



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent

Year C

November 28, 2021 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online

Welcome! Thank you for your patience and faithfulness as we continue to work our way through this global pandemic. All are welcome to join us either in-person or online at 10:15am on Sunday mornings. If you have difficulty accessing our online services, and would like assistance, please let us know. There are a variety of ways we can help. Our service airs beginning with the Preludes at 10:05am on: www.StPaulsVentura.org, [www.YouTube.com /StPaulsVentura](http://www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura), and www.Facebook.com/StPaulsVentura.

There are two seating options at in-person Sunday services: 1) Open seating is available without a reservation. 2) A limited number of socially distanced seats are available each week by reservation only. If you need assistance with the reservation process, please contact the church office. Everyone on campus is required to wear a mask at this time.

Check our Email Newsletter each week to keep up with the latest events, announcements, and protocols. If you don't receive our newsletter, please contact us at office@saintpaulsventura.org. Again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshipping with us. If there's anything we can do to help, please let us know. Also contact us if you have any questions, prayer requests or need the services of a priest. We are always glad to hear from you. Meanwhile, know that you are in our prayers. We wish you all a very safe and blessed week.

Today's flowers were given through the generosity of your pledge.

If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Holy Eucharist

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

A Morning with Philip Glass: works from his collection

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Please remain seated.

Awaiting

Felix Eisenhauer

Celebrant Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE.

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near:

People Come let us adore him.

Lord, grant us your light, that being rid of the darkness of our hearts, we may come to the true light which is Christ.



Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell.

Processional

O come, O come Emmanuel v. 1-2

Hymnal 56

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.

Hymn of Praise

Kyrie eleison

Hymnal S86*

Hymns numbers that begin with "S" are designated as Service Music and found at the beginning of the Hymnal

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

As Episcopalians, our custom is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Holy Scripture. You are invited to do so right here in your bulletin.

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9

Today we will read a portion of Psalm 25. We will read it responsively breaking at the asterisk.

1. To you, O lord, I lift my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
**let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
2. Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
3. Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
4. Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
**for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
5. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
6. Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
**remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
7. Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
8. He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
9. All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A Reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Lord, make us servants of your peace v. 1-3

Hymnal 593

All are invited to stand as you are able and join in singing.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

Please remain standing and face the Gospel.

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

The Sermon

Drew Darby

Please be seated.

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

All stand as able and together say

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 catholic¹ and apostolic² 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.

¹ universal; all embracing ² relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Server

My brothers and sisters, may God strengthen your hearts in holiness. Trusting in God, let us pray,
O come, o come, Emmanuel; be our hope and our salvation.

God our hope, usher in your reign of justice and righteousness. May all the world know your peace and safety.

O come, o come, Emmanuel;

Be our hope and our salvation.

God our hope, you place signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Give us the eyes to see, the wisdom to prepare, and the faith to trust in you.

O come, o come, Emmanuel;

Be our hope and our salvation.

God our hope, under your reign divisions are overcome, unity restored: bring the people of the world together in a spirit of love and respect and bless us all in this time of global pandemic.

O come, o come, Emmanuel;

Be our hope and our salvation.

God our hope, remember your compassion and love. Heal and restore the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the grieving. *(The congregation is invited to add their petitions silently or aloud.)*

O come, o come, Emmanuel;

Be our hope and our salvation.

God our hope, keep us blameless before you, that we may meet the coming of our Lord, Jesus with joy. May we and all who have died, rise to life immortal with all your saints.

O come, o come, Emmanuel;

Be our hope and our salvation.

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

A period of silence is observed.

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

All are invited to stand as they are able.

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

Announcements

Please be seated.

Prayers for birthdays and anniversaries.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*



*Thank you for your donation, and for your pledge.
Your generosity is appreciated!
We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ
with whatever you are able to give.*

Offertory Anthem

Come, My Way, My Truth , My Life

*--Words: George Herbert,
Music: Harold W. Friedell*

Presentation Hymn

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

Hymnal 57

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite I, Eucharistic Prayer I

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**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.**

Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for all, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

Let us pray together

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot all be together in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

The Invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

For in-person worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer. Cross your arms over your chest as a sign you wish a blessing.

Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there. It can be found online at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

My Lord, What a Morning

--arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Meditatively

I
O come, ye, come. O

II
The Prince of Peace, The

III
A Mi - ra - cle! A

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent receive unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Hymnal 59

Please stand as you are able and face the cross.

Dismissal

Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

Prayers of the People from Intercessions for Year C by GERALYN WOLF, Church Publishing

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Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Drew Darby	Lector:	Bridget Wareham
Seating Coordinator:	Wendy Van Horn	Ushers:	Steve Jones & Judy Gold
Altar Guild:	Louise Bretz	Flower Guild:	Sarah Lamola
Cantor:	Amy Schaffer	Welcome Greeter:	Ernie Fickerson
Video Production:	Patrick Van Horn	Lock-up Team:	Miles Sexton

St. Paul's Choir: Taylor Bernstein, Annelise Ebell, Rose Hayden-Smith, Amy Schaffer, Laura Andrews, Jordan Daniels, Sophia Cotsis, Kara Johnson-Craven, Allison McKay, Bridget Wareham, Robert Kubilos, Diego Magaña, Alexis Renteria, Daniel Smithson, Robert Brown, Christopher Craven, Reid Edwards



Christmas Eve at St. Paul's

4:00 p.m. Family Service

This is a friendly service that is especially appropriate for families and children of all ages.

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Carols begin at 10 p.m., the service begins at 10:30 p.m. This service includes: traditional Christmas lessons, candlelight, choir and Eucharist.

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Join us for a beautiful service on this holy day.

Prayer Intentions for the Week of November 28, 2021

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Liz Williams, Dick Swanson
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts
Diane Jardine Bruce, Bishop Suffragan	

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Mary, J, N, Devyn, Marilyn, Joan, Lisa, Connie, Rebecca, Ann and all first responders, those on the frontlines of the pandemic, and everyone affected by COVID-19.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

Kay, Brian, Mary, Dave, Penny, Virginia, Susan, Michelle, Jeanice, Sheila, Carol, Rachel, Kim, Amelia, and Liz.

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew and Anna Darby, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The spiritual, physical and moral development of our children and youth; the children, youth, and adult leaders of our Sunday School, Youth Group, Boy Scout Troop 179, Girl Scout Daisy Troop 65014, La Famiglia Preschool, and VCSAGE
- + The Vestry's leadership that our parish's mission may be accomplished. Our 2021 vestry members and officers are Rose Hayden-Smith (Senior Warden), Woody Bretz (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Kathy Loest (Clerk), Ted Andrews, Dan Campbell, Jordan Daniels, Grace Dunlevy, Steve Jones, Marcia Semple, Dan Wakelee, Bridget Wareham, and the Rev. Susan Bek (Rector).
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles: *Hillsides-the Episcopal Home for Children*, Pasadena; *Neighborhood Youth Association*, West LA.; *Holy Family Services*, Ventura County.
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Unitarian/Universalist, Center for Spiritual Living, An Lac Mission (Buddhist), Mormon Church*

IN MEMORIAM

For Bryan Beilby, Kathy Stone and all those we love and see no longer.

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month but can be renewed if needed. Please contact the church office to add or extend a prayer request and to let us know how things are going.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Liz Williams, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Kimberly Lindgren, Parish Administrator
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Assistant Music Minister
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Becker, ASL Interpreter
Torey Rubrecht, Sexton

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St. Paul's Announcements November 28, 2021

Thank you for joining us today! We'll continue to hold you in our prayers.

Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!

We invite you to join us again next Sunday!



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

Whether you're new, visiting or have been a member for years, we're so glad you joined us today. **A warm welcome to you!**

We currently offer Sunday services online, and in person.

Please let us know if we can do anything to support you on your spiritual journey this week.

We're always happy to hear from you!

We invite you to come back soon.



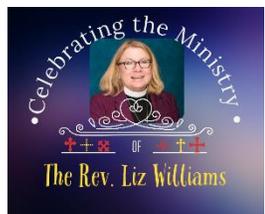
This is a brief overview of our weekly announcements. To learn about everything going on at St. Paul's and to receive weekly encouragement and ways to build up spiritual strength, please see our E-newsletter. If you don't receive it, please let us know. We'd be happy to add you to the list! office@saintpaulsventura.org



Prepare the Way of the Lord...

Join us Next Week for the Second Sunday of Advent - 12/5 at 10:15am

Be with us online or in-person as we light the first and second candles on our Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE. Let's come together as we worship and wait, holding on to the hope that Christ has instilled in us. Let's enjoy the peace which passes understanding and do our part to help spread peace on earth. Join us as we prepare the way of the Lord, lift our prayers, and receive communion. Come get inspired! Invite a friend and join us. We look forward to seeing you there!



You are invited...

Retirement Party for Rev. Liz

Sunday, 12/12 at 11:30am on the Patio

Please join us as we celebrate the ministry of our wonderful Associate Rector and thank her for her years of service here at St. Paul's and in the wider church. Join us for food, music, and the chance to send her off with lots of love as she and her family embark on their next great adventure. All are welcome!



Church Information Series – Week 3

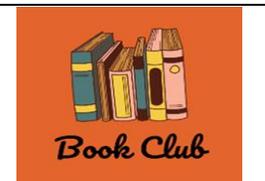
Whether you're new to the church, ready to explore your faith in new ways, or want to help us offer a warm welcome to everyone, you're invited to participate in the upcoming Church Information Series. Tonight, we complete our Fall series with the topic: **Ministry & Outreach – Doing our part to continue Christ's work in the world** Come meet people, ask questions and learn something new. All are welcome! Next week we will have a New Member Blessing. All new members are invited to participate. Please contact the church office for more information. We look forward to seeing you tonight! Meeting ID: 816 5081 2566 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81650812566> You can also join in person. Please contact Rev. Susan for the location of this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!



GIFT WRAPPING PARTY

Friday, December 17th at 6:30pm in Kahler Hall

Come join others in fellowship while we get our Christmas wrapping done away from any prying eyes! Bring a hot beverage to enjoy and gift wrap supplies (feel free to bring extra to share if you have too much stored in the garage!) If you have any questions, please contact Grace through the church office.



First Monday Book Club – December 6th at 5:30 pm on Zoom

Our next book is *The Third Mrs. Galway* by Deirdre Sinnott. Antislavery agitation is rocking Utica in 1835 when a young bride discovers an enslaved family hiding in her shed. Sinnott has created a beautiful, timely, and uplifting book with unforgettable characters. Enjoy and see you in our virtual living room on December 6th at 5:30. Same link as before. Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 7Tt0EF



BULLETIN INSERTS

November 28, 2021 – Advent 1 (C)

First Week of Advent: Saying “Yes” to the Journey

As Advent begins this week, we invite you to orient yourself to the coming of Jesus at Christmas through the practices of *Journeying the Way of Love*. This journey begins by saying “yes” to God’s call to birth new life into the world—a call that is both powerful and gentle, a call that will, if fully embraced, grow beyond our imaginations, spilling out of ourselves and into our family, friends, community, and the whole world. Over the course of this holy season, we invite you to respond to that call using these daily practices, and encourage you to offer them to your friends, family, and neighbors.

For more Advent resources related to the Way of Love, visit episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. There, you’ll find links to the full Advent curriculum *Journeying the Way of Love*, as well as *Living the Way of Love in Community*, a nine-session curriculum for use anytime.

Sunday, November 28

WORSHIP

Read Luke 21:25-36. How do the symbols of the Advent season help you understand the story of Jesus? Where do you see them in your worship today?

Monday, November 29

GO

Go out of your way to have a conversation with someone you might not normally visit with today. Ask God to open your heart to hear this person as God does.

Tuesday, November 30

LEARN

Read Matthew 4:18-22. How do these verses from Matthew inspire you to read Scripture with new eyes? Try reading several different translations of this passage. See how the language might change your reading of it.

Wednesday, December 1

PRAY

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 1, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. Set a timer for three minutes to sit in silence and hear what God might be saying back to you.

Thursday, December 2

BLESS

We know that angels are God’s special messengers to us, and that Gabriel spent intentional time with Mary, helping her to understand her part in God’s story. Who has shared an important lesson or their presence with you this week? Thank them today with a call or note.

Friday, December 3

TURN

Read Isaiah 58. How does this reading challenge you to think about feasts and festivals differently? How might this lesson change the way you celebrate or recognize this holy season?

Saturday, December 4

REST

Put your phone on airplane mode and leave it in a dresser drawer for an hour or two. Whatever happens in that time, you can handle later. Give this time to yourself and Jesus, to rest and recharge for the week ahead.

