

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

7843 Park Place Blvd. Houston, TX 77087



THIRD SUNDAY OF

**Advent**

Holy Eucharist Rite I

December 11, 2022

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Rev. Edward Gomez    Choir Director- Kari Zimmerman

Rev. Deacon Alyssa Stebbing    Organist – Phil Scoles

Processional	<b><i>“On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”</i></b>	Hymn 76
Salutation Eucharist Rite I		BCP 323
Kyrie		S-91
Collect of the Day		Insert
First Lesson		Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalms 146:4-9		BCP 803
Second Lesson		James 5:7-10
Sequence (stand)	<b><i>“Rejoice! rejoice, believers”</i></b>	Hymn 68
Holy Gospel		Matthew 11:2-11
Sermon		Rev. Alyssa Stebbing
Nicene Creed		BCP 326
Prayers of the People Rite I		BCP 328
Confession of Sin		BCP 330
The Peace		

## *The Holy Communion*

Offertory	<b><i>“The great forerunner of the morn”</i></b>	Hymn 272
The Doxology		Hymn 380
Eucharist Prayer 1		BCP 333
Sanctus		S-114
The Lord’s Prayer (kneel or sit)		BCP 336
Communion	<b><i>“What is the crying at Jordan?”</i></b>	Hymn 69
<i>All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion in this church. Please maintain devotional silence during the administration of the Elements.</i>		
Post-Communion Prayer		BCP 339
Recessional	<b><i>“Blessed be the God of Israel”</i></b>	Hymn 444

## **The Collect**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **First Reading**

### **Isaiah 35:1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go  
astray.

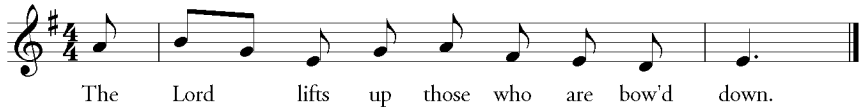
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 146:4-9**



4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!  
\*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in  
them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

## **The Epistle**

### **James 5:7-10**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

## **The Gospel**

### **Matthew 11:2-11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.

What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of the Lord

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

**To those worshipping with us for the first time:**

**Welcome to St. Paul's! We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today and hope that your experience is rewarding. If there is anything we can do for you, feel free to contact us. We would like to get acquainted with you!**

**OPEN DOORS – OPEN HEARTS**

**WE ARE A FAMILY OF LOVE IN CHRIST**

Mission Statement of St Paul's/San Pablo:

Our doors and our hearts are open  
to everyone who seeks to know God.

**In our prayer this week, let us lift up...**

- **The Archbishop of Canterbury** – Justin
- **Our Presiding Bishop** – Michael
- **Our Bishops** – Andy, Kai, Jeff and Hector
- **Our Clergy** – Ed, Alyssa
- **Our Senior Warden** – Mauricio
- **The leaders of our nation** – especially Joseph, the Congress of the United States, the Supreme Court, Greg, Sylvester and all in authority, that by their leadership we may lead a quiet and peaceful life in the service of God and to His honor and glory.
- **Our Church Family** – for those in leadership and for every member of St. Paul's, both present and absent
- **Those who are sick**
- **Those who have died**

**Those who celebrate birthdays and anniversary**

## Today's Servers

<b>L.E.M.</b>	Carl
<b>LECTORS:</b>	Iris, LeeAnn
<b>ACOLYTES:</b>	Rebecca, Michelle
<b>USHERS:</b>	Lamar
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Pam, Linda

### **CLERGY AND STAFF SERVING ST. PAUL'S**

Vicar	Rev. Ed Gomez
Curate	Rev. Alyssa Stebbing
Organist	Phil Scoles
Choir Director	Kari Zimmerman
Music	Jorge Rodriguez
Senior Warden	Mauricio Umana
Office Admin. Assistant	Blanca Izquierdo

### **Find us on the web!**

- Webpage:  
[www.stpaulsanpablo.org](http://www.stpaulsanpablo.org)
- Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalhouston](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalhouston)
- Instagram:  
[www.instagram.com/stpaulsanpablo/](http://www.instagram.com/stpaulsanpablo/)

### **You can also contact us by phone:**

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-2:00 PM (713) 645-5031

### **Worshipping Hours:**

Wednesday Holy Eucharist (Spanish): 7:00 PM

Sunday Holy Eucharist (English): 9:30 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist (Spanish): 12:00 M