for your



Sav - ior to___ ap - pear. Meet us in___ our
feast day of___ your birth. Look - ing back___ and
pres - ence here___ and now. Hum - bled by___ our



des - ert jour - ney; give a sign that you___ are
look - ing for - ward to the Christ's re - turn___ to
sin - ful weak - ness, at your mer - cy we___ will



near: burn - ing bush - es, part - ed wa - ters,
earth. Help us to___ pro - claim the gos - pel,
bow. Search our hearts___ and make us read - y,



food a - plen - ty in___ the wild. As___ we look___ for
'til the world is rec - on - ciled. Let___ us set___ your
speak in lan - guage strong and mild, help___ each one___ of



signs and won - ders, help us see___ you in a child.
ho - ly ta - ble for each wo - man, man, and child.
us,___ your peo - ple, to re - ceive you like a child.

*Benediction and Dismissal (9:00 & 10:30)

Angela Pupino

Postlude (10:30 only)



COMING UP

Drop-in office hours: Monday -Thursday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Staff & clergy available other times by appointment!

Worship on Sunday, December 3, 2023

9:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Celebrating the Second Sunday in Advent

Advent and Christmas schedule available at stpaulsk.org/worship/advent-christmas



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

are given today by **Grace Graham**,
in loving memory of her brother, **David Triplett**.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly News – Visit stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news or scan the QR code to find all the announcements in our Weekly News. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunitied@stpaulsk.org). Here are some featured events:



- UMC Special Sunday – Student Sunday offering at stpaulsk.org/giving.
- Advent Study Registration for “Incarnation” (in-person class with Mike McCurry beginning Nov. 28) or “An Unlikely Advent” (Zoom class with Meg Baker beginning Nov. 29) - stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education or sign up sheets in the Narthex
- Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, Dec. 2, 8:00-10:30 AM
- Children’s Advent Craft Time – Saturday, Dec. 2, 9:00-10:30 AM
- New Members Interest Meeting – contact Pastor Pat (pallen@stpaulsk.org) by Dec. 3
- Christmas Holiday Giving Project: \$25 Target gift cards or financial donations welcome. Read more at stpaulsk.org/service/holiday-giving – now-Dec. 10.
- Scattered for Service, stpaulsk.org/service/scattered-for-service – now-Dec. 20

Welcome Visitors! – Restrooms including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office, near the water fountain. **Children** in grades K-5 will be Sunday School starting in the Chapel at 10:30; families with infants and preschoolers may make use of the Nursery on the second floor. To receive Sunday School updates by email, contact Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org. **Large print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary. **Say Hello!** Use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and, if you wish, contact information. **Masks** are optional. Please read more at stpaulsk.org/worship.



SOURCES AND LICENSING

Livestreaming each week at 10:30 AM at stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home.

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Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates. Words: Georg Weissel (1642); trans. Catherine Winkworth (1855). Music: *Psalmodia Evangelica* (1789). Public domain.

** Offertory: *A Voice Cries Out "Prepare the Way of the Lord"* by Lloyd Larson. Copyright 1993 by Providence Press / Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

** Doxology: *Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* (LASST UNS ERFREUEN). Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesange* (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. © 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

* *God Almighty, We Are Waiting*. Words: Ann Bell Worley, copyright 2005, Hope Publishing. Music: Rowland H. Prichard (1830), public domain. Published in *Worship and Song*, the UMC hymnal supplement volume.

Prelude and Postlude selections by organist Marvin Mills.



LEADING AND SERVING

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen, pallen@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Music Director: Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Organist: Mr. Marvin Mills, mmills@stpaulsk.org

Facilities: Ms. Tracey Furman, tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation: Dr. Meg Baker, mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Communications & Administration: Dr. Erin Bone Steele, stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

A/V Team: John & Biljana Regan, John Stephens

Children's Choir: Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Marge Higgins

Usher Coordinator: Nathan Bazawada

Lay Readers: Kenzie Raulin (9:00), Jan Aamodt (10:30)

Advent Readers: Phil & Anne Rush (10:30)

Guest Preacher: Angela Pupino

