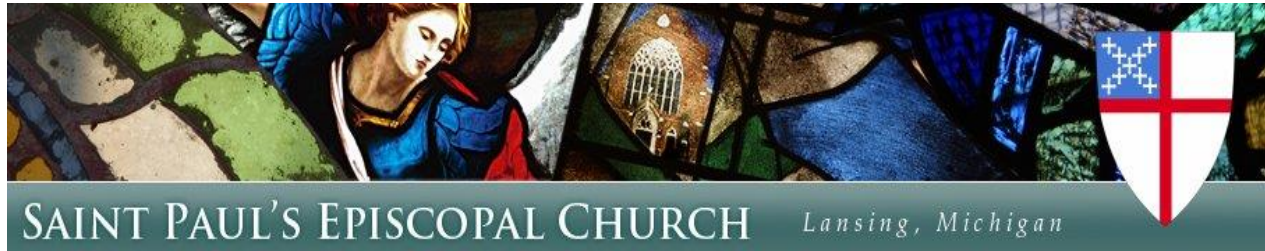




*Epiphany Lessons & Carols*  
*Sunday, January 7, 2024 10:00am*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Office: 517-482-9454

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933  
[www.stpaulslansing.org](http://www.stpaulslansing.org)



**St. Paul's Staff:** The Rev. Karen C. Lewis, Rector; The Rev. Canon Dr. W. Richard Hamlin, Priest Associate; The Very Rev. Dr. Donna McNiel, Associate for Liturgy and Pastoral Care; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Ms. Barbara Heany, Sunday School Director; Ms. Katie Alexander, Nursery Attendant; Mr. D'Kwon Guerrero, Sexton/Custodian; Mr. Conrad Moyer, A/V Technician.

**St. Paul's Vestry:** Martha Seaman McKee, Sr. Warden; Bob Merriman, Jr. Warden; Diane Clark; Larry Clark; Graham Crabtree; Leslie Hall; Susan Henderson; Steven Kandow; Maria Wawro; Amy Wortley; Jeff Irwin, Treasurer; Sally Boron, Secretary

**Visitors and Guests:** Please fill out a visitor card and give it to an usher or place it in the offering box. As you are leaving, we would like you to take a moment to sign one of the guest books located by the church doorways.

**Opportunities for Worship – Sundays:** 10:00am

**Parish Office Hours** Monday - Thursday: 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Closed on Fridays.

Phone: 517-482-9454 E-mail: [office@stpaulslansing.org](mailto:office@stpaulslansing.org)

**Visit our website:** [www.stpaulslansing.org](http://www.stpaulslansing.org)

**For Parish activities and information please check the information table in the Merrifield Room.**

**Baptism or Marriage:** If you would like more information please contact the Rector at 482-9454 or by email: [rector@stpaulslansing.org](mailto:rector@stpaulslansing.org).

**Church School:** Our church school for elementary through middle school ages begins at 9:45am. If you would like more information please speak to Barb Heany.

**Nursery Care is available** in the Nursery in the Music Wing near the Choir Room.

**Parking in the Roosevelt Parking Ramp:** The Roosevelt parking ramp behind St. Paul's is available for evening and weekend parking. The ramp will open at 6:00pm weekday evenings. On the weekend the ramp will open on Friday at 6:00pm and remain open until 11:00pm on Sunday. If the arms are down after 6:00pm, please press the red button on your left (labeled assistance) as you enter the parking ramp.

All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry into the sanctuary or into any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.

**Celebration of the Festival of Epiphany & Holy Eucharist**  
**Epiphany Lessons and Carols**  
**January 7, 2024 10:00am**

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Epiphany celebrates the appearance of God's glory in the world through the birth of Jesus, our Emmanuel (God with us), and the revelation of the incarnation to the Gentiles, and indeed the whole of creation. It has been marked since the 3<sup>rd</sup> century with a Feast Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January and celebrated in both East and West in a rich variety of ways. In the Western Church, the emphasis has been on the nativity itself and the acknowledgement of Christ's sovereignty over all through the visit of the Magi bringing their gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh. The revelation of his true nature is echoed by the words of the prophet Simeon, the *Nunc Dimittis*, at the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (February 2) that marks the end of the season of Epiphany.

The Greek word epiphany means literally 'sudden appearance' and refers above all to the 'manifestation' of a god. It is the moment and the means by which we see that Jesus is so much more than a good human being, a wise teacher and a moral example but in fact God made man, the Word became flesh. It is in this sense that Simeon declares him to be 'salvation' and 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and that later Jesus calls himself 'the Light of the World', and so the symbolism of light pervades both this season and our service. Christ calls us out of darkness and into light, so that we may recognize the imprints of his divine fashioning in all creation. We pray that our eyes may be opened to see his glory: to have reverence for the whole of creation and respect for every person, for all are made in the image and likeness of God.

The Epiphany in the early Church was a major celebration, second only to Easter. It highlighted manifestations (or "epiphanies") of God in Jesus Christ: the recognition of the Christ Child by the Magi, Simeon's recognition of the infant Jesus to be the Messiah when presented in the temple, and the revealing of Jesus in the Spirit as God's beloved child at his baptism in the Jordan.

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**Celebration of the Festival of Epiphany & Holy Eucharist**  
**Epiphany Lessons and Carols**  
**January 7, 2024 10:00am**

PRELUDE

*What Child is This*

David Lantz

*Christmas Means Jesus*  
Youth Choir

Ruth Elaine Schram

*The people are invited to stand*

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Brothers and sisters, we are gathered to celebrate with joy the appearance of God's glory in the world through the birth of Jesus, who is Emmanuel, God with us; to reflect upon the visit of the magi bringing homage to their King at his birth; to hear the prophetic, and to hear God's declaration of Jesus as His Son, His beloved.

As we rejoice in this, the Word made flesh, who called us out of darkness into light, so we pray that his love and faithfulness may be known in all the world.

We pray for the unity and mission of Christ's Church, and for all who minister the gospel of Christ; we pray for the world, that we may have reverence for the natural order and respect for every person, made in the image and likeness of God; and we pray for those who stand in need, for the lonely, the fearful, the sick and the bereaved, and for all who have no one to pray for them.

May God take us and use us in service to God's Kingdom; may God open our eyes to God's glory and equip us to bless the people, now and at all times. May the Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

COLLECT

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 \*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
 \*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
 born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

*The people are seated for lessons and anthems and stand, as they are able, for the hymns*

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 60:1-6, 9

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. For the coastlands shall wait for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from far away, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel because he has glorified you.

COLLECT

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and

1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,  
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -

1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.  
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*  
 O star of won - der, star of night,  
 star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,  
 still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

## I. THE WORD MADE FLESH

*The people remain standing, as they are able. The Officiant says*

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the shadow of death, upon them has the light shined.

*Officiant* Arise, shine, for your light has come.  
*People* **And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

#### COLLECT

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people are seated for lessons and anthems and stand, as they are able, for the hymns*

#### SECOND LESSON

MATTHEW 1:18-23

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him 'Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us'.'

#### CHOIR ANTHEM

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*  
Hannah Bancroft, soloist

arr. Patrick Liebergen

#### THIRD LESSON

'T WAS IN THE MOON OF WINTERTIME

THE HURON CAROL -- The First American Christmas Carol      Adapted by Roz Abisch

In the wild north country of the New World, in the land of forests and lakes, there lived a great Indian tribe called the Hurons.

These people of the north woods thought the world rested upon the back of a very large turtle. They believed that the sun disappeared each night into a tunnel in the earth, only to rise from the other end next morning.

To keep them safe from harm and evil, the Hurons made charms out of beavers' teeth and fish bones, out of odd-shaped pebbles and splinters of wood. Their god was a Great Spirit who lived in the sky. He was known to them as Gitchi Manitou. And he watched over forests and lakes and man and beast alike.

Into this new land of hunters and warriors, into this place of strange spirits and charms, came a French Jesuit missionary by the name of Jean deBreuf. Father Jean lived with the Hurons and learned their language and customs. They welcomed him into their lodges as a nephew to the old people, a faithful brother to those of his own age, and an uncle to the children.

Father Jean hoped to lead the sons of the forest to the teachings of the gentle Master. In their own language, he told them the story of the cross. And there, in the woodlands of the north, he spoke of that night of nights - when long ago Jesus was born...



## Original Words of Wendot language

Estenniayon de tsonwe Iesous ahatonnia  
onn' awatewa nd' oki n'  
onyouandaskwaentak ennonchien  
eskwatrihotat n'onyouandiyonrachatha  
Iesous ahatonnia, ahatonnia. Iesous  
ahatonnia.

Ayoki onkiennhache eronhiayeronnon  
iontonk ontatiande ndio sen  
tsatonnharonnion  
Warie onn' awakweton ndio sen  
tsatonnharonnion Iesous ahatonnia,  
ahatonnia. Iesous ahatonnia.

Achienkontahonraskwa d' hatirihwannens  
tichion sayonniondetha onhwa achia  
ahatren ondaie te hahahakwa tichion  
sayonniondetha Iesous ahatonnia,  
ahatonnia. Iesous ahatonnia.  
Tho ichien st' ahation tethotondi Iesous  
ahwatatende tichion stanchitehawennion  
asayontorenten ihatonk atsion sken esous  
ahatonnia, ahatonnia. Iesous ahatonnia.

Onne ontahation chiahonayen iesous  
ahatichiennonniannon kahachia handiayon  
honannonronkwannion ihotonk werisen  
Iesous ahatonnia, ahatonnia. Iesous  
ahatonnia.

Te hekwatatenfonten ahekwachiendaen  
ti hekwannonronkwannion de  
sonywentenrände  
outoyeti skwannonhwe icherhe  
akennonhonstha  
Iesous ahatonnia, ahatonnia. Iesous  
ahatonnia.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Translation of Wendot to English

Have courage, you who are humans. Jesus,  
He is born.

Behold, it has fled, the spirit who had us as  
prisoner. Do not listen to it, as it corrupts  
our minds, the spirit of our thoughts.

They are spirits, coming with a message for  
us, the sky people. They are coming to say,  
'Come on, be on top of life, rejoice!'

'Mary has just given birth, come on, rejoice.'

'Three have left for such a place; they are  
men of great matter.'

'A star that has just appeared over the  
horizon leads them there.' 'He will seize the  
path, a star that leads them there.'

As they arrived there, where He was born,  
Jesus. The star was at the point of stopping,  
He was not far past it.

Having found someone for them, He says,  
'Come here.' Behold, they have arrived  
there and have seen Jesus.

They praised a name many times saying,  
'Hurray, He is good in nature.'

They greeted Him with respect,  
Oiling His scalp many times, saying,  
'Hurray!'

'We will give to Him honour to His name.'

'Let us oil His scalp many times, show  
reverence for Him,

As He comes to be compassionate with us.'

It is providential that you love us, and think  
'I should make them part of My family.'

**The 1926 English version  
by Jesse Edgar Middleton.**

'Twas in the moon of winter-time  
When all the birds had fled,  
That mighty Gitchi Manitou  
Sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim,  
And wandering hunters heard the hymn:  
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born,  
In excelsis gloria."

Within a lodge of broken bark  
The tender Babe was found,  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin  
Enwrapp'd His beauty round;  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
The angel song rang loud and high...  
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born,  
In excelsis gloria."

The earliest moon of wintertime  
Is not so round and fair  
As was the ring of glory  
On the helpless infant there.  
The chiefs from far before him knelt  
With gifts of fox and beaver pelt.  
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born,  
In excelsis gloria."

O Children of the forest free.  
O sons of Manitou.  
The Holy Child of earth and heaven  
Is born today for you.  
Come kneel before the radiant Boy  
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.  
"Jesus your King is born. Jesus is born,  
In excelsis gloria."

*The people stand for the hymns as able*

CHOIR ANTHEM

*Huron Carol*

Susan LaBarr

II. THE KING OF THE NATIONS

*The people remain standing, as they are able*

*Officiant* At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; in heaven, on earth and under the earth; and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

*Officiant* Nations shall come to your light:  
*People* **And kings to your dawning brightness.**

COLLECT

Let us pray. Lord God of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor: may the brightness of your incarnate Word pierce the night that covers the earth, signal the dawn of justice and peace, and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated for the reading*

FOURTH LESSON

MATTHEW 2:1-12

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.'" 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 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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

*In the Bleak Midwinter*  
A.J. Walilko, soloist

arr. Earlene Rentz

IV. THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

*The people remain standing, as they are able.*

*Officiant*      The voice of God resounds upon the water.  
*People*            **The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**  
*Officiant*      The Son of God is named, "Beloved."  
*People*            **And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**  
                      **Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.**

COLLECT

Holy God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation. By water and word you lovingly invite us into this same life-giving mission. May your Spirit, moving like a stream of water flowing from its source, work in us this day to realize your vision of a world made new in Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

*The people sit for the reading*

FIFTH LESSON

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong

of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

HYMN

*Christ, when for us you were baptized*

HYMN 121

1 Christ, when for us you were bap-tized, God's Spi-rit on you came,  
 2 God called you his be-lov-ed Son, called you his ser-vant true,  
 3 Straight-way and stead-fast un-til death you then o-beyed his call  
 4 Bap-tize us with your Spi-rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace-ful as a dove and yet as ur-gent as a flame.  
 sent you his king-dom to pro-claim, his ho-ly will to do.  
 free-ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
 that, like-wise in God's ser-vice we may per-fect free-dom find.

CLOSING PRAYER

O God of wonder, as that ancient star rose and guided the magi, illuminating the place where Jesus was, so now may the light of your Holy Spirit shine in our hearts and minds as the Word is read and proclaimed. Guide us again to Christ, and direct us in new paths of faithfulness. In Christ we pray. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Franklin D. Ashdown

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds  
 guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to  
 bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The people standing, the Officiant says*

God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Officiant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfectly human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

*Officiant and People sing together*

### SANCTUS

S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel, as the Officiant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you

have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory.**

*The Officiant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [\_\_\_\_and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

S155

*The Officiant breaks the consecrated bread*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is  
 sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

*Away in a Manger*

Bob Chilcott

COMMUNION HYMN

*O little town of Bethlehem*

HYMN 78

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 \*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Officiant and People say together:*

**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE CHALK

*Officiant* God dwells in you.  
*People* **And also in you.**  
*Officiant* Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord, this chalk that it may be a sign of your blessing upon the homes of your people. We pray that, like wisemen and women of old, we may serve him as our only King, worship him as the one true God, and honor him with lives of sacrifice and praise, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Take your blessed chalk and use the following blessing for your home.*

BLESSING OF THE HOME

*Leader*           Peace be to this house.  
*People*           **And to all who enter here.**

*The Leader speaks the following while marking the doorway with the chalk as indicated:*

*Leader*           Wise ones came to honor the Savior and offer him gifts.  
                  C     Caspar  
                  M     Melchior  
                  B     and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human two  
                          thousand and twenty-three years ago.  
*Leader*           ++    May Christ bless our house and all who join us here.  
                  ++    and remain with us throughout the new year.  
                          20 + C + M + B + 24

*All*               **May this Epiphany blessing be a reminder of Christ's presence among us and  
a symbol of God's love and care as we share the blessings and burdens of our  
daily lives. Amen.**

*The People stand for the blessing*

BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
 \*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - ous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 3 far as the curse is found, far  
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 as the curse is found,  
 won - ders of his love,

DISMISSAL

*Officiant*      Go now to love and serve Christ.  
*People*         **Amen. We go in the light of Christ.**

POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

Mary Beth Bennett

**Assisting next Sunday, January 7, 2024**

Crucifer	Marti Narezo
Lectors	Greg Wortley, Steven Kandow, Libby Richardson, Susan Kendall, Jamal Hassel-Dillman
Chalice Bearers	Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Greg Wortley
Counters	Katie Alexander, Greg Wortley
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Melissa Blood (chair), Diane Clark, Marti Narezo
Ushers	Melissa Blood, Justin Alexander, David Parks, Debbie Parks
Coffee Hour	Josh, Carrie, & Wyatt Freeman
Recycling Team	Ray & Maria Wawro
Greeters	Jack Baker
Sunday School Mentors	Isaac Francisco, Barb Heany
Vestry Person of the Day	Susan Henderson

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

**Assisting next Sunday, January 14, 2024**

Crucifer	Jamal Dillman-Hasso
Subdeacon	Leslie Hall
Lector	John Nevin
Prayers of the People	Margaret Schulte
Chalice Bearers	Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Greg Wortley
Counters	Martha McKee, Margaret Schulte
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Sue Le Duc (chair), Jane Bryce, Nancy Merriman, Theresa Milne
Ushers	Joe Lehning, Michael Hart, Mark Rudd
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	Joe Lehning
Recycling Team	Greg & Amy Wortley
Sunday School Mentors	Barb Heany, Jack Baker
Vestry Person of the Day	Graham Crabtree

**Opportunities for Prayer**  
**January 7, 2024**

**We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers:** Joanne, Mike, Pat, Ray, Melissa, Tom, Pam, Marion, Sebastian, Ron, Allan, Patrice, Hannah, and Kate. *\*Due to privacy concerns, we will now be posting first names only on our prayer list.*

**We pray this week for the following St. Paul's members:** Greg & Amy Wortley and Lyn Zynda.

**We pray this week for the following community service agency:** Haven House, 121 Whitehills Drive, East Lansing MI 48823.

**We pray for our downtown church community:** Cathedral Church of St. Mary; Central United Methodist Church; Christ Community Church; and First Presbyterian Church.

**We pray for our worshipping communities:** Christ Church, Adrian; St. Luke's, Santiago, DR; and St. Mark's, Haina, DR.

**We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for The Scottish Episcopal Church.

**We pray for:** Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael B. Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Bonnie A. Perry, our bishop; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; Karen C. Lewis, our rector; Donna, our associate for liturgy and pastoral care; Dick Hamlin, our priest associate; our worship ministers, St. Paul's staff and our diocesan household.

**Announcements for the Week of**  
**January 7 - January 14, 2024**

**Next Sunday following our service of Epiphany Lessons & Carols** we will have an Epiphany party. You don't want to miss this one.

**Lansing Symphony Orchestra** will be performing their Winterlude concert at St. Paul's at 3:00pm on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are free but you must have a ticket to attend. This is one concert you will want to be present for as the sanctuary's acoustics are perfect for this type of music. This year's concert will feature brass and organ. Through the graciousness of the Tom and Jean Shawver Fund, we are able to provide this gift of music to the community. All we ask is that you bring a non-perishable food or personal care item with you. If you wish tickets, please email ([rector@stpaulslansing.org](mailto:rector@stpaulslansing.org)) or leave a note for Karen+ in her mail box.

**Coffee Hour sign up:** We need two family units per week to bring treats, serve & provide cleanup for coffee hour following the 10:00am services. There are signup sheets in the Merrifield Room. Sign up with a friend or extended family. If no one signs up, we will not have coffee hour.

**Bulletin:** Please submit information by noon on Tuesday, in writing or by e-mail, to [office@stpaulslansing.org](mailto:office@stpaulslansing.org) to ensure accuracy.

**Mission & Outreach:** We continue to collect canned vegetables and toilet paper for First Presbyterian's Pantry and gently used clothes for Fretail. All the generous contributions have been greatly appreciated. Also, Punks With Lunch could use blankets and bath towels. If you have some in your linen closet that are no longer used, please consider bringing them. You can place them in the shopping cart. Also, blankets and towels are on sale all over town. St. Paul's has supported Punks With Lunch for a few years now, working together to provide food and necessary items to our homeless community. Thank you!

**Reminder:** Please schedule all meetings with the office in advance. We want to assure you that there is a space for you to meet and that someone will be available to open the building. Please notify the office if you have a **cancellation** to ensure building and staff security.

**Blessing Box:** Sign up in the Merrifield Room to fill the Blessing Box for a week.

**Recycle ink cartridges:** Bring your used ink cartridges into the parish office for recycling and help reduce our paper costs. We get discounts on office supplies and paper through the Staples recycling program.

**Here at St. Paul's – We Recycle:** We are re-vamping our recycling process. We have new recycling bins in the Hill Room. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room to take some of the recycling either to your home bin or to a recycling drop off center. See one of the Milnes or Borons for more information.

Since 2018 St. Paul's has been using compostable plates, cups, and cutlery for coffee hour and meals. The cups and cutlery we use are made of cornstarch! On those occasions when we can't use compostable materials, we have a separate collection bin for rinsed plastic to be recycled. Please feel free to use these supplies when you host coffee hour or any event with food. We are committed to reduce, reuse, and recycle at St. Paul's.

**Altar flower requests:** There are openings for the upcoming Sundays for altar flower dedications. Flowers are always given to the glory of God, and then in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a person or occasion. Dedications and **\$120** payment must be received in the church office no later than the Monday before the date of the dedication. **More than one dedication can be made if you and a friend want to share the cost of the flowers. If we don't have \$120 (\$60 for the summer) per week for flowers, there will be no flowers.** Altar Flower forms available on the signup table, or you can email your dedication to [office@stpaulslansing.org](mailto:office@stpaulslansing.org).

**Please sign up to be a Greeter:** One of the faith outreaches we have at St. Paul's is the Sunday morning greeters. We can extend our faith by welcoming our fellow parishioners and visitors each week. Remember that you are the first face they will see as they enter the church. A welcoming hand and face always lift our spirit, what a way to start a day and you play an important part in that.

- **Signup sheets are in the Merrifield Room** – Need two greeters at the back door.
- Be at the back door 20 minutes before the service.
- Greeters should remind parishioners to pick up their nametags and ask visitors to fill out the guest book located in the cloister outside the chapel and to join the parish after the service for coffee and fellowship in the Merrifield Room.

<b>This Week at St. Paul's</b> <b>January 7 - January 14, 2024</b>
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Sunday, 1/7:	9:00am 10:00am 11:15am	Donna McNiel Sabbatical Choir Rehearsal Epiphany Lessons & Carols & Antecommunion Coffee Hour - Merrifield Room
Monday 1/8:	2:30pm	Donna McNiel Sabbatical Staff Meeting
Tuesday, 1/9:		Donna McNiel Sabbatical
Wednesday, 1/10:	12:00pm 7:00pm	Donna McNiel Sabbatical Noon Book Study - Zoom Bible Study -- Zoom
Thursday, 1/11:	7:00pm	Donna McNiel Sabbatical Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 1/12:		Donna McNiel Sabbatical Office Closed
Saturday, 1/13:		Donna McNiel Sabbatical
Sunday, 1/14:	9:15am 9:45am 10:00am 11:15am	Donna McNiel Sabbatical Martin Luther King Sunday Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Worship & Holy Communion Coffee Hour - Merrifield Room