



Advent 1

November 30, 2025

WELCOME! We are blessed to worship with you today!
If you are visiting, we are delighted that you're here. If you have any questions, please ask anyone near you. To find out everything going on at St. Paul's, visit www.stpaulsokc.com.

SERVING TODAY:

Reader:	Paula Schopflin
Ushers:	Brandon Carey, Bill Bandi, Blake Behrens, Diane Dewing & Ron Maxfield
Children's Message:	Tom Todd
Altar Guild:	Kathy Knox
Communion Assistant:	Carolyn & Romi Behrens, Susi Laflin, Tom Todd, Ann Lawton, Paula Schopflin & Linda Allison
Video assistant:	Steve Powell
Acolyte & Crucifer:	Madelynn Laubus & Kale Foote

PRELUDE:

Ron Wallace

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: **Ann & Tracy Caine**

(Please see the insert in the back of your pew, we will begin with congregational responses and end with the song.)

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Pause for silent reflection)*
Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved and in the name of Christ your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN:

#244 ***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers***

vs 1, 2 & 4

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bride-groom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bride-groom near;
Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bride-groom is at hand.

Our hope is expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Kyrie 1 & 2

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



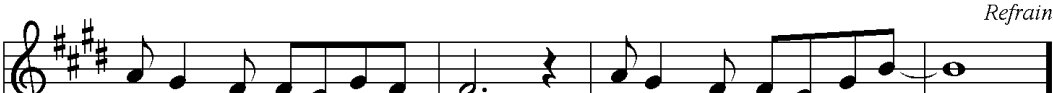
1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

2 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 122

¹I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

²Now our feet are standing

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³Jerusalem is built as a city

that is at unity with itself;

⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,

the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,

the thrones of the house of David.

⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

⁷Peace be within your walls

and quietness within your towers.

⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions,

I pray for your prosperity.

⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God,

I will seek to do you good."

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life,

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tom Todd

SPECIAL MUSIC:

There is No Rose of Such Virtue

Hayley Thompson

MESSAGE

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

HYMN

#260

The King Shall Come

vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see his face.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: come quickly, King of kings.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Prayers were written by parishioners at our 2024 Wednesday Night Advent Services.)

The One who endures, whose love is never-ending, soften our hearts and give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Your truth shines brighter than the sun, and your mystery is deep as the deepest ocean.

O Come Immanuel, God with us.

O Root of Jesse, David's son, giver of our salvation, come Jesus come. Fill our hearts with the light of hope and wipe away the darkness. Praise to the Father, who gave his only Son to save us from our sins.

O Come Immanuel, God with us.

Almighty God, who cares for all, please heal those who are sick and need answers to challenges. Glory and honor to you.

O Come Immanuel, God with us.

Most gracious heavenly Father, who knows our every need, we ask you to be with those who feel alone, the widows, those separated from family by distance or broken relationships. Let your light shine through each of us so that they may feel your presence and love for them in a real way. Glory to you Holy Father.

O Come Immanuel, God with us. Amen.

Please note there is no offertory during service, our offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary, or scan to QR code to give online.



COMMUNION

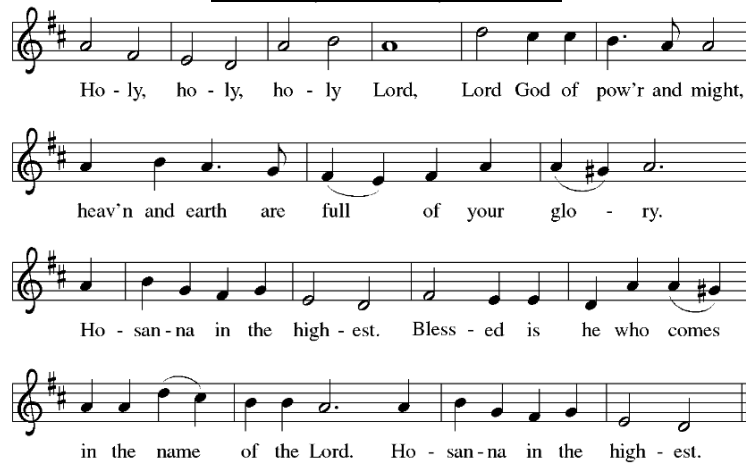
The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

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 him thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he died for us, 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 all of 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, according to his command, O Father:

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

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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, forever and ever. AMEN

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS *Please note, there are gluten free wafers available if you need them. The cups in the center of the trays are juice, and the outer rings are wine.*

Let us pray. ***Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

May the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Ron Wallace

SENDING

Go in Peace. Remember the poor. ***Thanks be to God.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING TUESDAY

The SPLC Endowment Committee would like you to remember the Endowment Fund in your year-end financial planning. Make checks payable to SPLC with Endowment Fund in the notes.

ADVENT

Advent begins November 30th. Our Wednesday night advent services will begin December 3. This year we will be celebrating "Advent Around the World". Each week we will explore the customs of Norway, Mexico and India. We will begin with a traditional holiday meal from the country of the week at 5:45. Followed by our Advent service at 6:30, then an all-church activity at 7. Choir will rehearse from 7-8pm.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Help decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve and support Blackwelder Brass by purchasing a poinsettia. Order forms are available in the narthex. Please include "poinsettias" on the memo line and indicate if you will be taking your plant home. Questions: contact Nancy Krause.

FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry is open! We ask for help keeping it stocked. Please bring non-expired, nonperishable food items to the church. Feel free to place your items in the pantry cabinet (set on the north side of the main entrance) or leave items in the cart in the narthex. If you are looking for suggestions for items to bring, there are lists on the information table in the narthex. Questions- contact Alana Adair.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

We are looking for people/families to prepare meals on Wednesday nights for next semester! Please contact Abby Davis if you are interested in cooking a meal (or a few!).

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

ATTENTION WOMEN - The women's Christmas party will be on December 6 at 1:00 pm. Details to follow.

EXTRA ANNIVERSARY SHIRTS

We have a few extra T-shirts from the 80th anniversary celebration of St. Paul's. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Behrens. Short sleeved t-shirts- size large and XL for \$15. Long sleeve t-shirts- size medium, large and XL for \$18.

MUG WASHERS NEEDED!

If you're looking for an easy way to serve St Paul's, here's the perfect opportunity for a single, couple, or family! Please contact Susi Laflin for more information 405-202-7065.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER

12/2- Twilight Tones

12/3- Wednesday Advent - Norway

5:45 Meal
6:30 Advent Service
7:00 All-church activity & cookie collection
7-8 Choir Rehearsal

12/7- Worship & Education

Youth Christmas caroling

12/8- 9am Canticle Ringers

12/10- Wednesday Advent - Mexico

5:45 Meal
6:30 Advent Service
7:00 All-church activity
7-8 Choir Rehearsal

12/13- Choir Christmas Party & caroling

12/14- Worship & Education

12/17- Wednesday Advent - India

5:45 Meal
6:30 Advent Service
7:00 All-church activity
7-8 Choir Rehearsal

12/21- Worship & Education

Jesus's birthday party

5:00 Blue Christmas Service

12/24- Christmas Eve Services

@ 4 & 7pm

12/25- Merry Christmas!!

12/28- Worship

12/24- 1/5 Office closed