

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
127 YORK STREET, HANOVER, PA



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 5, 2025

Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor
pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com

Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus
Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries
Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells
Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music
Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's
Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family
Church Office: 717-637-5941
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WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- Generously** stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- Serving** as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- Providing** for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- Growing in Faith** through worship, study, and discernment
- Praising** God through music, word, and service
- Welcoming** all people into fellowship with God

Important Worship Notes

All liturgies are printed within this bulletin.

Children's activity bags and children's bulletins are located on the podium in the hallway on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Children's activity bags are also located on the coat rack behind the door of the choir loft side of the sanctuary.

P: Pastor

C: Congregation

L: Lay Reader

A: Assisting Minister

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

**+ 2nd Sunday of Christmas +
January 5, 2025**

INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4

GREETING

- P** The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
C **O come let us adore him.**
P May the light and peace of Christ be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

2. Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain

3. *Come to Bethlelehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

L The First Reading according to Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the

oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, Says the Lord.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:12-20

(read responsively)

A ¹² Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷ **God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹ **God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

A Holy wisdom, Holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

L The Second Reading according to Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his

will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" Verses 1 & 2

ELW 286



1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and
2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and
4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with



come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry
kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,
to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to
all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our



*GOSPEL

John 1:10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

P The Holy Gospel according to John 1:10-18

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

THE PRAYERS

A Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness. Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the. Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Gracious accompanying God, the One in whom we live and move and have our being, give us a vision of the times of our lives, the new situations in which we live out our faith in Jesus. May we ask anew what it means to be the Church in our time, our place. And as we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we welcome according to your Spirit the one you are sending to us to lead us into the new days ahead. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Use this time to reflect on your financial and spiritual offerings to God.)

There are a number of ways of making your offerings to God during this time. One is to place your offering in our offering plates in front of the pews or to give online at <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give>. If you prefer not to give online, you may of course mail a check to St. Paul's. If you are not able to give monetarily during this time, know that your prayers and praise are a pleasing offering to God. If you are able to give a little more during this tie, please consider doing so as a way of supporting your fellow disciples who are not able to.

OFFERTORY VERSE

“In The Bleak MidWinter” verse 3

3. What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of heaven and earth,

C **from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(tune of “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” at “Holy, holy)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heav’n and earth adored.

O how blest is He who comes In the holy name of God.

Joyful, all you nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;

With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary’s openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen!

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

C **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, forever and ever. Amen.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

All are welcome to commune. If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"What Feast of Love"

ELW 487



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSTALLATION OF NEW COUNCIL

BLESSING

P The God of love, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

C Amen.



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
2 Proph - e - sies in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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* Stand if you are able

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THE RADIO BROADCAST, ALTAR FLOWERS, COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE, WORSHIP BULLETINS and THE ETERNAL FLAME are presented to the glory of God and wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year by Pat McConville.

	<u>January 5, 2025</u>	<u>January 12</u>
Guest Organist	Becky Ellis	
Assisting Minister	Russ Kaltreider	Donna Lehman
Acolyte	Dilynn Long	Jocelyn Fissel
Lay Reader	Jon Shaw	Betty Sheets
Communion Distributors	Gary Martin	Cindy Schmidt
	Nancy Martin	Sally Lovelace
Ushers	Suzanne Butler	Suzanne Butler
	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman
Altar Committee	Ginny Murray	Ginny Murray
	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We know that fellowship is an important part of our faith community; that's why we hold Coffee Hour after church each Sunday. We are looking for volunteers to help keep our Coffee Hour going! There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge for folks to volunteer as coffee makers or to bring snacks. Coffee makers would start the coffee urn around 9 a.m. (coffee training available on request!) Both volunteers would help with set up and clean up. If you have questions, see Russ Kaltreider. Thank you for your help!

STANDING ORDERS FOR SPONSORSHIPS - We want to update our sponsorship calendars which include standing orders from years ago. A standing order is an order that was placed and asked to have it repeat yearly. Since we don't have contact information for everyone who has had a standing order in the past and wanting to have good records, the most prudent solution seems to be that we start fresh.

If you have a standing order, or would like to have a standing order, for Radio, Altar Flowers, Communion Bread and Wine, Worship Bulletins or Eternal Flame we are asking you to call or email us to let us know. If you're not sure if you have any standing orders, just contact us and we can check and let you know. (717-637-5941 or finance@stpaulsyorkst.org)

If we don't hear from you, we will assume that you no longer wish to have that standing order, and it will be deleted.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at finance@stpaulsyorkst.org

Radio—Jan. 12, 19 & 26 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers-Jan. 12, 19 & 26 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine-Jan. 12, 19 & 26 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins-Jan. 12, 19 & 26 (\$20 each date)

Eternal flame- Jan. 12, 19 & 26 (\$10 each date)

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES are available to pick up in the hallway outside of the pulpit entrance. Please feel free to contact Maureen in the church office (717-637-5941 or finance@stpaulsyorkst.org) anytime you have questions about your offerings.

SUN., JAN. 5	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – 2 nd Sunday of Christmas
	10:30 am	Children’s Choir rehearsal – Children’s Music Room Followed by Faith Formation at 10:50 am
Immediately following Worship		Coffee Hour - Lounge Daily Discipleship class – Nursery room (1 st floor)
MON., JAN. 6	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd floor
	7:00 pm	Something’s Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
TUES., JAN. 7	10:30 am	LIU #12 – Fellowship Hall
THUR., JAN. 9	6:00 pm	Bellchoir rehearsal – Balcony of the Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Cub Scouts – 2 nd Floor
	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 102 - Youth Room & Gym
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Loft in the Sanctuary
FRI., JAN. 10	3:00 pm	Grocery Ministry prep – Gym
SAT., JAN. 11	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry – Boy Scout Troop 102
	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship Service)
	6:15 pm	Narcotics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall
SUN., JAN. 12	8:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
	9:30 am	Worship Service – Baptism of Our Lord
	10:30 am	Children’s Choir rehearsal – Children’s Music Room Followed by Faith Formation at 10:50 am
Immediately following Worship		Coffee Hour - Lounge Daily Discipleship class – Nursery room (1 st floor) Youth Choir rehearsal - Choir Loft in the Sanctuary