



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

December 6, 2020: The Second Sunday of Advent

Masks/face coverings must be worn by all (except those aged two and under) as you exit your vehicle until you get back in it. Please bring your own mask; if you forget, masks will be available at the service.

Six-foot social distancing must be observed between persons/units (persons of the same household do not need to socially distance from one another). The chairs will be spaced six feet apart.

There will be separate entrance and exit points; signs will be posted to direct you.

Hand sanitizing should be frequent (stations will be available).

Anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or having been recently exposed to someone with COVID-19 should not attend the in-service worship.

Pre-registration is required and your attendance from the reservation sign-up list will be verified for contact tracing purposes. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early for the check-in process so we may begin the service on time.

Printed bulletins will not be available. You may print your own copy of the bulletin from the Facebook page/website and bring it with you; bring your smartphone or tablet to the service and follow along on the electronic version (scan the posted QR code at the Welcome Table for quick access); or bring your own Book of Common Prayer. Please note that paper bulletins and personal BCPs cannot be shared outside your own family.

We strongly encourage any parishioners who fall into any high-risk categories to not attend the in-person services but to continue to enjoy the recorded services.

Thank you for your continued patience and prayers during this pandemic.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reader O God, we light the second candle of Advent.

Reader We seek your comfort. Both mighty and tender, you come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you.

Reader Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough places into plain. God would come as a shepherd—feeding, leading, and cradling the weary flock. This Advent, we seek such a God.

Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people. Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are. Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

The service continues on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer. It is printed here in its entirety.

The Celebrant says

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

The people say together

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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson —Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
 says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
 and cry to her
that she has served her term,
 that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
 double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
 and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
 and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
 and all people shall see it together,
 for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
 And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
 when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
 surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
 but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
 O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

 lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
 “Here is your God!”

See, the Lord God comes with might,
 and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
 he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
 and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Second Reading — 2 Peter 3:8-15a

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

The Holy Gospel — Mark 1:1-8

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

The Homily

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

All say together,

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:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.

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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

The Prayers of the People – Form VI

BCP 392

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Intercessor People For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Intercessor People For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Intercessor People For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Intercessor People For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Intercessor People For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Intercessor People For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Rob, Paul and Don, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God's Church.

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for those on our prayer list, especially: Mar., John, Rachel, John.

The People may add their own petitions.

Intercessor People Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially: Jeff, John, Sharon, Barbara, Philip, Robert, Mark, Shannon.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Intercessor People We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, especially William, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions.

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People Who put their trust in you.

Intercessor We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Intercessor and People

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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

The Peace

The Peace may be exchanged via waves, bows, etc. (i.e. no body contact).

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

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A - BCP 361

The people remain standing, as able. The Celebrant, faces them and says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

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

People and Celebrant

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

During the distribution of communion, persons may briefly remove their masks in order to consume the host.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The 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 among you, and remain with you always.

The Dismissal

Remember in your prayers:

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Roxanne Wallis, Malcolm Velasca, Kiran Force, Alice Magnan, Annie Bulford, Margaret Crary, Trina Hall, Tyler Chapman, Anna Endres, Kimberly Leitch, Candy Waldron, Peter Funnell, Kirk Goodell, Bo Warren, Brittany Jones, Ralph Hajosy, Judy Causey, Amanda Howell Eber, Jeff Lawhead, Billy Newman.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Beth McAllister, Nikki Henderson, LB Groover, Ann Johnson, Patrick Bagwell, Jim Sejvar, Don Doggrell, Phil Watkiss, Mark Bulford, John and Rachel Herman, John Spivey.

We pray for those who are sick and those who love them, and for those who have died because of the coronavirus; for those who are oppressed by fear and for those who are losing the income that sustains them. Let us also pray for those in the medical, scientific, research and pharmaceutical communities devoting their time and talent to the cause of global health. And, let us pray for all our elected officials and all those who hold the common trust that their wisdom and compassion for all people will increase.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Jennifer, Bill, Nicole, Philip, Mark, Kay, Geoff, Renee, Heather, Lisa; the Clergy and Staff: Hazel, Mason, Lesley, Dawn, Elisabeth, Mary Margaret, Britney, Mary, Kimberly, Cole.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Nick Watts, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Jeff Rethmel, John Abbey, Sharon Gruber, Barbara Pape, Philip Barr, Robert Ream, Mark Huskison, Shannon Snyder.

We pray for those who have died: William E. Josey III, father of Taylor Josey. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen*

Parish Announcements

Outreach: Work of our Hands: The Newnan Emergency Shelter Team (NEST) is open for the Winter season and seeking support and volunteers. NEST is Coweta County's first warming shelter and provides a safe overnight haven for anyone who needs it in extreme and inclement weather. To volunteer or for more information and details, please contact Joshua Wieda (256-568-8371, wieda.joshua@gmail.com) or reach out to NEST directly % Christine Drought (770-262-2569, 678-633-8830, info@newnancity.org). As we rise to the challenge of worship, fellowship, and service amidst the ongoing pandemic, St. Paul's Episcopal Church remains committed to the health and welfare of all people and reminds you to continue using sound judgment, best practices, and all due caution to keep you and your community safe. Please continue to observe CDC guidelines regarding social distancing, hygiene, and personal protective equipment if you choose to participate in this Outreach service, and insist that these guidelines are followed wherever we gather or go. Thank you.

Outdoor Worship Services -- The latest diocesan protocols allow us to worship in person, outside and limited to 50 people present. On Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m., we will celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent and share in Holy Eucharist, Rite Two in the lower parking lot of the church. Preregistration is required; go to www.stpaulsnewnan.org/news-events for the online registration link and further details. (Registration opens Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.)

Godly Play: Sundays at 9:00 a.m. -- Godly Play is a Montessori-based curriculum that includes storytelling, interaction, exploration, and creativity to teach and enliven Bible stories. In Godly

Play, for ages 4 through 5th grade, marvelous things happen as children "work, play and wonder together at the awesomeness of God." Email Elisabeth Copeland at elisabeth@stpaulsnewnan.org for the Zoom meeting link.

Adult Formation: Sundays at 9:00 a.m. -- Please join us on Sunday mornings to discuss the book *Rediscover Jesus: An Invitation*, by Matthew Kelly. To join, log into Zoom and use the meeting ID: 790 9996 9401 and password: qSPW5q. Feel free to invite friends to join.

EYC: Sundays at 5:00 p.m. -- EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) meets online or in person weekly during the school year for fun, fellowship with other youth, and learning more about God's love. Friends from other churches are always welcome! Email Mary Margaret Stewart for the details.

Virtual Children's Choir: Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. -- Children in grades 2 and up are invited to join our St. Paul's Virtual Children's Choir for the coming year. There is no upper grade/age limit. To register your child if you have not already done so, email Dawn Harrison.

Prayer Requests -- Prayer requests for the parish prayer list or the confidential Daughters of the King prayer list may be submitted online at <https://tinyurl.com/stpprayers> or you may also contact Hazel+ directly.

Financial Gifts -- To make a financial gift to St. Paul's, including the rector's discretionary fund or our Peace and Purpose campaign, you may mail a check to the church, set up one-time or regular payments via your bank, or make an online payment via credit card. Please visit <http://www.stpaulsnewnan.org/give/> for detailed instructions.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover, Priest in Charge; **Mason Copeland**, Organist and Choirmaster; **Lesley Williams**, Parish Administrator; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Elisabeth Copeland**, Interim Director of Children's Ministry; **Mary Margaret Stewart**, Interim Youth Director; **Britney McCord**, Nursery Worker; **Mary Tipton**, Nursery Worker; **Kimberly Stokes**, Bookkeeper; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate.

Vestry

Jennifer Thomasson, Senior Warden; **Bill Tudor**, Junior Warden; **Nicole Edwards**, Outreach Liaison; **Philip Hand**, Stewardship Liaison; **Mark Huskison**, Policies and Procedures Liaison; **Kay Lewis**, Parish Life and Evangelism Liaison; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Liaison; **Renee Powell**, Health and Healing Liaison; **Heather Turner**, Welcoming Liaison; **Lisa Diebboll**, Clerk of the Vestry; **Beth Gourley**, Treasurer