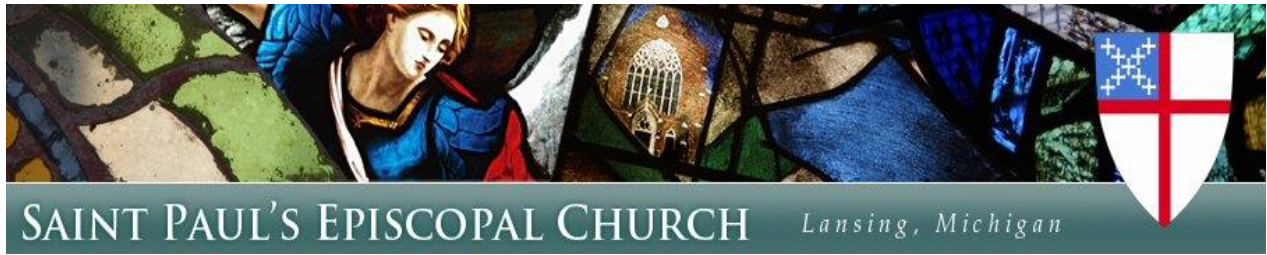




Epiphany Lessons & Carols
Sunday, January 5, 2025 - 10:00am

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

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
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 McNeil, 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: Steven Kandow, Sr. Warden; Jane Bryce, Jr. Warden; Larry Clark; Joshua Freeman; Leslie Hall; Bob Merriman; David Parks; Margaret Schulte; Bobbi Tisdale; AJ Walilko; 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

Visit our website: 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.

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.

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.

Roosevelt Parking Ramp Hours of Access:

Monday-Thursday: 6:00pm – 9:00pm Gates/doors lock automatically at 9:01pm

Friday: Not Available Gates locked

Saturday & Sunday: 7:30am – 6:00pm Gates/doors lock automatically at 6:01pm

The ramp will be available on special occasions when requested by the churches in advance. Staff members (Karen, Stephanie, Theresa) will have access cards if your car is locked into the ramp after hours.

CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL OF EPIPHANY & HOLY EUCHARIST
EPIPHANY LESSONS AND CAROLS
JANUARY 5, 2025 - 10:00AM

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 3rd century with a Feast Day on the 6th 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.

CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL OF EPIPHANY & HOLY EUCHARIST
EPIPHANY LESSONS AND CAROLS
JANUARY 5, 2025 - 10:00AM

PRELUDE

What Child is This

Mary McDonald

A Babe is Born
Youth Choir

Anna Laura Page

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.**



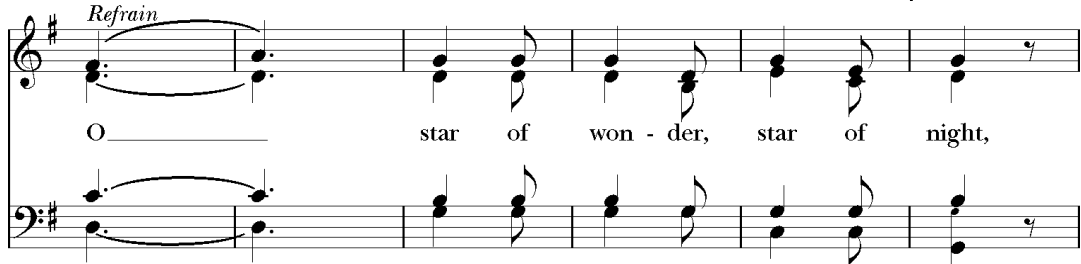
1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



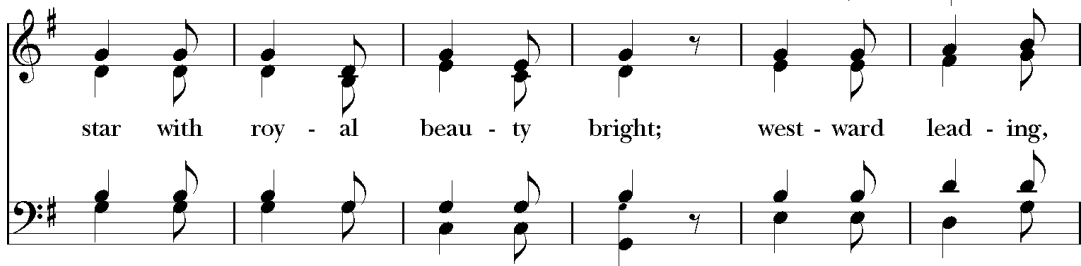
1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



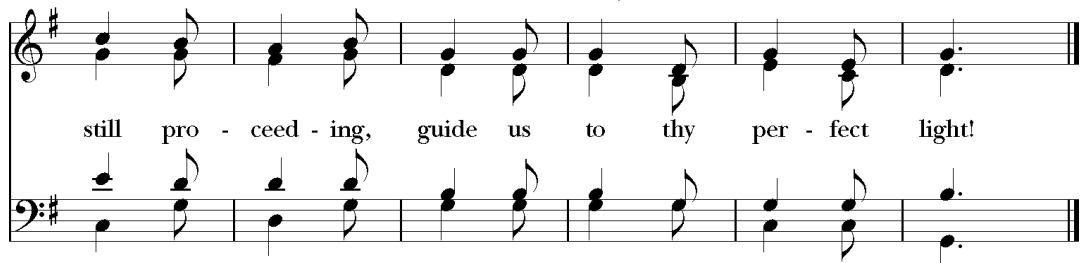
1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



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

The people stand for the hymns as able



1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
 2 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure of ho - ly Anne,
 3 Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child;
 4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;



when Christ our Lord was born On Christ - mas night. Ve -
 that brought in - to this world the God made man. She
 to guard him, and pro - tect his mo - ther mild; the
 for he whom Ma - ry bore was God the Son. O



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem; the
 an - gels hov - ered round, and sang this song, Ve -
 come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host, to



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 ass and ox - en shared the roof with them. Ve -
 ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

Words: Source unknown, 19th cent. Music: Venite adoremus, melody adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944); harm. Leo Sowerby (1895-1968).

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

THIRD 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
AJ Walilko, soloist

arr. Earlene Rentz

III. LIGHT TO THE WORLD

The people remain standing, as they are able

Officiant But the hour is coming, and now is, when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth.

Officiant And the Lord, whom you seek:
People **Shall suddenly come to his temple.**

COLLECT

Saving God, whose Son Jesus was presented in the temple and was acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: grant that in him we may be presented to you and in the world reflect his glory; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated for the reading

FOURTH LESSON

MATTHEW 2:21-32

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It has been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

The people stand for the hymns as able

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

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
People

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

What Child is This

HYMN 115

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

Before the Marvel of this Night

Carl Schalk

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-five 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 + 25

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 - eous - 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

Dan Forrest

Assisting in today's service

Crucifer	Marti Narezo
Lectors	Brad Deacon, Lyn Zynda, Amanda Ross, Steven Kandow, Greg Wortley
Chalice Bearers	Greg Wortley, Lyn Zynda
Counters	Katie Alexander, Greg Wortley
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Melissa Blood (chair), Carrie Freeman, Marti Narezo
Ushers	Melissa Blood, Justin Alexander, David Parks, Debbie Parks
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Recycling Team	Allan Boron
Vestry Person of the Day	

Assisting next Sunday, January 12, 2025

Crucifer	Jamal Dillman-Hasso
Subdeacon	Leslie Hall
Lector	Graham Crabtree
Prayers of the People	Martha Seaman McKee
Chalice Bearers	Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Jen Humphries
Counters	Martha Seaman McKee, Margaret Schulte
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Nancy Merriman (co-chair), Jane Bryce, Theresa Milne, Sue Le Duc
Ushers	Joe Lehning, Michael Hart, Mark Rudd
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Recycling Team	Professional Party Planners
Sunday School Mentors	Ree Huber, Isaac Francisco
Vestry Person of the Day	

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

Opportunities for Prayer
January 5, 2025

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Joanne, Mike, Melissa, Tom, Sarah, Heather, Sebastian, Peter, Natalie, Julie, Mark, Chris, Bill, Robin, Samantha, Ian, Leigh, and Diane. **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: Carol Emerson and John Enderle.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Ele's Place, 1145 W Oakland Ave, Lansing, MI 48915.

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; St. Mark's, Haina, DR.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church in Wales.

We pray for: Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean Rowe, 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 McNeil, our associate for liturgy and pastoral care; Dick Hamlin and Gail Shafer, our priest associates; our worship ministers, St. Paul's staff and our diocesan household.

Announcements for the Week of
January 5, 2025 - January 12, 2025

Lansing Symphony Orchestra will be performing their Winterlude concert at St. Paul's at 3:00pm on Sunday, February 2nd. 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 woodwinds. Through the graciousness of the Tom and Jean Shawver Fund, we are able to provide this gift of music to the community. If you wish tickets, please email (rector@stpaulslansing.or) or leave a note for Karen+ in her mailbox.

Annual reports are due in the office by Monday, January 13th.

St. Paul's Annual Meeting is January 26th at 11:30am. Please plan to attend.

In case of inclement weather during the winter months, please call the office at 482-9454 after 11:00am to check on cancellations. If you receive a recording stating the office is closed, then all events for that day are cancelled. If the Lansing School District is closed, all church events for that day will be cancelled.

Evening Meeting Times & Parking Ramp Hours: All evening meetings and classes should begin no earlier than 6:15pm and end by 8:45pm for access to the parking ramp. Regular parking ramp availability M-Th 6:00pm-9:00pm and Saturday & Sunday 7:30am-6:00pm.

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

The service of Compline will not be provided or recorded for December 25th or January 1st because of the holidays. It will begin again Wednesday, January 8th. Please keep an eye out for the Zoom invitation and bulletin.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.** Altar Flower forms available on the signup table, or you can email your dedication to 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.

St. Paul's Recycling: 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. We are committed to reduce, reuse, and recycle at St. Paul's. See one of the Milnes or Borons for more information.

<p>This Week at St. Paul's December 29, 2024 - January 5, 2025</p>

Sunday, 01/05:		Donna McNeil Away
		Noisy Offering
	9:00am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Epiphany Lessons & Carols & Antecommunion
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Take down trees & Christmas decorations
Monday 01/06:	2:30pm	Staff Meeting
Tuesday, 01/07:		
Wednesday, 01/08:		Barb Heany Away
	12:00pm	Noon Book Study - Zoom
	7:00pm	Bible Study - Zoom
Thursday, 01/09:		Barb Heany Away
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 01/10:		Barb Heany Away
		Office Closed
Saturday, 01/11:		Barb Heany Away
Sunday, 01/12:		Barb Heany Away
	9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion
	11:15am	Coffee Hour

QR Code for giving. Scan the code with your phone to be taken to options for giving.

