

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

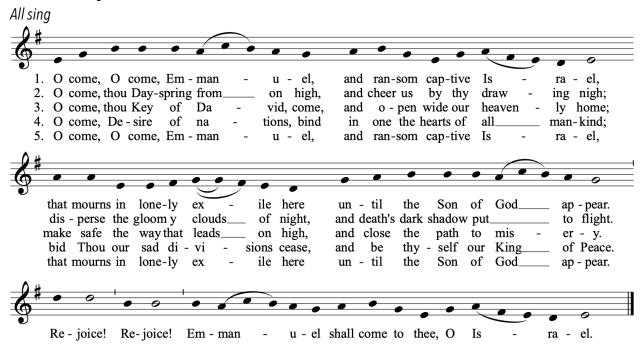
CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER DECEMBER 24, 2023 | 10:00 AM

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Veni, Emmanuel
Philip Moore (b. 1943).

Entrance Hymn



The Hymnal 1982 #56 "O come, O come, Emmanuel" Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

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

Welcome and Collect of the Day

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

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

God be with you.

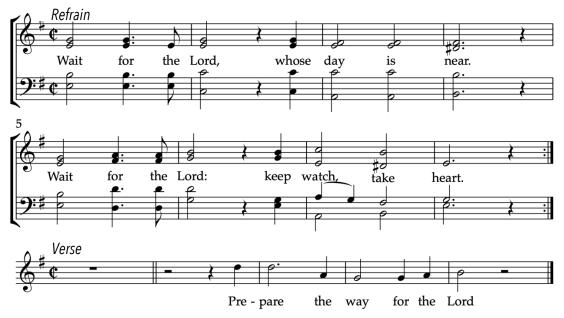
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Please be seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

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



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

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

The Lessons

First Reading

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I

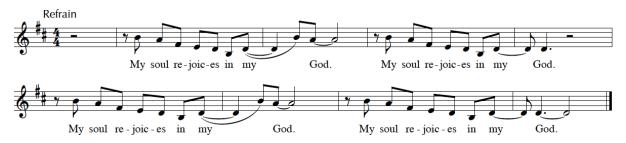
appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary, Magnificat

Staff intones refrain, congregation joins on the repeat, and all refrains following.



My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

He looks on his servant and her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **Refrain.**

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **Refrain.**

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel his servant, remembering his mercy. **Refrain.**

Text: Canticle 15: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*; verses, *The Grail*. Music: Norah Duncan IV (1952).

Second Reading

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith– to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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.

Luke 1:26-38

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Today's Preacher: The Rev. Barnabas Pusnur, Associate 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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we may serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Give your blessing to **Sankar** Muthu (12/26), **Leslie** Pilot-Gatton (12/29), and **Jerome** Scott (12/29) as they begin another year, and to **Bob & Sheila** Bator (12/26) and **Linda & Ron** Thisted (12/30) as they celebrate their anniversaries. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially in places of armed conflict. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort all who are isolated or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery, especially **Pamela** Anderson, **Helen** Johnson, **Brenda** Kilpatrick, **Jennifer** Penn, **John** Bellomy (father of Nick Bellomy), **Cindy** Askins (mother of Jonathan Foiles), **Becky** Newman (sister of Mary Naftzger), **Ann** Rigney (friend of Mary Naftzger), **Rosalyn** Hill (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), and all those on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise, remembering especially **John** Gaynor (father of Michael Gaynor, 12/19/2023), **Jewel** Starnes (mother of Pamela Anderson, 12/26/21), **Dana** Stewart (parishioner, 12/26), **Jack**

Schultz (grandfather of Maureen Jesuthasan, 12/28) and, **Alice** Karl (parishioner, 12/28, and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

I invite you to offer your own intercessions and thanksgivings, ending each with "Lord, in your mercy."

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Adapted from Sundays & Seasons: Prayers of Intercession for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Prayer List: Pamela Anderson, 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), Becky Newman (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 staff singers Ariana Strahl, Savannah Hegyi, Wesley Krist, & Ian Murrell.

Hannah

My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in the Lord. My mouth derides my enemies; I rejoice in God's salvation.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

There is none holy like the Lord; there is no rock like our God. Let not your mouth be arrogant, for the Lord is a God of all knowledge.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble put on strength.

Those who were full are hungry, and those who were hungry are filled.

The Lord kills and brings to life;
God brings low and also exalts.
God lifts up the poor from the dust
to sit with rulers and inherit a seat of honor.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

God will guard the faithful flock, and human might shall not prevail. The Lord will judge the earth; and will exalt the pow'r of God's anointed.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

Hannah: Alleluia!

Mary

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior, who looks upon a lowly handmaid with favor. All generations shall call me blessed.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

For God who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is God's name.

And God's mercy is giv'n to God's people from generation to generation.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

Strong is the arm of the Lord, who has scattered the proud in their hearts; God has put down the mighty

God has put down the mighty and lifted those of low degree.

Strong in the arm of the Lord,

who has scattered the proud in their hearts.

God has filled the hungry,

and the rich have been sent empty away.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

For the Lord has helped the servant Israel, in remembrance of God's love and mercy.

My heart o'er-flows, Alleluia!

Mary: Alleluia!

"A New Magnificat"

Amen.

Words: The Song of Hannah, 1 Samuel 2; The Song of Mary, Luke 1; adapt. Carolyn Jennings (b. 1936). Music: Carolyn Jennings.

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.

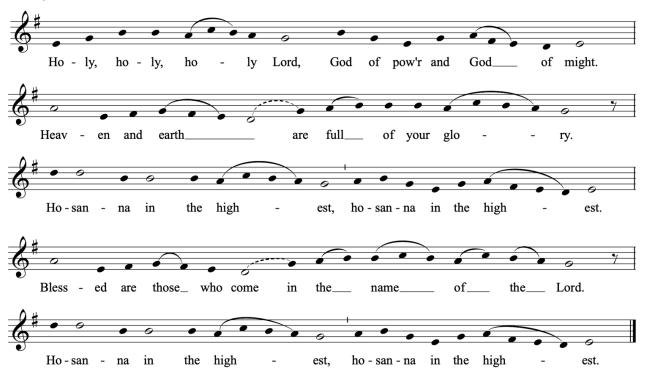
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.



Text Source: Revised Order of Mass 2010.

Music: Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx, French Franciscan chant, 15th c.

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.

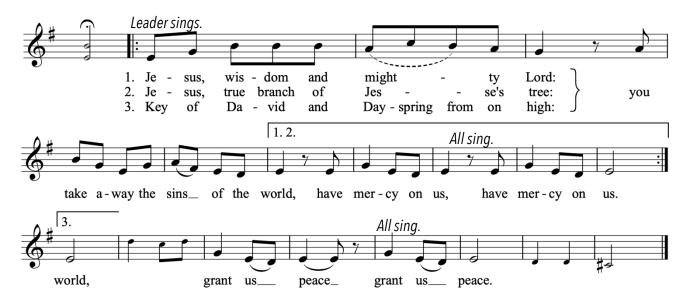
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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.



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.

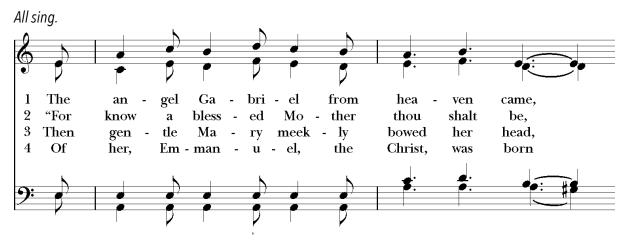
No matter whether or how you choose to receive the Eucharist, may this time in the service be one of contemplation and prayer, enabling you to draw nearer to the quiet presence of God.

Communion music begins on following page.



Evangelical Lutheran Worship #285 "Unexpected and mysterious" Words: Jeannette M. Lindholm (b. 1961).

Music: St. Helena, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984).





The Hymnal 1982 #265 "The Angel Gabriel"

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924).

Music: Gabriel's Message, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943).

Sending Forth

Please stand as able.

Let us pray.

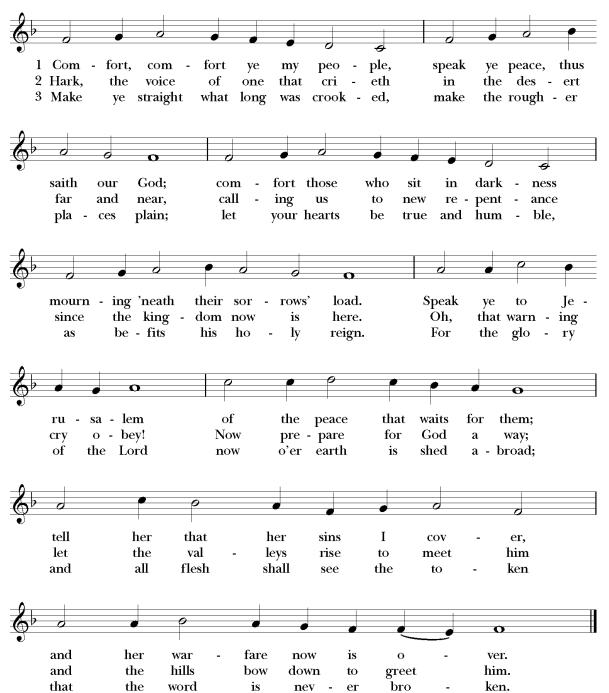
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and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





Hymnal 1982 #67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

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

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

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the Nations, Come)

J.S. Bach (b. 1685-1750), arr. Ferruccio Busoni (1866-1924).



Christmas and Epiphany at SPR

Christmas Eve Worship: Sunday, December 24, 5:00 & 8:00 PM

5:00 PM Service

Join us for a family service at 5:00 PM, where our youngest members will re-tell the Christmas story. If you'd like to join the Christmas Eve Pop-Up Choir, meet in the Parish Hall at 3:45PM.

8:00 PM Service

Join us for a choral Eucharist at 8:00 PM, with instrumental music beginning at 7:30.

Christmas Day Worship: Monday, December 25, 10:00 AM

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

New Year's Eve Worship: 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.

Exhibition: Crèches from Around the World

Throughout Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, SPR is hosting a global crèche exhibit in the Byllesby Room. Visit the exhibit through **Sunday**, **January 7**.

KidZone/Nursery Unstaffed on December 24 & 31

The KidZone will be unstaffed on Sundays, December 24 & 31. Adults are welcome to visit the nursery space with their children, and children are welcome in the sanctuary for worship.

Children & Youth on Break: December 24 & 31

There will be no children's chapel (during the 10:00 AM service) or children's/youth formation (after the service) on December 24 & 31. All children's & youth ministries will resume on January 7.

Vestry Nominations

SPR's vestry is the lay governing board of the church, which manages our resources and shapes our mission. In 2024, we will elect 3 new members. To nominate yourself or another SPR member for the vestry slate, contact the Rev. Catherine Healy (healy@sprchicago.org).

Serving Today

December 24, 2023 | 10:00 AM

Presider: The Rev. Catherine Healy Preacher: The Rev. Barnabas Pusnur Deacon: The Rev. Jack Seymour Music Leader: Mark Bilyeu

Children's Chapel Leader: Lindsey Strieter

Advent Candle Lighters: The Hoover-Daniel Family

Lectors: John Adewoye, Sandy Mulholland

Intercessor: Anna Mary Wallace

Chalice Ministers: John Adewoye, John Omoworare,

Fran Spaltro

Ushers: Elder Chipman, Alicia Chipman

Linen Washer: Pat Swanson Vestry Greeter: Joshua Greeter

Communion Bread Baker: Jason Cather

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*Frances Spaltro, *Warden*Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*

Nicholas Bellomy Joshua Daniel
Jason Evans Jonathan Foiles
Anne Harlan Vicky Legge
Rebecca Luttrell Andrew Rostan

Celia Paris

Get Involved at SPR

Learn more about our ministries inside and outside the church walls at sprchicago.org, or contact a ministry leader to get started!

Connection (Education & Fellowship)

Children's Formation (grades PK-5) | Lindsey Strieter

(lstriete@gmail.com)

Youth Formation (grades 6-12) | Jen Jackson

(jenniferjeanjackson@gmail.com)

Adult Formation | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

(pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Thursday Bible Study | Anna Mary Wallace

(amawallace29@gmail.com)
Women's Retreat | Toni Daniels
(antoinettedaniels421@gmail.com)

Coffee Hour Fellowship | Cynthia Bagrowski

(cbagrowski@gmail.com)

Life Groups | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Creation (Music, Arts & Worship)

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

Choristers (grades 3-8) | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Adult Choir | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Arts Committee | Carolyn Pereira (pereira1700@yahoo.com)

Worship Ministries | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Community (Service & Outreach)

Food Pantry | Rev. Catherine Healy (healy@sprchicago.org)
Open Kitchen | Fran Spaltro (pambasilea@gmail.com)

Food Garden | Mel Parks (mellemel83@yahoo.com)

Anti-Racism Working Group | Sara Bigger

(sarafaganbigger@gmail.com)

Faith in Action Team | Brianna Kuramitsu

(brianna.kuramitsu@gmail.com)

Migrant/Refugee Ministry | Bob Bator (rbator@gmail.com) &

Jason Evans (jasoncoryevans@gmail.com)

Haiti Partnership | Gail Williams (gwilli8787@gmail.com)

Shoesmith School Partnership | Carolyn Pereira

(pereira1700@yahoo.com

