



"Our Welcome"

In the light of God's unconditional love, we respect the dignity of every human being by welcoming and supporting all persons whatever their race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, health status, marital status or stage of spiritual journeying. We invite you to explore, investigate, and grow in your faith and become a part of our shared journey with God.

**The First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025
Holy Eucharist 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. Gail Shafer, Priest Associate; 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: David Parks, Sr. Warden; Larry Clark, Jr. Warden; Justin Alexander; Jane Bryce; Joshua Freeman; Kelly Hackett; Bob Merriman; Jim Milne; Herb Tanner; Bobbi Tisdale; AJ Walilko; Amy Wortley; Jeff Irwin, Treasurer; Margaret Schulte, 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 begins at 9:45am. If you would like more information, please speak to Barb Heany.

The Nursery is open 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 in the ramp after hours.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2025 – 10:00am

The Advent Wreath is a visual symbol marking the progress of the season of Advent, originating as a domestic devotion and an opportunity for family prayer. It functions as a simple countdown-timer of the passage of Advent. Attaching symbolic meaning to particular candles is a more recent innovation. When the Advent Wreath is used in the worshipping community at morning services, the appropriate number of candles on the wreath are lighted, without prayer or ceremony, with the other candles. The Book of Occasional Services 2022 pg. 20

The candle for Advent I will be lit pre-service at the time the other candles are lit. I encourage you to use the following reading as the focus of your devotions this next week.

WEEK OF 1 ADVENT

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. (Matthew 24:42-44)

PRELUDE

INTROIT

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Creator, you made all people of every land. Today, we honor the ancestral and traditional Lands of the Anishinaabeg, the Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi people, whose home this land was for hundreds of years, and who are still here today. As we make this land acknowledgement, we confess to our part in the sin of traumatic, systemic racism and oppression in the history of this nation and in the Church-a history we are only beginning to understand. With humility, we commit ourselves to acknowledging the wrongs of the past and to building relationships with the Anishinaabeg. **Amen.**

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal -
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e -

va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 ma - jes - ty; those who set at nought and sold him,
 bo - dy bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry;

swell the tri - umph of his train: Al - le - lu - ia!
 pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing,
 to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture,
 claim the king - dom for thine own: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *St. Thomas*, melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. att. Vincent Francis Novello (1781-1861).

The people standing, the Officiant says

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The people sing together

KYRIE

S96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord,

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)
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Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are invited to sit for the readings and psalm

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,*
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
- 2 Now our feet are standing*
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city*
 that is at unity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,*
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment,*
 the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:*
 "May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls*
 and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake,*
 I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our God,*
 I will seek to do you good."

SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

Reader A reading from Paul's first letter to the Romans

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

Judge eternal, throned in splendor

HYMN 596

1 Judge e - ter - nal, throned in splen - dor, Lord of lords and
 2 Still the wea - ry folk are pin - ing for the hour that
 3 Crown, O God, thine own en - deav - or; cleave our dark - ness

King of kings, with thy liv - ing fire of judg - ment
 brings re - lease, and the ci - ty's crowd - ed clang - or
 with thy sword; feed all those who do not know thee

purge this land of bit - ter things; sol - ace all its
 cries a - loud for sin to cease; and the home - steads
 with the rich - ness of thy word; cleanse the bo - dy

wide do - min - ion with the heal - ing of thy wings.
 and the wood - lands plead in si - lence for their peace.
 of this na - tion through the glo - ry of the Lord.

Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918), alt. Music: *Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens*, melody from *Neu- vermehrtes und zu Übung Christl. Gottlichkeit eingerichtetes Meiningsches Gesangbuch*, 1693.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *The people stand, sit or kneel*

God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayer to God for the needs of all people throughout the world.

We pray for the peace of the world, that our instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace, and that nations shall cease to learn war any more. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Sean our presiding bishop, Bonnie our bishop, and for the church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace in the world. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service of others in the name of Christ. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need especially the refugee and immigrant; the homeless and the hungry; the lonely and the forgotten; all on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently in our heart or aloud _____; that we may be alert to the presence of Christ in them and ready to reach out in love. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are gathered here today, that we may be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ and go forth from this place to be Christ in the world. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in need of prayers that we may faithfully wait upon God with confidence in that love which sustains us in every moment of our lives. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died, that they now rejoice with all the saints in God's eternal presence. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Officiant closes the prayers by saying

We praise you, Lord our God, that you have called us to be your people and the instruments of your presence in the world. Grant us grace to discern your will and the strength to do it, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept. And then the Minister and People say together

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor unto the Lord.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Prepare the Way of the Lord*

William Rowan

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people standing, the Officiant says

The Lord 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.**

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The people sing together

SANCTUS

S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some notes tied across measures.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send away empty.

Your own Son came among us as a servant, to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

The Officiant and People say together

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Officiant continues

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, 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

S164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The musical score consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated but appear to be a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

INVITATION

Officiant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Holy Gifts for Holy People

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All God's people are cordially invited to God's table, including children. Gluten-free wafers are available: please indicate to the priest that you require this alternative. We will be offering wine from the common cup to those who wish to receive in this manner. The chalice bearer will thoroughly wipe the space from which you drank prior to offering the cup to the next communicant.

Another alternative to receiving the wine from the common cup is through intinction. The priest will place the wafer in your hand; the chalice bearer will pick up the wafer, dip it into the wine, and replace it on your palm. No one is allowed to intinct with their own hand/fingers. This safe guards all who use the common cup. If you wish to receive communion in only one kind (bread), know that you have received full communion.

Those who are not baptized or those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. The ushers will guide you. If you are unable to come forward and wish to receive communion in your pew, please let one of the ushers know.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

COMMUNION HYMN *Let all mortal flesh keep silence* HYMN 324

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -
 sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may va - nish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own scf for hcaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885). Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Officiant and People say together:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son 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 Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, rejoice, believers

HYMN 68

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Assisting in today's service

Crucifer	Debbie Parks
Subdeacon	Henrie Parks
Lector	AJ Walilko
Prayers of the People	Deb McMartin-Finkel
Chalice Bearers	Jim Milne, Theresa Milne
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Marti Narezo (chair), Carrie Freeman, Barb Heany
Ushers	Justin Alexander, David Parks
Counters	Jane Bryce, Isaac Francisco
Coffee Hour	Barb & Libby Richardson
Greeters	
Blessing Box	AJ Walilko
Recycling Team	
Sunday School Mentors	Barb Heany,
Vestry Person of the Day	Larry Clark

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

Assisting Next Sunday, December 7, 2025

Crucifer	Marti Narezo
Subdeacon	Jack Baker
Lector	Graham Crabtree
Prayers of the People	Amanda Ross
Chalice Bearers	Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Greg Wortley
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Marti Narezo (chair), Carrie Freeman, Barb Heany
Ushers	Debbie Parks, David Parks, Justin Alexander
Counters	Katie Alexander, Greg Wortley
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Blessing Box	Justin & Katie Alexander
Recycling Team	Bobbi Tisdale
Sunday School Mentors	Barb Heany,
Vestry Person of the Day	David Parks

**Opportunities for Prayer
November 30, 2025**

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Melissa, Julie, Everett, Mark, Howard, Kris, Pat, Jim, Mike, and Ian. **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: Carrie, Josh, & Wyatt Freeman and Abby Gaskill.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: House of Promise, PO Box 27032, Lansing 48909.

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 Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills; St. Matthew's, Nizao, DR.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Diocese of Ruaha – The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

We pray for: Sarah Mullally, 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; Dick Hamlin and Gail Shafer, our priest associates; our worship ministers, St. Paul's staff and our diocesan household.

**Announcements for The Week
November 30, 2025 – December 7, 2025**

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

Baby formula for Advent House: We are collecting baby formula and baby food that will be delivered to Advent House for their baby/family pantry. Your help could make a difference in the lives of young working families trying to make ends meet. Please place items in the shopping cart by the back door if you would like to help with this ministry. If you have questions, please see Katie Alexander johns21k@gmail.com.

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

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

United Thank Offering: As we focus on gratitude, we will hold the offering for UTO today. We encourage you to notice the good things happening in your life, through creation, in simple moments, or with strangers. Give thanks for these moments and join us in making a thank offering to UTO for all of the blessings of this life. Your UTO gift will support social justice initiatives in The Episcopal Church. Your thank offering makes a huge difference right here in our diocese, so thank you for supporting UTO.

Mission & Outreach working with Samaritas: We have received the names of five children and their Christmas Wish Lists. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please talk to Susan Henderson or Deb McMartin-Finkel. There are three girls and two boys, ranging in age from 5 to 13. After the service, one of us will be outside by the Chapel door with a sign-up sheet and the children's wish lists. If you would like to purchase one or more items, you will be given a card with the child's name, age, clothing size, and the items you select. Gifts are due at St. Paul's by Sunday, Dec. 7th. The gifts will be delivered to Samaritas on Monday, Dec. 8th. Please place items on the table in the Merrifield Room.

Faith in Film, Fri. December 5, 6:00pm: Considered to be one of the most watched Christmas movies of all time, Home Alone tells the story of Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy accidentally left behind when the rest of his family takes a trip to Paris. Come enjoy this classic as we watch and discuss it in the context of seeing faith realized through the love of family, the power of forgiveness, and the magic of Christmastime. You may also get some behind-the-scenes fun facts about the making of the film and its legacy. Please sign up in the Merrifield room.

St. Nicholas Celebration: We will celebrate St. Nicholas Sunday on December 7th with a festive coffee hour. A visit from St. Nick himself, along with cookie decorating. We will make a trip to Rosewood Manor AFC to deliver cookies and sing carols with the residents following the coffee hour.

Lange Ensemble: Sunday, December 7th at 3pm at St. Paul's. The Ensemble will present a variety of Christmas choral works, from Bach to Rutter and Victoria to Gjeilo. Free-will offering.

Capital City Brass Band Concert: Save the date! December 14, 2025, at 3:00pm. Please join us for a concert with the Capital City Brass Band. Parishioner Steven Kandow is a musician in the band. This event is sponsored by the Tom & Jean Shawver Fund.

Decorating the Sanctuary on December 21: Please join us as we decorate the Sanctuary following the service. While the church is being decorated for Christmas, the children will decorate their own special "Kindness" Christmas tree with handmade ornaments in the Merrifield Room. Lunch will be provided for all helpers. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room.

Deanery Confirmation at St. Paul's: Bishop Perry will be at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 9, 2026, for Deanery confirmation. Anyone who would like to be baptized at that time, confirmed, or would like to reaffirm your faith, please let Karen+ know so she can put a class schedule together.

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.

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.

The service of Compline is offered Wednesday evenings at 9 pm on Zoom with The Very Rev. Dr. Gail Shafer, our priest associate. The current liturgy is from the Book of Common Prayer. A recording of the service will be posted to St. Paul's Facebook page. Please feel free to either join the Zoom meeting, or the service posted on Facebook. The Zoom link will be listed in the weekly email.

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.

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

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 November 30, 2025 - December 7, 2025</p>
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Sunday, 11/30:		Advent I/United Thank Offering
	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion/Children's Sabbath
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Pack lunches for Punks with Lunch
	11:30am	CMDR/Families Lunch - Merrifield Room
	3:00pm	Lange Choral Ensemble Rehearsal
Monday 12/01:	2:30pm	Staff Meeting
Tuesday, 12/02:	7:00pm	Bible Study - Zoom
Wednesday, 12/03:	12:00pm	Noon Book Study - Zoom: The Lamd is Not Empty
	9:00pm	Compline - Zoom
Thursday, 12/04:	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 12/05:		Office Closed
	6:00pm	Faith & Film - Merrifield Room
Saturday, 12/06:	12pm-3pm	Lange Ensemble Rehearsal
Sunday, 12/07:		Advent II/St. Nicholas Sunday
		Baptism/Noisy Offering
	9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion/Children's Sabbath
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Pack lunches for Punks with Lunch
	1pm-3pm	Lange Choral Ensemble Rehearsal
	3:00pm	Lange Choral Ensemble Concert

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

