



## **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER**

**December 5, 2021 | 9:15 & 11:15 AM**



# You are welcome here.

## A Little About

### St. Paul & the Redeemer

#### What kind of church is this?

St. Paul & the Redeemer (SPR) is a community that seeks to mirror the radical hospitality practiced by Jesus, holding together a progressive outlook and a rootedness in the Christian faith. We are woven of different races, economic statuses, cultural backgrounds, faith backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations, and we are strengthened and enriched by each person's story and voice.

#### Let's Get Connected

Welcome! If you are new, tell us about yourself and get connected to what's happening at St. Paul & the Redeemer. Scan the code or visit [sprchicago.org/new](http://sprchicago.org/new) to complete a *Let's Get Connected* form.



#### Children's Formation

**Nursery, 9:00am-12:30pm** | Professionally staffed nursery care is available during the services for children ages 0-4. The nursery is down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the downstairs restrooms and the nursery.

**Children's Chapel, 9:30am-9:45am** | During the sermon at the 9:15 service, children from preschool to second grade are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

**Godly Play, 10:20am-11:05am** | Children in preschool through fifth grade are invited to Godly Play today at 10:20am to hear the story of **Advent III-IV** (pre-K/K), **The story of prophet Elijah** (Grades 1-2), or **The Story of prophet Jeremiah** (Grades 3-5). Children are welcome to join Godly Play at any time during the year. To learn about volunteering with Godly Play, contact Dafne del Risco-Nolla ([nolla@sprchicago.org](mailto:nolla@sprchicago.org)).

#### SPR's Anti-Racism Vision Statement

We strive to become a beloved community that reflects on our own racial identities and recognizes racism and privilege in our church and society; works for justice by building relationships and sustained efforts to heal, reconcile, and seek Christ in each other; and acts to interrupt and dismantle white supremacist structures, transforming ourselves and our church to become a living embodiment of justice and peace.

#### Giving to SPR

Every dollar you give to SPR supports our ministry to and with our community. You may place cash or a check in the offering plate, give online at [sprchicago.org/give-online](http://sprchicago.org/give-online) or scan this code. If you are visiting, please do not feel obligated to give—it is our honor to have you as our guest!



#### Bulletin Rubrics

Throughout the bulletin, the congregation is invited to say all **bolded** text aloud. There are also times when it is customary to make the sign of the cross by touching your forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder. If you wish to do so, the **+** indicates that.

#### Youth Ministries

**Youth Formation, 10:20am-11:05am** | Join us today for youth formation (grade 6-12). We gather for 45 minutes to enjoy donuts and discussion. We've pondered questions like "Is God male?"; "Did God write the Bible?"; and "What is the real meaning of Christmas?"

**Youth Group, 5-7pm** | Today, we will take a trip to see the Zoolights display at Lincoln Park Zoo! All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join the youth group at any time throughout the year. For details, contact director of youth formation Ross Fogg ([fogg@sprchicago.org](mailto:fogg@sprchicago.org)).



## **Welcome to Advent.**

### **What Is Advent?**

Advent is a four-week season of preparation for Christmas. At a time when secular culture pushes us to rush, spend, and consume, Advent is the church's invitation to slow down and simplify. One may take up a new practice during Advent, like daily prayer, Scripture reflection, or a service project, in order to find new grounding in the life of God. Or one may make an intentional choice to give something up—perhaps giving up guilt over the inevitable failure to make Christmas “perfect,” a certain holiday tradition that has become more burdensome than joyful, or an old grudge that has ceased to be protective and is now causing more pain than the original offense. If you would like guidance about how you might observe this Advent, talk to our rector, Catherine Healy ([healy@sprchicago.org](mailto:healy@sprchicago.org)).

### **Advent Wreath**

The Advent wreath has four candles, one for each week in Advent: weeks one, two, and four are purple, to remind us of the solemnity of the season, and week three is pink, to remind us that Advent is also a time of joy. Each Sunday of Advent, we will begin our worship by lighting the Advent wreath. You are also invited to light your own Advent wreath for a daily or weekly devotional at home. For a set of Advent wreath supplies you can take home, please contact our director of children's formation, Dafne del Risco-Nolla ([nolla@sprchicago.org](mailto:nolla@sprchicago.org)).

### **Our Worship Space**

At St. Paul & the Redeemer, we usually worship in the round, with the altar in the center and all of us gathered around it. This Advent, as you can see, we are changing things up. One reason we do this is that change is what Advent is about: reordering our lives in order to wake up to ourselves and to the world around us a bit more—to unsettle us from our usual habits and perspectives. We have not worshiped together in this configuration since the early days of Lent in March 2020, so this visual shift in perspective has been a long time coming, and it serves as a reminder of how far we've come. This arrangement also brings the choir into the midst of us, helping us to sing more boldly.

The particular arrangement of our space in Advent reflects how many monastic communities worship. Such communities are places of service, fasting, and deep prayer. Advent is our chance to detach from the chaos of the “holiday season” and walk in such ways as we prepare the Way for the coming of Christ.

# THE WORD OF GOD

## Prelude

## Entrance Hymn

All sing.



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert  
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



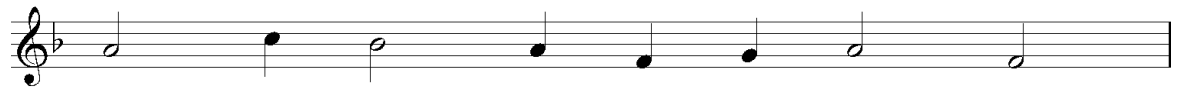
saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -  
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
let the val - leys rise to meet him  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
and the hills bow down to greet him.  
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

*The Hymnal 1982 - #67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"*

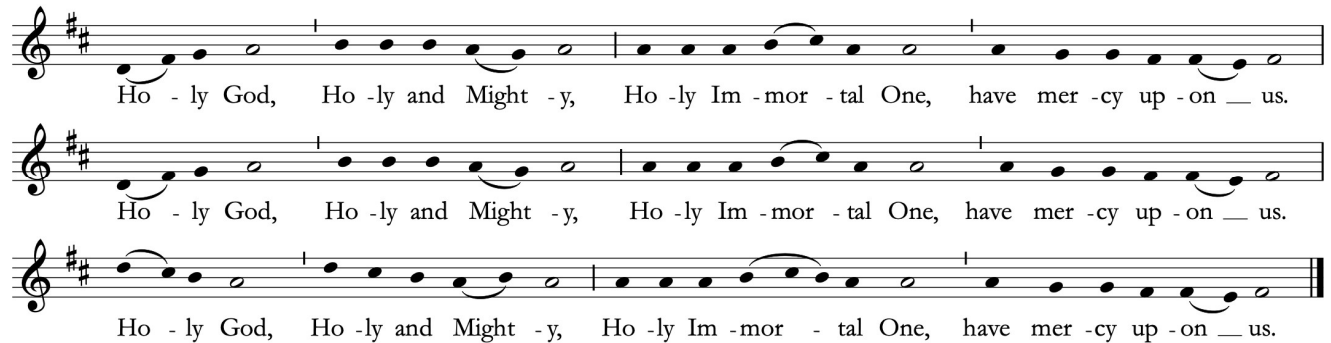
Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: *Psalm 42, 87. 87. 77. 88, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982*

## Welcome

+ Blessed are you, holy and living One.  
**You come to your people and set them free.**

*All sing.*



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on \_ us.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on \_ us.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on \_ us.

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #99 Holy God: Trisagion*

Music: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted and streamed under OneLicense.net #A-704721.

## The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

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 Lessons

A reading from the prophet Malachi.

*Malachi 3:1-4*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle 16 at the Gradual

*All sing.*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;  
2 He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;  
3 On pri - son - ers of dark-ness the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its and re - deems us, he grants us lib - er - ty.  
a Sa - vior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.  
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;  
Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,  
He guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace.



God shall ful - fill his prom - ise and bring his peo - ple peace.\_\_\_\_  
the pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of Day.\_\_\_\_  
O bless our God and Sa - vior, with songs that nev - er cease.\_\_\_\_

*The Hymnal 1982 #444 "Blessed be the God of Israel"*

Words: Michael A. Perry (b. 1942), alt.; para. of *The Song of Zechariah*. Music: *Thornbury*, 76. 76. D, Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

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Music Copyright © by permission of the Executors of the late Dr. Basil Harwood. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

*Philippians 1:3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*All sing.*

3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height  
4. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny

in an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
that trust thy might - y power to save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

"O come, O come, Emmanuel" (sts. 3, 4)

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, LM with Refrain, plainsong Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent., adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

*At the + below, you are invited to trace a cross over your forehead, your mouth, and over your heart.*

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*Luke 3:1-6*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Children's Chapel** *(9:15 only)*

*Children in preschool to second grade are invited to attend their own liturgy in the chapel, led by children's ministry staff Dafne del Risco-Nolla and Gretchen Eng. Participants under age 3 are encouraged to bring a parent. The children will return to the main service at the Peace.*

## **The Sermon**

*Today's Preacher: The Rev. KJ Oh (Assistant Priest)*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

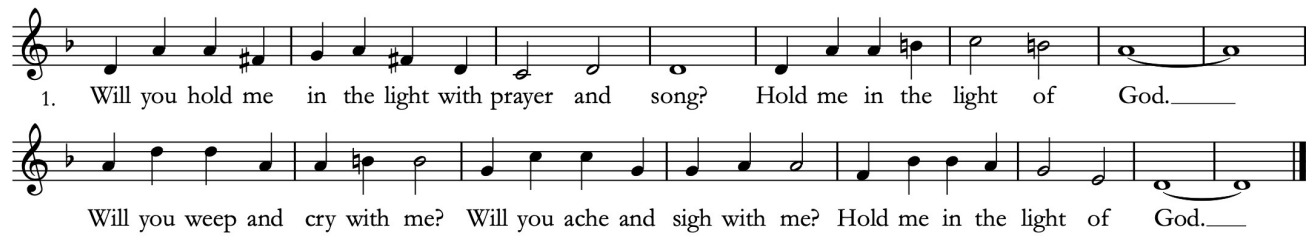
**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



## Prayers of the People

*All sing the first stanza as an invocation to prayer. At the conclusion of the prayers, all sing the final stanza.*



1. Will you hold me in the light with prayer and song? Hold me in the light of God.\_\_\_\_

Will you weep and cry with me? Will you ache and sigh with me? Hold me in the light of God.\_\_\_\_

Good and gracious God, we give you thanks for all who have told us of your love and your presence among us. We give thanks for John the Baptist, who prepared the way for our Savior. Guide and empower all preachers of the word and ministers of the sacraments. Bless all who proclaim your glory and prepare hearts and minds for your coming.

Blessed Lord, hear us

**And set your people free.**

We give thanks for all who taught us the faith and led us to you, for all who have given us a glimpse of your glory. We pray for teachers, Godly Play leaders, and youth leaders; for families, friends, and all who are dear to us. We pray for peace and security for the people of Haiti, and for St. Patrick's in Tom Gateau, our partner parish.

Blessed Lord, hear us

**And set your people free.**

We thank you for all the joys of this life, and ask your blessing on **Theo** Landen Brewer (12/5), **Michael** Jividen (12/5), **Vincent** Johnson (12/5), **David** Farris (12/8), **Josefina** Kitson (12/9), **Bill** Olmsted (12/9), **August** Pereira (12/10), **Edia** Chipman (12/11), and **Helen** Johnson (12/11) as they begin another year.

Blessed Lord, hear us

**And set your people free.**

Lord of love, we pray for all who do not know how to accept or receive forgiveness, all who are not at peace with themselves or the world. We remember all who are anxious and fearful at this time. We pray for all who are facing illness, difficulties, or troubles, especially **Brenda** Russell (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), **Jewel** Starnes (mother of Pam Anderson), **William** Starnes, Jr. (brother of Pam Anderson), **Hyacinth** Evans, **Bonnie** Parker (sister of Cheryl Vanorsby), **Julienne** Collins, **Al** Baker, **Ron** Gatton, **Barbara** Brown (sister of Crystal Plummer), **Klara** Burger (godmother of Kerstin Wellbery) and all those on our prayer list.

Blessed Lord, hear us

**And set your people free.**

Lord of glory, you destroy the darkness of the shadow of death and open the kingdom of heaven to your loved ones. We pray for the departed, that in your love they may rejoice in peace, especially **Jessica** Smith Crenshaw (12/02/21, friend of Cecilia Mowatt), **Ella** Bergstresser (12/5/2005, mother of Ruth Woll), **Karuna** Jesuthasan (12/5/1984, mother of Ravin Jesuthasan), **Levi** Smith (12/7/2004, father of Levi Smith III), **John** O'Dowd (12/7, grandfather of Maureen Jesuthasan), Rev. **Curtis** Burrell Jr. (12/8/2017, father of Joy Burrell), and **Eddeane** Walker (12/8, mother of Wendy Williams), and **Phyllis** Michael Roberts (12/10, sister of Naomi Haynes).

Blessed Lord, hear us

**And set your people free.**

I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings, ending each with "Blessed Lord, hear us."

Adapted from David Adam, *Glimpses of Glory: Prayers for the Church Year (Year C)*.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

2. We will hold you in the light and walk with you. Come in - to the light of God.\_\_\_\_

We will share your tears with you; we will face your fears with you. Come in - to the light of God.\_\_\_\_

"Will you hold me in the light"

Words: Adam M. L. Tice (b. 1979). Music: *Assembly*, 11. 7. 7. 7, Sally Ann Morris (b. 1952)

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*Prayer list:* Brenda Russell (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), Jewel Starnes (mother of Pam Anderson), William Starnes, Jr. (brother of Pam Anderson), Hyacinth Evans, Bonnie Parker (sister of Cheryl Vanorsby), Julianne Collins, Al Baker, Ron Gatton, Barbara Brown (sister of Crystal Plummer), Klara Burger (godmother of Kerstin Wellbery), Joseph Burgio, Josef Michael Carr, Jr., Stacey Morris, Hank Underwood, Jacquelynne Corey Hain, David Daniels, Jenny Jeck, Shannon Cate and her family, Marian Elliott, Naomi Haynes, Amelia Dammen (grandniece of Lisa Rademacher), Sophie Dillard (granddaughter of Robert and Sheila Bator), Pauline and Bill Reynolds (parents of Liza Reynolds), Tim Brown (cousin of Maureen Jesuthasan), Kathy Pachuta (sister-in-law of David Farris), William Jenkins (uncle of Twila Jones), Chloe Riethmiller (granddaughter of Mary & Bob Naftzger), Rock Sehr, and Tim Sehr, as well as their caregivers.

## Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

*All are invited to bow or kneel.*

**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 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

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please remain at your seat and wave to greet your neighbors. Some announcements will be given; there's much more to find out in the front and back pages of this bulletin.*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Offertory

*Sung by the choir*

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever; E'en the spirit of truth.

Words: John 14.15-7 (KJV)

Music: Thomas Tallis (ca. 1505-85)

## The Great Thanksgiving

*All stand as the offering is brought to the altar.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #124 "Holy, holy, holy" (Sanctus)*

Music: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted and streamed under OneLicense.net

#A-704721.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are  
yours,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*Enriching Our Worship 1, Eucharistic Prayer 1*

# The Breaking of the Bread

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

## Fraction Anthem

All sing.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

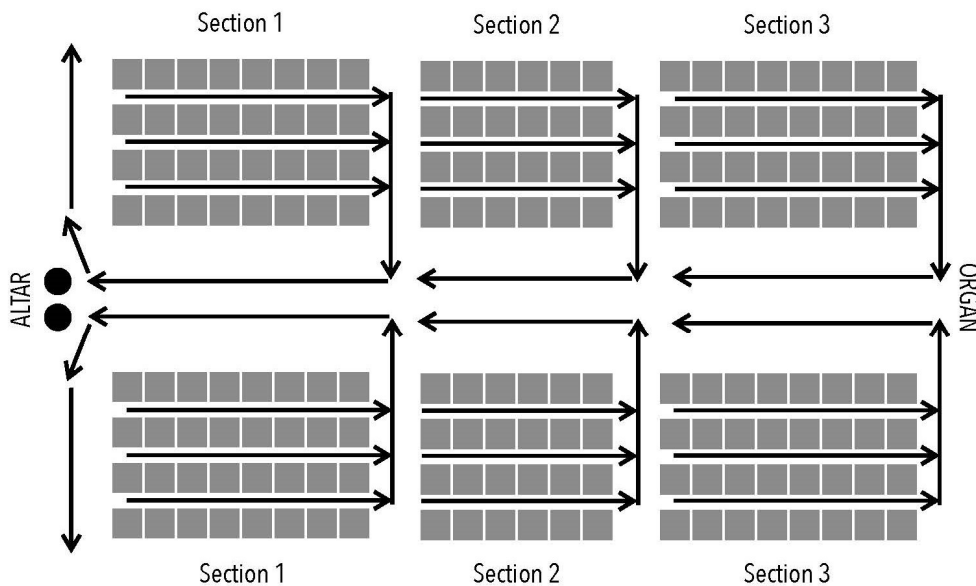
*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #161 "Lamb of God" (Agnus Dei)*

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The gifts of God for the people of God.

*All, without exception, are invited to receive communion. If you want gluten-free bread, tell the communion minister. If you would like a blessing in place of communion, cross your arms over your chest.*

## How to Line Up for Communion



### Order for Lining Up

Choir Goes First | Then Section 1 | Then Section 2 | Then Section 3

# Communion Hymns

All sing.

Keyboard

Pre-pare ye the way of the

Lord. Pre-pare ye the way of the Lord. Lord. Lord.

1. Make straight in the des - ert a high - way for our God.  
 2. Fill ev - 'ry val - ley, bring all moun - tains low.  
 3. Go up to a moun tain and shout with a loud voice.  
 4. Say to all peo - ple, here is your God.

D.S.

*Lift Every Voice and Sing II* - #11 "Prepare ye the way of the Lord"

Words: Isaiah 40.3-4, 9

Music: James E. Moore, Jr. (b. 1951)

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All sing.

*Cantor/Choir then All*

Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way. Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way.

*Cantor/Choir then All*

Christ is com - ing. Christ is com - ing.

D.C.

*Lift Every Voice and Sing II* - #6 "Christ is coming: prepare the way"

Words & Music: Edward V. Bonnemere (1921-1996), adapt. Advent Jazz Vespers II, Copyright © Amity Music Corporation, 1475 Gaylord Terrace, Teaneck, NJ 07666. All rights reserved.

## **Sending Forth & Blessing**

*Please stand as able.*

Let us pray.

**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 Presider blesses the people. You are invited to cross yourself as the Presider traces a cross over the congregation.*

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon with you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**



## Dismissal Hymn

All sing.

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come  
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the  
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and  
4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace, that  
5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth, let

1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.  
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.  
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.  
4 war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.  
5 there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

*The Hymnal 1982 - #601 "O day of God, draw nigh"*

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Music: *St. Michael*, SM, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1899)

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude



# Coming Up at SPR

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## **Adult Formation: The Meaning of Advent**

**Today, at 10:20 AM** in the parish hall, join the Rev. Catherine Healy, rector, for an adult formation session on the meaning of Advent. We'll explore the history of the season and be invited into creative reflection on preparing our souls for the coming of Christ.

## **Ordination of Barnabas Pusnur**

Congratulations to SPR staff member Barnabas Pusnur, who will be ordained as a transitional deacon on **Saturday, December 11, at 11:00 AM** at St. James Cathedral (65 E. Huron). The service will also be livestreamed (details forthcoming). Vesting clergy should wear red stoles. A reception with lunch will be held at SPR following the service; all are invited to attend both the service and the reception. To attend the luncheon, kindly RSVP to Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org).

## **Advent Respite Service**

All are invited to attend a quiet Advent respite service of worship, held both in person and via Zoom, on the evening of **Friday, December 10** (time and details forthcoming). To volunteer as a lector or leader, contact Sara Bigger (sarafaganbigger@gmail.com).

## **Advent Bake Sale**

The SPR Advent bake sale will be on **Sunday, December 12, after the 9:15 & 11:15 services**. Everyone is invited to contribute homemade baked treats. If you don't bake, consider helping with pricing, wrapping, or staffing the table. All proceeds will go to support Shoemith Elementary School. To volunteer, sign up in the narthex or contact Kate Baldwin (akbaldwin@sbcglobal.net).

## **Adult Formation: Episcopal Creation Care at COP26**

On **Sunday, December 19, at 10:20 AM** in the parish hall, join SPR member Julia Rademacher-Wedd for reflections on her service as an Episcopal Church delegate to the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).

## **SPR Youth: Zoolights and More!**

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join the youth group in our December events on Sunday evenings from **5:00 to 7:00 PM**: ■ **Today**: Zoolights at Lincoln Park Zoo! Please contact director of youth formation Ross Fogg if you are able to be a driver for this event. ■ **December 12**: Gingerbread decorating party ■ **December 19**: Gift exchange and alumni night.  
**Youth group will not meet on December 26 or January 2.** We will resume on January 9.

## **SPR Christmas Caroling**

You are invited to join SPR in Christmas caroling on **Thursday, December 16 at 5:30 PM!** Kids and parents will head out into the neighborhood to bring Christmas cheer to our neighbors. We'll return to the church for fellowship afterward. This event is child-focused, but all ages (with or without kids in tow) are welcome. For more information, please contact Gretchen Eng.

## **Children's Christmas Pageant**

Consider involving your child in our joyful return to live Christmas Pageant performance this year. There's a part for everyone, from toddlers who are not yet ready to memorize lines to older kids who can volunteer to help with the little ones. Please write to Gretchen Eng (eng@sprchicago.org) with your child/ren's age(s) and name(s) if they would like to participate! ■ **Sunday, December 12, after the 9:15 service**: Chat about pageant roles and casting during formation hour and bake sale. ■ **Thursday, December 16**: Roles assigned via email; scripts distributed electronically. Check in with Gretchen during caroling fellowship! ■ **Sunday, December 19, after the 9:15 service**: Optional brush-up rehearsal (only for kids with lines who would like help). ■ **Thursday, December 23, 6:00-7:15 PM**: Dress rehearsal for all parts (kids without lines dismissed around 6:45 PM). ■ **Friday, December 24, 4:00 PM**: Call time for the Christmas Eve pageant (service begins at 5:00 PM).

### **Racial Justice & Truth-Telling Webinars**

Join the Anti-Racism Working Group in attending online webinars with leaders who are dedicated to racial truth-telling and healing the wounds of racism, hosted by the national Episcopal Church's Racial Reconciliation and Justice Team on **Tuesday, December 14 and Wednesday, January 12 from 2:00 to 3:30 PM**. Please email ARWG member Ruth Woll (ruthewoll@gmail.com) if you plan to attend, and visit [tinyurl.com/arwg-event](http://tinyurl.com/arwg-event) to register.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Station**

SPR's parking lot is now home to an electric vehicle charging station! If you know anyone who drives an electric car, please share the news and invite them to charge with us.

### **Food Pantry Christmas Donations**

The SPR food pantry will be giving out turkeys for Christmas and so would welcome donations of **stuffing mix and jellied cranberry sauce**. We continue to accept donations of **cereal (Raisin Bran, Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Rice Krispies, oatmeal, and grits)**. You may leave donations in the narthex (foyer) on Sunday morning, or drop them off on Wednesday between 1:00 and 5:00 PM. Thank you for your generosity.

### **January-February Art Show Photo Submission**

Inspired by Bisa Butler's use of pattern and color, this show invites works by collage artists, painters, quilters, knitters, crocheters, and photographers. The show will be available both virtually and be displayed in the chapel. Send a photo of your work, including the dimensions, **by Saturday, January 9** to Carolyn Pereira (pereira1700@yahoo.com). There will be a virtual reception on **Sunday, January 17 at 5pm**. Be prepared to drop off your work for hanging the following week.

### **Join Our Usher Team!**

Are you reasonably friendly? Do you appreciate good order? Do you like telling people what to do? Join the SPR usher team! We are currently welcoming new ushers at both our 9:15 and 11:15 services. Ushers should be willing to commit to serving once every 4-6 weeks (although more often is always welcome). To express interest or learn more about scheduling and training, contact associate minister Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org).

## Serving Today

**December 5, 2021**

Presider: The Rev. Catherine Healy

Preacher: The Rev. KJ Oh

Deacon: The Rev. Jack Seymour

Music Leader: Christian Clough

Children's Chapel Leaders: Dafne del Risco-Nolla,  
Gretchen Eng

Lectors: Andrew Chipman, Fran Spaltro, Steve Heyman  
(9:15); Sandy Mulholland, Liza Reynolds, Claire Hartfield  
(11:15)

Ushers: Megg Hoover, Romonda McKinney (9:15); Mike  
Agina, Chinyere Agina (11:15)

Vestry Greeter: Fran Spaltro (9:15), Twila Jones (11:15)

## Staff

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy, *Rector*

Barnabas E. Pusnur, *Associate Minister*

Christian M. Clough, *Director of Music*

Dafne del Risco-Nolla, *Director of Children's Formation*

Ross Fogg, *Director of Youth Formation*

Lukasz Jedrzejewski, *Sexton*

Gretchen R. Eng, *Children's Music Assistant*

Sabrina Foster, Ashley Lanfair, & Patricia Lanfair,  
*Nursery Teachers*

Bridget Skaggs & Ariana Strahl, *Staff Singers*

The Rev. KJ Oh, *Assistant Priest*

The Rev. Jack Seymour, *Deacon*

The Rev. Roger Ferlo, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Lydia Gajdel, *Priest Associate*

## Vestry

Twila Jones, *Warden*

Frances Spaltro, *Warden*

Jordan Lanfair, *Clerk*

Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*

O. Michael Agina

Traci Beck

Nicholas Bellomy

Jared Beverly

Jonathan Foiles

Vicky Legge

Meryl Prochaska

Jeffrey Stackert

Kerstin Wellbery

## Partners in Ministry

### Beulah Shoemith Elementary School

We support our neighborhood school through tutoring, arts programs, and gardening.

### Community Renewal Society

We are a member congregation of CRS, which organizes faith communities for social change.

### Crossroads/Chicago ROAR

Chicago ROAR supports our anti-racism commitments through facilitation and training.

### Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

We are proud to belong to the Chicago South Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

### Murray Fellows

Through this program, we mentor and encourage the next generation of LGBTQ+ Christian leaders.

### Open Kitchen

SPR members gather monthly to cook meals for Kenwood UCC's Feed the People Soup Kitchen.

### St. Patrick's Church & School, Haiti

Our collaboration with St. Patrick's in Tom Gateau, Haiti, includes school lunch and music programs, teacher salaries, and capital projects.

### St. Paul & the Redeemer Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open to the community every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 PM.

### Syrian Community Network

Each year, SPR sponsors a newly resettled refugee family from Syria through visits, tutoring and more.