



# **FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

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

**DECEMBER 3, 2023 | 10:00 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 & Youth at SPR

### KidZone (Nursery), Sundays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Professionally staffed nursery care is available for children ages 1-4 in our KidZone, located down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the downstairs restrooms and the KidZone.

### Children's Chapel, Sundays during sermon

During the sermon at the 10:00 service, children from preschool to second grade are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

### Christian Formation

From September through May, we welcome all ages to join our formation (Christian education) gatherings, downstairs from 11:05 to 11:50 AM. See the back of the bulletin for more information about today's offerings.

- Godly Play: Preschool to grade 2
- Junior Youth Group: Grades 3 to 5
- Youth Group: Grades 6 to 12
- Adult Formation: Teens and adults

*High-school youth are welcome to attend either youth group or adult formation.*

### 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.

### 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.

### Giving to SPR

Every dollar you give to SPR goes toward 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. Thank you so much for your support of our church!

### Music Copyright

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### About the Cover Artwork

"Advent candle with fir twigs" by Stefan Grau.



## 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)), or our associate rector, Barnabas Pusnur ([pusnur@sprchicago.org](mailto:pusnur@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, Lindsey Strieter ([lstriete@gmail.com](mailto:lstriete@gmail.com)).

### **Advent Music**

When looking through a hymnal, you might ask yourself, “Why are there separate ‘Advent’ and ‘Christmas’ sections? (And why are seemingly all these Advent hymns in minor keys?)” Advent music gives voice to the yearning, longing, and waiting in hope of the season. The predominantly minor keys convey that sense of a promise yet unfulfilled. During a time when we are inundated with “Jingle Bells” and up-beat songs about snowmen and reindeers, the music of Advent is a tangible way to be present in *this* season of anticipation. Each season has its own vibration, and there is value in marking the sights and sounds of each: it makes “Joy to the World” that much more meaningful on Christmas Eve, when we embark on the different and unique season of Christmas.

# THE WORD OF GOD

## Prelude

*Freu dich Sehr* (Comfort, comfort now my people)

Egil Hovland (1924-2013).

## Entrance Hymn

*All sing*

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her  
3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -  
heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she  
saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their  
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her  
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -  
Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -  
ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!  
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in  
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate  
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and  
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and  
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."  
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.  
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

*The Hymnal 1982 #61 "Sleepers, wake"*

Words: Philip Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) © 1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

## Welcome

+ Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Mother of us all.

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

## The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.*

## Song of Praise

*Sung by the St. Nicholas Choir and the Choristers, with Megan Cather, leader.*

Stay awake, be ready. You do not know the hour when the Lord is coming.

Stay awake, be ready. The Lord is coming soon!

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord is coming soon.

Change your lives, he's coming. The one who is the light of the world is coming.

Change your lives, he's coming. The reign of God is near!

Alleluia, alleluia! The reign of God is near.

*My Heart Sings Out #62 "Stay awake, be ready"*

Words and Music: Christopher Walker (b. 1947).

## The Lessons

### First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

*Isaiah 64:1-9*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood

and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,

so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,

you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,

who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,  
 those who remember you in your ways.  
 But you were angry, and we sinned;  
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
 We have all become like one who is unclean,  
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
 We all fade like a leaf,  
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
 There is no one who calls on your name,  
 or attempts to take hold of you;  
 for you have hidden your face from us,  
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
 we are all the work of your hand.  
 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
 and do not remember iniquity forever.  
 Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*(All sing refrain 2x, leader sings verse, refrain sung 4x)*

*Refrain*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

5

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

*Verse*

Pre - pare the way for the Lord. Make a straight path for God.

*Music from Taizē Volume 2: "Wait for the Lord"*

Words & Music: Jacques Berthier, text after James 5, Psalm 26. Verse: Isaiah 40.

## Second Reading

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

All sing.



*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*.

## Gospel Reading

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

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

Mark 13:24-37

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.



Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Children's Chapel**

*Children in preschool to second grade are invited to attend their own liturgy in the chapel, led by children's ministry staff Lindsey Strieter and Megan Cather. Participants under age 3 are encouraged to bring a parent. The children will return to the main service at the peace.*

## **Sermon**

*Today's Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy, Rector*

## **Apostles' Creed**

*Please stand as able.*

**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

Together we pray for the needs of the Church and the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people all over the world: for our bishops, Michael and Paula; for our priests and deacons; for the community of St. Paul & the Redeemer; for all Christians striving to live our baptismal ministries with fidelity; and for all humans, attempting to better reflect the image of the One who created us all. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for a just and durable peace among all nations, a peace that is not gained through the neglect or oppression of an expendable "other," a peace grounded in the fundamental truth that security and liberty are the birthright of all humans.

Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for those in poverty, suffering food insecurity, environmental degradation, or bondage; for those struggling to cope with depression, anxiety, or substance use disorders.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God and who yearn to understand God's will in their lives.

Pray that they may find and be found by God.

I ask your prayers of thanksgiving and joy for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially **Cynthia** Bagrowski (12/4), **Daniella** Pereira (12/4), **Harper** Wildenberg (12/4), **Michael** Jividen (12/5), **Vincent** Johnson (12/5), **Chloe** Swift (12/7), **Susan** Hartger (12/9), and **Bill** Olmsted (12/9).

Pray that they may thrive in the year to come.

I ask your prayers for all who are sick or suffering, remembering especially **Pamela** Anderson, **Marian** Elliott, **Helen** Johnson, **Jennifer** Penn, **Cindy** Askins (mother of Jonathan Foiles), **Lissa** Hodder (sister of Mary Naftzger), **Becky** Kruse, **Dom** Piantedosi (brother-in-law of Val Tonsgard), **Tim** Brown (cousin of Maureen Jesuthasan), **Alphonso** Guerrero (nephew of Cecilia Mowatt).

Pray for their healing, comfort, and courage.

I ask your prayers for our beloved ancestors and for all of those whom we love but are separated from us by death, especially **Ella** Bergstresser (mother of Ruth Woll, 12/5/2005), **Karuna** Jesuthasan (mother of Ravin Jesuthasan, 12/5/1984), **Alice** Watson (grandmother of Ian Murrell, 12/5/2022), **Levi** Smith, Sr. (father of Levi Smith, 12/7/2004), **John** O'Dowd (grandfather of Maureen Jesuthasan, 12/7), and **Eddeana** Walker (mother of Wendy Williams, 12/8).

Pray for those who have died.

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation. I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings, ending each with "Lord, in your mercy."

God whose glory is found in your grace and mercy, let it fall in abundance on those who suffer; and inspire us to be imitators of that glory, through the example of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Prayer List: Pamela Anderson, Sheila Bator, Jacky Corey Hain, Marian Elliott, Susan Hartger, Naomi Haynes, Helen Johnson, Brenda Kilpatrick, Becky Kruse, Rahsaan Clark Morris, John Mulholland, D. Maria Neighbors, Jennifer Penn, Peter Pereira, Celia Scott, Cindy Askins (mother of Jonathan Foiles), Alarra Tozin (friend of Twila Jones), Hilton Clark (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), Alphonso Guerrero (nephew of Cecilia Mowatt), Rosalyn Hill (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), Brenden Jones (godson of Cecilia Mowatt), Tim Brown (cousin of Maureen Jesuthasan), Lissa Hodder (sister of Mary Naftzger), Ann Rigney (friend of Mary Naftzger), Amelia Dammen (grandniece of Lisa Rademacher), and Penny & Dom Piantedosi (sister and brother-in-law of Val Tonsgard), as well as their caregivers.*

## **Confession and Absolution**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*You are invited to greet those around you with the words "Peace be with you." 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.*

Drop down ye heavens from above,  
And let the skies pour down righteousness.  
Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people;  
My salvation shall not tarry.  
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions.

Fear not, for I will save thee;  
For I am the Lord thy God,  
The holy one of Israel, thy redeemer.  
Drop down ye heavens from above,  
And let the skies pour down righteousness.

*"Drop down, ye heavens, from above"*

Words: from the Advent Prose.

Music: Judith Weir (b. 1954).

## 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.**

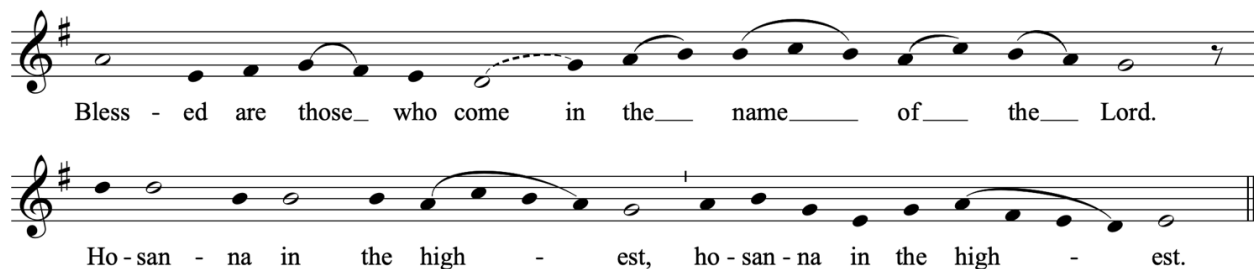
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*The Presider adds a proper preface.*

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.

*All sing.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Text Source: Revised Order of Mass 2010.

Music: *Missa Emmanuel*, Richard Proulx, French Franciscan chant, 15th c.; Kyrie based on *Kyrie cum jubilo*, Mass IX.

Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator 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."

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 of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many 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.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979, Eucharistic Prayer A.

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.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*All sing, as indicated.*

*Leader sings.*

1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - - ty Lord: }  
 2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - - se's tree: } you  
 3. Key of Da - vid and Day - spring from on high: }

*1. 2. All sing.*

take a - way the sins\_ of the world, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

*3. All sing.*

world, grant us\_ peace\_ grant us\_ peace.

Text Source: Revised Order of Mass 2010.

Music: *Missa Emmanuel*, Richard Proulx. French Franciscan chant, 15th c.; Kyrie based on *Kyrie cum jubilo*, Mass IX.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

*All, without exception, are invited to receive communion. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let the ushers know. 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.*

*No matter whether or how you choose to receive the Eucharist, may this time in the service be one of contemplation and prayer, enabling you to draw nearer to the quiet presence of God.*

**Communion music begins on next page.**

All sing.



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,  
\* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Lift Every Voice and Sing II #60 "Creator of the stars of night"*

Words: Latin, 9<sup>th</sup> cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

**Communion music continues on next page.**

All sing.



The des - ert shall re - joice and blos - som as a rose: 1. It shall  
2. For the  
3. For the  
4. For the



blos - som a - bun - dant - ly and re - joice with praise and sing - ing.  
ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o - pened.  
tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad - ness.  
ground will be - come a pool and the dry land springs of wa - ter.

5. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
as the ransomed return to God  
and come singing back to Zion.
6. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
unto Zion we come with joy,  
for our God has come to save us.

*Wonder Love and Praise #722 "The desert shall rejoice"*

Words: Gracia Grindal (b. 1943).

Music: Sterling, Joy F. Patterson (b. 1931).

## Sending Forth

*Please stand as able.*

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*The Presider blesses the people.*

**+ 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, Mother of us all, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.**

Source: Book of Occasional Services 2018, Advent Blessing.



All sing.



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



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

*The Hymnal 1982 #57 "Lo, He comes with clouds descending"*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt. descant by Frank Ferko (b. 1950).

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

## Postlude

*Wachet auf* (Sleepers, wake)

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927).

# Joyful Future:

## St. Paul & the Redeemer Annual Giving 2024

All our ministries are possible because of the generosity of our members.

When you give to SPR, you are investing in:

- **Connection** to God and one another through worship, formation, fellowship, and service.
- **Creation** of beautiful music, art, and writing that gives glory to God.
- **Community** engagement and renewal to transform our city.

With gratitude, the vestry and church leadership invite you to make a financial pledge for 2024 by **Sunday, December 10**. You may place a pledge card in the offering plate, return your card by mail, or pledge online at [sprchicago.org/giving](http://sprchicago.org/giving). Thank you for your investment in our joyful future.



Scan here to  
pledge online

## Coming Up at SPR

### Holiday Gift Fair

SPR's Faith in Action Team (FIAT) will host a holiday gift fair on **Saturday, December 2, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM and Sunday, December 3, after the 10:00 AM service**. This special event will raise funds to support SPR's new migrant/refugee ministry. We are looking for donations of items such as artwork, fiber arts, theatre tickets, and pottery, and for help setting up on December 1. For additional ways you can help make the Holiday Gift Fair a success, please fill out a signup sheet in the narthex today, or contact Sheila Bator ([sbator@aol.com](mailto:sbator@aol.com)).

### Blue Advent Service

The holidays are not always joyful. On Friday, **December 15, at 7:30 PM** in the chapel, all are invited to attend a quiet "Blue Advent" worship service to hold space for grief, lament, and hope as Christmas approaches. To assist with the service, contact Sara Bigger ([sarafaganbigger@gmail.com](mailto:sarafaganbigger@gmail.com)).

### Crèches from Around the World

Throughout Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, we will host an exhibit of crèches (Nativity scenes) from around the world in the Byllesby Room. Do you have a crèche you would like to loan for the show? Contact Bob Bator ([rbator@gmail.com](mailto:rbator@gmail.com)), or simply drop off your crèche in the church office by **Friday, December 8**.

### Connect With Our Newest Neighbors

SPR members will be providing breakfast **every Sunday** for the migrants and others staying at local police stations. We need **volunteers to shop, cook, and deliver food**. Guests at police stations and local shelters have also asked for the opportunity to cook for themselves. We will need people to transport small groups to and from the SPR kitchen, accompany guests while they cook, and help with cleanup. To learn more, contact Jason Evans: [jasoncoryevans@gmail.com](mailto:jasoncoryevans@gmail.com). **Job Opportunity: Sexton @ SPR (12-15 hrs/week)**

We are hiring for a permanent sexton (with abundant thanks to Tony George for doing such a wonderful job as our interim sexton). Do you know someone who would be a great fit for building management and maintenance at SPR? Contact the Rev. Catherine Healy: [healy@sprchicago.org](mailto:healy@sprchicago.org).

### Jazzing Up Coffee Hour This Fall

Bring a treat to share for coffee hour after the 10:00 service! Sign up at [tinyurl.com/SPRCoffee10](http://tinyurl.com/SPRCoffee10).

### Christmas Pageant

All children and youth are invited to join the SPR Christmas Pageant, to be held this year on Sunday, December 24, at our 5:00PM service. To sign your children up as cast members or volunteer as an adult helper, contact pageant director Megan Cather ([cather@sprchicago.org](mailto:cather@sprchicago.org)) with your children's names, ages, and preference for speaking vs. non-speaking roles.



# Music at SPR

## Advent Lessons & Carols

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 10 at 5PM** for the second annual joint service of Lessons & Carols with St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Park Ridge. This year, it will be held here at SPR. We are asking for volunteers to serve as Lectors. Please be in touch with Mark (bilyeu@sprchicago.org) to get involved.

## Join an SPR Choir for Advent!

Now is an excellent time to join a choir! The short-term commitment from now until Christmas is great way to engage in music making, and stay grounded during the busy holiday season. All parishioners and community members are welcome to join the Saint Nicholas Choir (PK-2), Choristers (grades 3-8), or the Adult Choir (grades 9 and beyond), get in touch with Mark Bilyeu or Megan Cather for more information.

## Christmas Eve Pop-Up Choir

For our **5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service**, everyone is welcome to sing in the choir! We will meet at 3:45 PM to learn an anthem and some service music, with no additional rehearsals needed. Intended for families, out-of-towners, and anyone else wanting to don a robe and be a choir member for Christmas!

## Calling All Instrumentalists

Do you or your child play a musical instrument? Our Christmas Eve services feature an extended prelude of instrumental music of all kinds, at both our 5PM and 8PM worship services. Expertise levels of all kinds playing repertoire of all varieties are encouraged to reach out to Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org).

## About This Week's Music

This morning's **prelude** is by Norwegian composer/organist Egil Hovland. Considered Norway's most noted church musician, his teachers included Aaron Copland, and in 1983 he was knighted into the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav. English composer Judith Weir penned the **offertory anthem** in 1984, to be premiered by the choir of Trinity College, Cambridge. The text is taken from the plainsong *Rorate Caeli*, often referred to simply as the Advent Prose: a series of texts adapted from the book of the prophet Isaiah, attributed to Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413). The **postlude**, a setting of our entrance hymn, was written by Emma Lou Diemer in 1979. Diemer, a graduate of both the Yale and Eastman Schools of Music, is Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she taught for twenty years.

## Save the Date: Residency with Marques Garrett

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, January 14 and Sunday January 15** when we welcome guest composer and conductor Marques Garrett to SPR. Marques is the editor of the *Oxford Book of Choral Music by Black Composers*, and will be in residency to teach many anthems from the anthology as part of a community-wide event at SPR, and will lead our music in our Sunday worship, in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend. For more information, and to register for the event, please visit [www.sprchicago.org/garrett](http://www.sprchicago.org/garrett).



## **Advent & Christmas at SPR**

### **Holiday Gift Fair: Saturday, December 2, 11:15AM-3:00PM, Sunday, December 3, 11:15AM-2:00PM**

All are invited to come and shop a selection of new and nearly-new gifts, alongside artwork, crafts, event tickets, and more. Funds raised go to support the SPR Migrant/Refugee Ministry.

### **Advent Wreath Making: Sunday, December 3, 11:05AM**

All are invited to gather in the Parish Hall following our 10:00AM worship to create an Advent wreath for your home.

### **Advent Lessons & Carols (SPR): Sunday, December 10, 5:00 PM**

The combined choirs of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and SPR will host a traditional service of lessons and carols.

### **Christmas Caroling: Thursday, December 14, 5:30 PM**

All ages are invited to carol around the neighborhood and return to church for pizza and fellowship afterward.

### **Blue Advent Service: Friday, December 15, 7:30 PM**

All are invited to attend a quiet service in the chapel to hold space for grief, lament, and hope as Christmas approaches.

### **Youth Group Christmas Party: Saturday, December 16, 5:00 – 8:00PM**

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to share dinner, a gift exchange, and a Christmas celebration.

### **Advent 4 Worship: Sunday, December 24, 8:00 & 10:00AM**

We will celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent with two services of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 AM.

### **Christmas Eve Worship: Saturday, December 24, 5:00 & 8:00 PM**

#### **5:00PM Service**

Join us for a family service at 5:00 PM, where our youngest members will re-tell the Christmas story.

(To join the pageant cast, email Megan Cather: [cather@sprchicago.org](mailto:cather@sprchicago.org)).

If you'd like to join the Christmas Eve Pop-Up Choir, meet in the Parish Hall at 3:45PM.

#### **8:00PM Service**

Join us for a choral Eucharist at 8:00 PM, with instrumental music beginning at 8:30.

(To volunteer to offer instrumental music for the prelude, email Mark Bilyeu: [bilyeu@sprchicago.org](mailto:bilyeu@sprchicago.org)).

### **Christmas Day Worship: Sunday, December 25, 10:00 AM**

On Christmas Day, we will have one service of Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM, with celebratory Christmas music.

### **Sunday, December 31, 8:00 & 10:00 AM**

We will celebrate the first Sunday after Christmas with our usual two services of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 AM.



# Notes



# Notes



# Notes

## Serving Today

**December 3, 2023 | 10:00 AM**

Presider: The Rev. KJ Oh

Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy

Deacon: The Rev. Jack Seymour

Proper Deacon: The Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

Music Leaders: Mark Bilyeu, Megn Cather

Children's Chapel Leader: Lindsey Strieter

Lectors: Fran Spaltro, Mike Agina

Intercessor: Tom Irving

Chalice Ministers: Gabriel Lear, John Omoworare,  
John Adewoye

Ushers: Chinyere Agina, Mike Agina

Linen Washer: Pat Swanson

Vestry Greeter: Anne Harlan

Communion Bread Baker: Alicia Chipman

## Staff

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy, *Rector*

The Rev. Barnabas E. Pusnur, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Jack Seymour, *Deacon*

Mark Bilyeu, *Director of Music*

Megan Cather, *Children's Music Assistant*

Lindsey Strieter, *Director of Children's Formation*

The Rev. Roger Ferlo, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. KJ Oh, *Priest Associate*

Savannah Hegyi, Wesley Krist, Ian Murrell, &

Ariana Strahl, *Staff Singers*

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

Tony George, *Interim Sexton*

## Vestry

Twila Jones, *Warden*

Baiju Markose, *Clerk*

Nicholas Bellomy

Jason Evans

Anne Harlan

Rebecca Luttrell

Celia Paris

Frances Spaltro, *Warden*

Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*

Joshua Daniel

Jonathan Foiles

Vicky Legge

Andrew Rostan

## Get Involved at SPR

Learn more about our ministries inside and outside the church walls at [sprchicago.org](http://sprchicago.org), or contact a ministry leader to get started!

### Connection (Education & Fellowship)

Children's Formation (grades PK-5) | Lindsey Strieter  
([lstriete@gmail.com](mailto:lstriete@gmail.com))

Youth Formation (grades 6-12) | Jen Jackson  
([jenniferjeanjackson@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferjeanjackson@gmail.com))

Adult Formation | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur  
([pusnur@sprchicago.org](mailto:pusnur@sprchicago.org))

Thursday Bible Study | Anna Mary Wallace  
([amawallace29@gmail.com](mailto:amawallace29@gmail.com))

Women's Retreat | Toni Daniels  
([antoinettedaniels421@gmail.com](mailto:antoinettedaniels421@gmail.com))

Coffee Hour Fellowship | Cynthia Bagrowski  
([cbagrowski@gmail.com](mailto:cbagrowski@gmail.com))

Life Groups | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur ([pusnur@sprchicago.org](mailto:pusnur@sprchicago.org))

### Creation (Music, Arts & Worship)

St. Nicholas Choir (grades PK-2) | Megan Cather  
([cather@sprchicago.org](mailto:cather@sprchicago.org))

Choristers (grades 3-8) | Mark Bilyeu ([bilyeu@sprchicago.org](mailto:bilyeu@sprchicago.org))

Adult Choir | Mark Bilyeu ([bilyeu@sprchicago.org](mailto:bilyeu@sprchicago.org))

Arts Committee | Carolyn Pereira ([pereira1700@yahoo.com](mailto:pereira1700@yahoo.com))

Worship Ministries | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur  
([pusnur@sprchicago.org](mailto:pusnur@sprchicago.org))

### Community (Service & Outreach)

Food Pantry | Rev. Catherine Healy ([healy@sprchicago.org](mailto:healy@sprchicago.org))

Open Kitchen | Fran Spaltro ([pambasilea@gmail.com](mailto:pambasilea@gmail.com))

Food Garden | Mel Parks ([mellemel83@yahoo.com](mailto:mellemel83@yahoo.com))

Anti-Racism Working Group | Sara Bigger  
([sarafaganbigger@gmail.com](mailto:sarafaganbigger@gmail.com))

Faith in Action Team | Brianna Kuramitsu  
([brianna.kuramitsu@gmail.com](mailto:brianna.kuramitsu@gmail.com))

Migrant/Refugee Ministry | Bob Bator ([rbator@gmail.com](mailto:rbator@gmail.com)) &  
Jason Evans ([jasoncoryevans@gmail.com](mailto:jasoncoryevans@gmail.com))

Haiti Partnership | Gail Williams ([gwilli8787@gmail.com](mailto:gwilli8787@gmail.com))

Shoemith School Partnership | Carolyn Pereira  
([pereira1700@yahoo.com](mailto:pereira1700@yahoo.com))



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