

### **“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 After Christmas – December 28, 2025**  
**Holy Eucharist - Rite II 10:00 am**

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. 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](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 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 AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 28, 2025

PRELUDE

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 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

*Refrain*

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,  
 ye have seen his na - tal star:  
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879).

*The people standing, the Officiant says*

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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 say together*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Officiant* Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

*The People sit for the readings*

THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 61:10—62:3

*Reader* A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:13-21

- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem;\*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;\*  
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders;\*  
he satisfied you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth,\*  
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool;\*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;\*  
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them;\*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob,\*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation;\*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON

GALATIANS 3:23-25; 4:4-7

*Reader* A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian; but when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.  
People Thanks be to God.

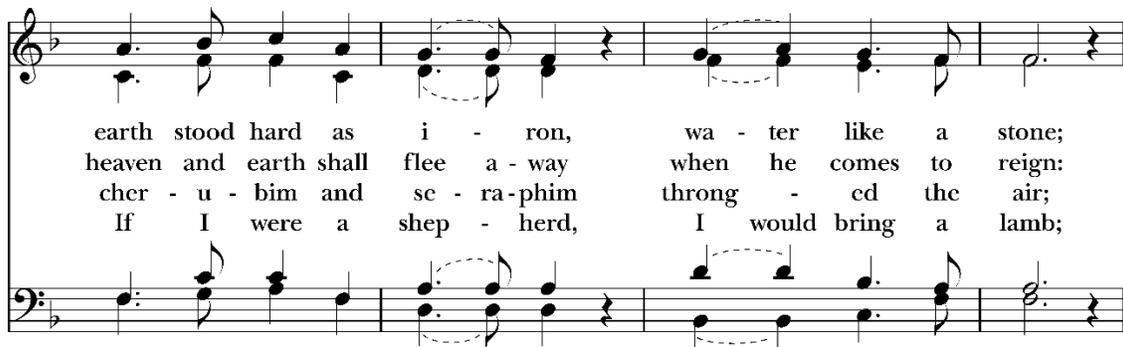
GRADUAL HYMN

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

HYMN 112



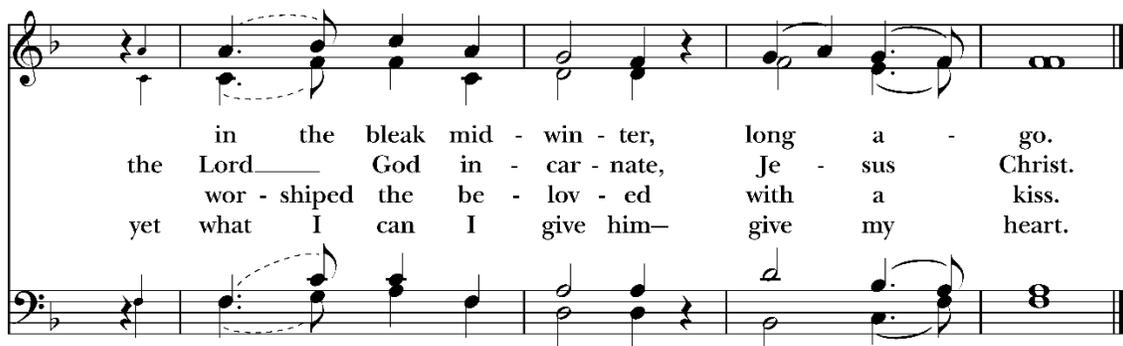
1 In the bleak mid-winter, frost-y wind made moan,  
2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;  
3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there,  
4 What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;  
heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign;  
cher-u-bim and se-ra-phim throng-ed the air;  
If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fal-len, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid-winter a sta-ble-place suf-ficed  
but his mo-ther on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,  
if I were a wise-man, I would do my part;



in the bleak mid-winter, long a-go.  
the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.  
wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.  
yet what I can I give him- give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934).

*Officiant*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Officiant*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Dr. Gail Shafer

*On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing*

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**  
**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**  
**On the third day he rose again**

in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
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

Sisters and brothers, in Jesus, God's Word became flesh to birth love in our hearts and peace in our world. As we celebrate this gift of life in Christ, let us pray for the church and the world.

Your messenger announces peace in shouts of joy; drive out the warring ways of our world and protect all who face danger this day as you guide our feet to travel with the One who is your peace. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

Your Word comes with justice to rule the earth with fairness; inspire the leaders of all nations, and the citizens of the world, to order our lives to promote dignity and equality for all in your global household. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

When shepherds met your newborn Christ they eagerly ran to tell the news; make us joyful messengers of your good news who freely share your love in the world. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

In Jesus, your love takes on human form to seek us out and guide us home; may Christ be born in us today to lead us into the lives for which we were made. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

From your majesty on high to the lowliness of the stable, your Word has power to sustain all things, and through him we become your precious children; comfort those who are hungry, homeless, isolated, sick, or suffering especially victims of war; those on our parish prayer list, and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_; in all our afflictions anoint us with the oil of gladness as you visit us with your salvation. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

Unto us a child is born this day, to live and die and rise again; bless all who are born today and all who will die, that your will for them may be fulfilled in the one who is the way, truth, and life. We give thanks for those who have died and now feast at the heavenly banquet with their Creator. O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**

*The Officiant concludes the prayers saying*

O God, receive our prayers through Christ who is our glorious light. May we, like him, shine forth like the sun and sing your praise forevermore, and as holy partners in a heavenly calling, dwell with you eternally. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

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 HYMN

Good Christian friends, rejoice

HYMN 107

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The people standing, the Officiant says*

*People*           The Lord be with you  
**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 our joy, Creator God, to give you thanks and praise. For in the beginning you created the heavens and the earth. Out of darkness and chaos, you brought light and order. You have given life to every living thing and made us in your image, male and female. Even when we turned away from you, loving darkness rather than light, you did not turn away from us. You sent prophets to show us the way. And so you draw us to the company where your angels gather around your eternal throne, singing their hymn of unending praise.

*Officiant and People sing together*

### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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*

In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to be Immanuel, God with us. At his birth, the night sky lit up with heavenly host and a guiding star. Shepherds and magi found their way to you. Women and children, tax collectors and lepers continued to find their way to you. The darkness of Gethsemane, the cross, and the grave could not overcome you; for you are the light of the world, shining still.

On the night before he died for us our Lord 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 he 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

*The Officiant and People say together*

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

*The Officiant continues*

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. In this feast, make us one with you and with each other. Enflame us with your Spirit, that we may be united in ministry in every place. Send us, in your marvelous light, into the world, ready to serve others and work for peace. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **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.

Music: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © GIA Publications, Inc.

## THE INVITATION

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 HYMN

*The first Nowell the angel did say*

HYMN 109

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say  
2 They look - ed up and saw a star  
3 And by the light of that same star  
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,  
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,  
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;  
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,  
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,  
2 and to the earth it gave great light,  
3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,  
4 and there it did both stop and stay  
5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win-ter's night— that was— so deep.  
 2 and— so it con - tin - ued both day— and night.  
 3 and to fol - low the star— wher - ev - er it went.  
 4 right— o - ver the place— where Je - sus lay.  
 5 their— gold,— and myrrh,— and frank - in - cense.

*Refrain*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Words: English Carol, 18th cent. Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1841-1901); alt. refrain harm. and desc. Healey Willan (1880-1968). Alternative setting with descant, Copyright © 1926, by Oxford University Press, Inc.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*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 Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

DISMISSAL

*Officiant* God's Word has come to earth to bring us together in love.  
Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

**Assisting in today's service**

Crucifer	<b>Jim Milne</b>
Subdeacon	<b>Amy Wortley</b>
Lector	<b>Elisabeth Richardson</b>
Prayers of the People	<b>Elisabeth Richardson</b>
Chalice Bearers	<b>Theresa Milne, Amy Wortley</b>
Altar Guild Members for the Week	<b>Debbie Parks, Katie Alexander, Hillary Walilko</b>
Ushers	<b>Larry Clark, Isaac Francisco, Steven Kandow, Hillary Walilko, Katie Wiley</b>
Counters	<b>Jane Bryce, Isaac Francisco</b>
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Blessing Box	<b>Jack Baker</b>
Recycling Team	
Vestry Person of the Day	<b>Bobbi Tisdale</b>

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

**Assisting Next Sunday, January 4, 2026**

Crucifer	<b>Marti Narezo</b>
Subdeacon	<b>Jack Baker</b>
Lector	<b>Amanda Ross</b>
Prayers of the People	<b>Nancy Rudd</b>
Chalice Bearers	<b>Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Jim Milne</b>
Altar Guild Members for the Week	<b>Marti Narezo, Carrie Freeman, Barb Heany</b>
Ushers	<b>Debbie Parks, David Parks, Justin Alexander</b>
Counters	<b>Katie Alexander, Greg Wortley</b>
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Blessing Box	<b>AJ &amp; Hillary Walilko</b>
Recycling Team	
Vestry Person of the Day	

**Opportunities for Prayer  
December 28, 2025**

**We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers:** Melissa, Julie, Everett, Mark, Howard, Kris, Pat, Jim, Mike, Ian, Peter, Caroline, and Jennifer. *\*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:** Barb & Dan Heany, and Susan Henderson.

**We pray this week for the following community service agency:** Meals on Wheels, 5303 S Cedar St, Lansing 48911.

**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:** Church of the Incarnation, Ann Arbor; St. Matthew's, Jalongo, DR.

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

**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  
December 28, 2025 - January 4, 2026**

**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**

**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](mailto:johns21k@gmail.com).

**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.

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

**Annual reports are due in the office by Monday, January 12, 2026.**

**St. Paul's Annual Meeting/Potluck is January 25, 2026, at 11:30am. Please plan to attend.** Sign up and let us know what dish you will bring to share.

**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.

**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](mailto:office@stpaulslansing.org).

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Christmas Season Services*

*January 4, 2026: 10:00am Holy Communion*

*January 11: 10:00am – Epiphany Lessons & Carols & Antecomunion*

<b>This Week at St. Paul's</b> <b>December 28, 2025 - January 4, 2026</b>
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Sunday, 12/28:		Caterers Closed
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Pack lunches for Punks with Lunch
Monday 12/29:		Caterers Closed/Office Closed
Tuesday, 12/30:		Caterers Closed/Office Closed
Wednesday, 12/31:		New Year's Eve
		Caterers Closed/Office Closed
Thursday, 1/01:		New Year's Day
		Caterers Closed/Office Closed
Friday, 1/02:		Office Closed
Saturday, 1/03:		
Sunday, 1/04:		Noisy Offering
	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.**

