

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Christmas Eve  
Wednesday December 24, 2025  
4:00PM

276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801  
570-278-2954  
Office Hours: 9:00am until 3:00pm Monday - Thursday

[stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto:stpaulsmontrose@epix.net)  
<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

***Our Mission Statement***  
*Embracing all in Christ through our love and service.*

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Introit	<i>Once in Royal David's City Angels we have heard on high</i>	Hymn 102 v. 1-3, 5 Hymn 96
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Gathering Hymn	<i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>	Hymn 83, v. 1-5
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Blessing of the Crèche

V. The glory of the lord has been revealed:

**R. And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.**

Most merciful and loving God, you have made this day holy by the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, and by the child-bearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant that we your people may enter with joy into the celebration of this day, and may also rejoice for ever as your adopted sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

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

***People:* And blessed be His Kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Gloria	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	Hymn 93
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## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **The First Lesson from the Hebrew Testament: Isaiah 52:7-10**

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

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

## **The Response: Psalm 98**

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.

**2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.**

- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.**

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen!

### **The Epistle: Hebrews Testament 1:1-6**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you"  
Or again,

"I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son"

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

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

The Gradual Hymn

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

Hymn 87

The Gospel: John 1:1-14

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

The Rev. Susan Treanor

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**

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

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Intercessor* As we join the angels and shepherds and celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who shines the light of Christ on all creation, saying: *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

For the Church in all places, remembering especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, Kevin our bishop, Audrey bishop of Central Pennsylvania, and Susan our Priest, that our worship and praise may give glory to God, and our witness and ministry promote peace on earth. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For this Parish Family, and those of Christ Church and St Marks, that by the grace of Christ's coming among us we may live upright and godly lives, and bear witness to God's love. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For all who live in Bethlehem and the hill country of Judah, for Christians, Jews and Muslims everywhere, that God's spirit will open new pathways of peace and bring forth new hope to all who live in danger and fear. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For those who live and work in places of trouble and violence, especially for the people of Israel, Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine and Haiti, that the Prince of Peace will guide all hearts to strive for peace and justice. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For all who find Christmas difficult, for those whose lives are touched by fear, anxiety or depression, and for the sick and the suffering, remembering especially, ..... that Christ will bring healing and light to their hearts. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For all of those who have asked for our prayers, remembering especially, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Richard Marker, Carol Lasher, Elaine Petrzala, Tom Undercoffler, Janice Gavern, Wanda Peirce, Ellen Ely, John Reynolds, Vera Dunn, Esther Welden, that Christ will bring healing and light to their hearts. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For all the blessings God has given us, that we may receive them thankfully and rejoice that Christ is born again in our hearts and lives. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For those who have died, remembering especially all those in whose memory the Christmas flowers and decorations are given, that they may rejoice in the light of God's incarnate Word. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

*Celebrant* Source of light and gladness, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. May the Rising Sun of Christ spread across the world and brighten all humanity. Glory to you forever and ever. ***Amen.***

Confession and Absolution

BCP page 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*The Officiant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page [376](#), or with some other sentence of Scripture.*

The Offertory

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come* Hymn 100



The Doxology: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* Hymn 380, v. 3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP page 367

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

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

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

S124

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven,***

***hallowed be thy Name,***

***thy kingdom come,***

***thy will be done,***

***on earth as it is in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread.***

***And forgive us our trespasses,***

***as we forgive those who trespass against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,***

***but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

The Communion

*Communion: Bread will be distributed into your open palms.  
Wine or grape juice is available in two chalices.  
No intinction: No host dipping into the chalices.  
For a said Blessing, cross your arms across your chest.*

Communion Meditation Hymn     *Silent Night, Holy Night*     Hymn 111

The Post Communion Prayer

**God of light and peace,  
in the birth of your Son we see your glory.  
May we who have received the gift of divine life  
always follow the way of your Son.  
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

The Recessional Hymn     *Go tell it on the mountain*     Hymn 99 v. 1-3

The Dismissal

The Postlude

## Our Ministers Today:

Presider: The Rev. Susan Treanor

Organist: Scott Zimmerman

Flutists: Nancy Houck, Sylinda Alfred and Rachel Stahl

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger & Mary Zalewski

Announcements: John Warriner

Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski

Lector: Vickie Calby

Hospitality:



## Vestry

John Warriner, Senior Warden

Lynne Graham, Junior Warden

John Finlon, Treasurer

Wanda Peirce, Clerk

Dan Graham

Vera Dunn

Sandy Seeger

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Acclamation, collects, psalm, Eucharistic Prayer A, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing taken from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain. Prayers of the People by the Rev. Canon Cliff Carr.

Hymnal 1982: O' come all ye faithful, Away in a manger, O' little town of Bethlehem, Silent night, holy night, Joy to the world! the lord is come, Copyright information on sheet music. Service music (text only) – *Gloria*-S280 Setting: Robert Powell, *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* Hymn 380, v. 3 -Old 100<sup>th</sup>, melody from *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510? - 1561?), *Sanctus* -S124 Setting from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), *Agnus Dei* -S161 Setting from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950) Reprinted/ Podcast/

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