

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church



The 2nd Sunday in Advent ~ Dec. 9, 2018

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<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Sunday Worship: 10:00AM

Office Hours: 8:15am until 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

Serving Montrose and surrounding communities  
With God's Love through Jesus Christ  
Since 1831



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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

**The Canticle: Please respond by the half verse to our reading of Canticle 4, found on page 50 in your prayer book.**

*Reader:* Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

***People:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen!**

**The Epistle Lesson:**

**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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

## The Gospel

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

***People:*      Glory to you Lord Christ**

### **Luke 3:1-6**

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.'"

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:*      Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

The Prayers of the People

As we prepare the way of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God who will lead us with joy as we wait for the day of Jesus Christ, saying, *Come, O Holy One, and save us.*

For the Church: especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Kevin our bishop, that we may be a voice crying out in the wilderness to prepare a way for the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on the people of St. Paul's as we anticipate and prepare for the person you will raise up for us to be the next rector of our parish. May we receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For this Parish Family, that Christ may bring to completion the good work begun in us, so that all may see the salvation of our God, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For the gift of hope, that we may long for the fulfillment of God's saving work that will defeat evil, end hostilities, and restore unity to the human family; let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For all who live daily in the shadow of war and violence, that they may find courage in the Gospel message and strength to continue to love, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For all refugees and the oppressed, children and orphans, and for the sick and the homebound, remembering especially Margaret, Brad, Kathy, Joe, Esther, Charlotte, Alice, Jean, Charlotte, Esther, Jeanette, Jeanne, Bart, Steve, Kristina, Richard .....; that God will smooth the pathways of their lives, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For all those suffering from addictions, that they may desire a clean and sober life, and find the resources for their bodies, minds and spirits that will allow them to do so; for all those who love someone who is addicted, that comfort and support be provided in their journeys; for all in the healing community assisting recovery, that the Holy Spirit will refresh and strengthen them; for ourselves, that we share the power of God's healing and transforming love with all touched by this addictions epidemic; for St. Paul's that a spirit of unity

in witness and action will be among us. Merciful God, accept the fervent prayers of your people, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

For those who have died, remembering especially.....that they may be found pure and blameless in the day of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

***Come, O Holy One, and save us.***

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, John the Baptist and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

***To you, O Lord our God.***

*Celebrant: O Rising Sun, brightness of light eternal, Son of righteousness, hear our prayers and make straight your path in our hearts that we may celebrate with devoted faith the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for evermore. AMEN.*

Confession and Absolution  
The Peace

BCP page 360

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *Advent Meditation*, by David Williams

Choir

The Doxology: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

Hymn 380, v3

Eucharistic Prayer D

BCP page 372

The Sanctus

S125

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

S155

The Communion

*Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table to receive the Sacrament or a Blessing.*

*Please cross your arms over your chest if you wish to receive a Blessing.*

The Hymn during Communion *Comfort, comfort ye my people* Hymn 67

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page 365

The Blessing

The Parting Hymn

*Love divine, all loves excelling*

Hymn 657

The Dismissal

The Postlude

**Altar Flowers today are from John Wagner In Honor of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his December 10, 1988 Ordination to the Priesthood.**

**Our Ministers Today:**

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. John Wagner

Organist & Choir Director: Catherine Hammons

Altar Guild: Barb Undercoffler, Carol Lasher & Carol Marker

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Al Leigh & Andrew Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski or Sean Eckert

Counters: Karen Blye-McAbee & Jane Chandler

Chalice Bearer: Lynne Graham

Lector: Lynne Graham

Intercessor: Esther Welden

Greeter/Usher: John Finlon & Barbara Undercoffler

Hospitality: Maggie & Jerry Sock

**Vestry:**

Lynne Graham, Sr. Warden [lbgraham52@gmail.com](mailto:lbgraham52@gmail.com)

Vickie Calby, Jr. Warden [calby53@gmail.com](mailto:calby53@gmail.com)

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Thomas Undercoffler [tunderco@frontiernet.net](mailto:tunderco@frontiernet.net)



### **Christmas Flowers**

The cost of Poinsettias will remain the same as 2017 at 20.00 per flower. Please remit your check to the office as soon as possible or place in offering plate on Sundays. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. You may designate in memory of or in honor of someone if your wish. I must receive envelopes by **Dec. 23**. Thank you.

### **STUDIES FOR ADVENT 2018**

My plan is to meet in the Guild Room during the Sunday coffee hour. I plan on beginning about 11:30 and ending by not later than 12:30.

Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – The birth in Bethlehem of Judea

Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Conclusion of the birth in Bethlehem of Judea.

Now, please, if your plans permit you to attend only one or two sessions, then, by all means, do so. If your plans require you to depart by noon, go in peace! Neither your dropping in and out, nor your early departure, will be seen as rude. As always, if you have any questions, please do ask. Fr. John

**"Memory Luncheon" for the recovery community today at 12:30 p.m.**