



Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 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.

Today's Altar flowers are in celebration of Ron & Donna Jantz's 60th Anniversary!

SERVING TODAY:

Reader: Paula Schopflin
Ushers: Ron Jantz, Allen Baker, Will Koski, Mark Mitchell, Bob Pirog & Corey Grubb
Children's Message: Jill Botkin
Altar Guild: Donna Jantz
Communion Assistants: Debi Musick
Video assistant: Rick Ayling
Acolyte & Crucifer: Olivia & Luke Baker

PRELUDE: Ron Wallace

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

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 sin, 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: #647 *Glorious Things of You are Spoken* vs 1, 2 & 4

Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God!
He whose word cannot be broken formed you for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, you may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply your sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, while such a river ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name.
Fading are the world's vain pleasures, all their boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.

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

This is the Feast

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

3 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. **2** 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 washers' soap; **3** 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. **4** Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 84

1 How dear to me is your dwelling,

O LORD of hosts!

2 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

3 Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,

by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

4 Happy are they who dwell in your house!

They will always be praising you.

5 Happy are the people whose strength is in you,

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

6 Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁷They will climb from height to height,
and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob.

⁹Behold our defender, O God;
and look upon the face of your anointed.

¹⁰For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
**I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

¹¹For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory;
no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹²O LORD of hosts,
happy are they who put their trust in you!

SECOND READING Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia!

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord**

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Jill Botkin

SPECIAL MUSIC

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

Madelynn & Laura Labus

MESSAGE

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;
and, although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless;
guide us by your hand to the promised land.

If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
let no faithless fears o'ertake us, let not faith and hope forsake us;
safely past the foe to our home we go.

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;
heav'nly leader, still direct us, still support, console, protect us,
till we safely stand in the promised land.

THE 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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy." (Brief silence.) For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, and all who live and work in this community, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation for those who are present here or online or and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

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.**

Please note there is no offertory during service, our offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary, or you can give online using the link on our website, www.stpaulsokc.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Exciting times are ahead! This year, we are celebrating the 80th anniversary of our church, and we want to make it a memorable occasion for everyone. To do that, we need your help! We are forming a special committee to plan and coordinate the festivities. Whether you love organizing events, decorating, creating memorable programs, or simply lending a helping hand, there's a place for you on this team. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor our church's legacy, serve alongside fellow members, and create an event that brings glory to God and joy to our congregation. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Joyce Martin at jcmartin515@yahoo.com/ 405-623-5499 or Pastor Stefanie at pastorstefanie@stpaulsokc.com. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

2025 VALENTINES DINNER AND DANCE- "WHERE YOUR HEART IS"

Save the date! Saturday 2/8/25! This event is open to EVERYONE! Please invite your friends /families/co-workers, all money raised will go toward the summer mission trips! (We will also accept Wine Bottles or Gift cards/ sponsors for tables, if you'd like to help in another way). \$40/per ticket, or \$300 for table of 8 (a savings of \$20). Guests will be served a 3-4 course dinner starting @5pm. There is a DJ for entertainment and dancing, and an amazing menu by Chef Jim Labus. Please choose between Chicken Vesuvios and Meatloaf, as well as choice of Sunshine cake or German Chocolate Pie. Event questions? Contact Laura Labus 405-255-3980 or lauralabus@gmail.com

MEMORIAL/FUNERAL SERVICE PLANNERS

These are for any adult who wishes a guide in planning your service as a final gift to your family. Booklets will be on the Visitor's Stand in the narthex. See Carolyn Behrens if you have any questions.

HOT DOG VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help with our hot dog ministry on Wednesday afternoons. You can sign up on the SPLC website under the "Sign up" link. If you have any questions, please contact Misty Veit.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL COORDINATOR

We are looking for a point person to coordinate & schedule meals on Wednesday night. This does not involve cooking unless you want to! You can find a sign up link on the SPLC website. If we cannot find volunteers, we will have to cancel meals. If you have any questions, please reach out to Risa Powell.

WOW AUCTION

It's Groundhog Day and we're not worried about the weather – we're thinking about the WOW Auction on February 23! Sign up to help at the table in the Narthex or use the QR code to digitally sign up on the Sign-Up Genius. Auction items, soups/etc., and your help preparing and taking down are needed.



FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

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| 2/2- Worship & Education | 2/16- Worship & Education |
| 2/3- 9 am- Canticle Ringers | 2 pm Carole Lothes Memorial Service |
| 2/4- 6 pm- Twilight Tones | 2/17- 9 am- Canticle Ringers |
| 2/5- Wednesday Night Activities | 2/18- 6 pm- Twilight Tones |
| 5:30 Children's Handbells | 2/19- Wednesday Night Activities |
| 5:45 Meal | 5:30 Children's Handbells |
| 6:30 Education & Adult Choir | 5:45 Meal |
| 2/8- Valentine's Dinner & Dance | 6:30 Education & Adult Choir |
| 2/9- Worship & Education | 2/20- XYZ |
| 2/10- 9 am- Canticle Ringers | 2/23- Worship – Blackwelder Brass |
| 2/11- 6 pm- Twilight Tones | <i>WOW Auction</i> |
| 2/12- Wednesday Night Activities | 2/24- 9 am- Canticle Ringers |
| 5:30 Children's Handbells | 2/25- 6 pm- Twilight Tones |
| 5:45 Meal | 2/26- Wednesday Night Activities |
| 6:30 Education & Adult Choir | 5:30 Children's Handbells |
| | 5:45 Meal |
| | 6:30 Education & Adult Choir |