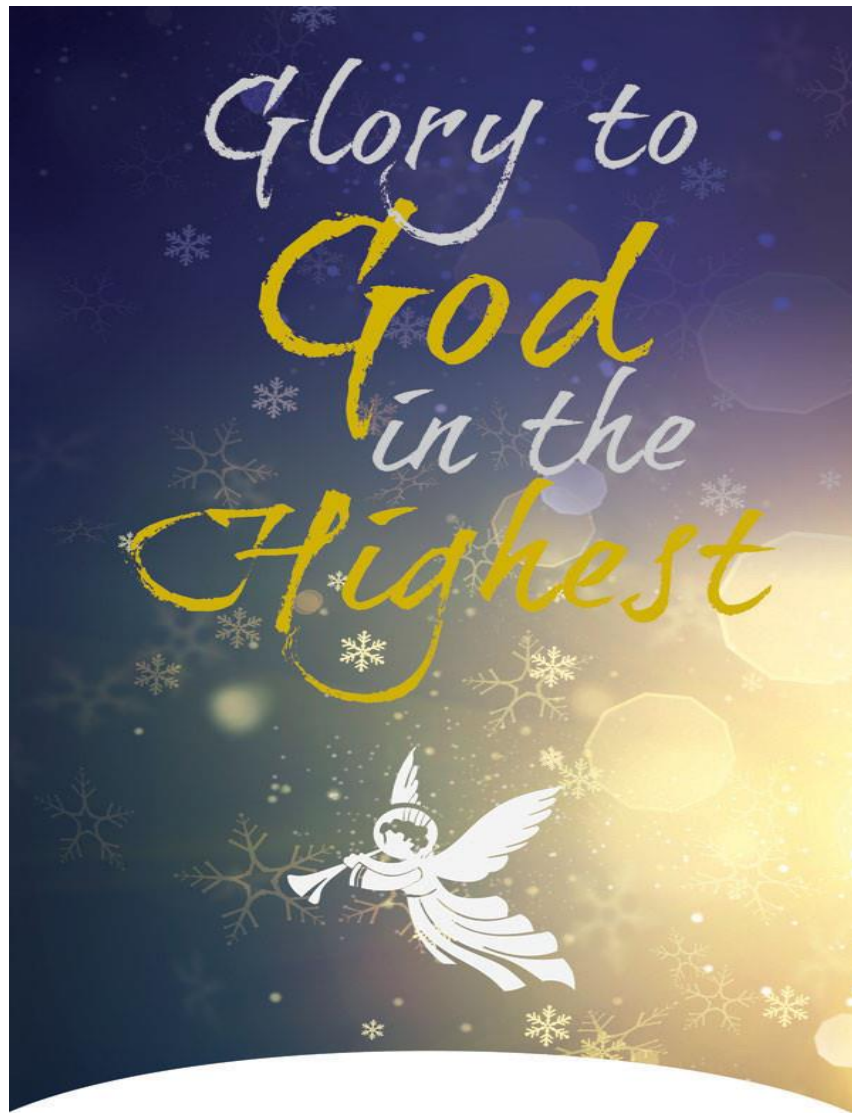


**St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Canton, Ohio**



**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

**Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Christmas Day**

**Morning Prayer Rite II**

# Welcome to St. Paul's

**Sunday Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.**

## **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

425 Cleveland Ave SW

Canton OH 44702

(330) 455-0286

Website: [www.stpaulscanton.org](http://www.stpaulscanton.org)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton>

e-mail: [stpaulsoffice@att.net](mailto:stpaulsoffice@att.net)



## **Our mission**

St. Paul's is a radically welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, called by God's Love to minister to the world.

## **Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day**

Morning Prayer

### **Readings and Psalm**

**Psalm:** Psalm 97

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 62:6-12

**Second Lesson:** Titus 3:4-7

**Third Lesson:** Luke 2:8-20

**OPENING SENTENCE (BCP p. 75)**

*The Officiant says*

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10, 11*

**CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 79)**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

*The Officiant says*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

**VERSICLE (BCP p. 80)**

*All stand*

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Officiant and People*

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

**ANTIPHON (BCP p. 80)**

Our God and Savior now draws near: O come let us worship.

**INVITATORY (BCP p. 80)**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.  
For you are a great God, \*  
you are great above all gods.  
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are yours also.  
The sea is yours, for you made it, \*  
and your hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For you are our God,  
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. \*  
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

**PSALM: Psalm 97**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is King;  
let the earth rejoice; \*  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.  
<sup>2</sup>Clouds and darkness are round about him, \*  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.  
<sup>3</sup>A fire goes before him \*  
and burns up his enemies on every side.  
<sup>4</sup>His lightnings light up the world; \*  
the earth sees it and is afraid.  
<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, \*  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.  
<sup>6</sup>The heavens declare his righteousness, \*  
and all the peoples see his glory.  
<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images  
and delight in false gods! \*  
Bow down before him, all you gods.  
<sup>8</sup>Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments, O LORD.  
<sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD,  
most high over all the earth; \*  
you are exalted far above all gods.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD loves those who hate evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.  
<sup>11</sup>Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.  
<sup>12</sup>Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, \*  
and give thanks to his holy Name.

*At the end of the Psalm is sung or said*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

# The Lessons

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:6-12**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup>Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the LORD,  
take no rest,  
<sup>7</sup>and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.  
<sup>8</sup>The LORD has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:  
I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have labored;  
<sup>9</sup>but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the LORD,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
“See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.”

<sup>12</sup>They shall be called, “The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD“;  
and you shall be called, “Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.”

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**FIRST CANTICLE: Canticle 15 (EOW)**

The Song of Mary

*Magnificat*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, \*  
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,  
and holy is your name.  
You have mercy on those who fear you \*  
from generation to generation.  
You have shown strength with your arm \*  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones \*  
and lifting up the lowly.  
You have filled the hungry with good things \*  
and sent the rich away empty.  
You have come to the help of your servant Israel, \*  
for you have remembered your promise of mercy,  
The promise made to our forebears, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

**SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to Titus.

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**SECOND CANTICLE: Canticle 16 (EOW)**

The Song of Zechariah

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, \*  
you have come to your people and set them free.  
You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, \*  
born of the house of your servant David.

Through your holy prophets you promised of old  
to save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us,

To show mercy to our forebears, \*  
and to remember your holy covenant.  
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship you without fear, \*  
holy and righteous before you,  
all the days of our life.  
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,  
To give God's people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

### **THIRD READING: Luke 2:8-20**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Luke.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**THE SERMON: Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry, Deacon-in-Charge**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED (BCP p. 96)**

*Officiant and People together, all standing.*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers

### **SALUTATION (BCP p. 97)**

*The people stand or kneel*

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            And also with you.

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 97)**

*Officiant and People*

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.



### SUFFRAGES (BCP p. 97)

- V. Help us, O God our Savior;  
R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.  
V. Look upon your congregation;  
R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.  
V. Declare your glory among the nations;  
R. And your wonders among all peoples.  
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;  
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.  
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;  
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.  
V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;  
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

### FIRST COLLECT (BCP p. 98)

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

### SECOND COLLECT (BCP p. 98)

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

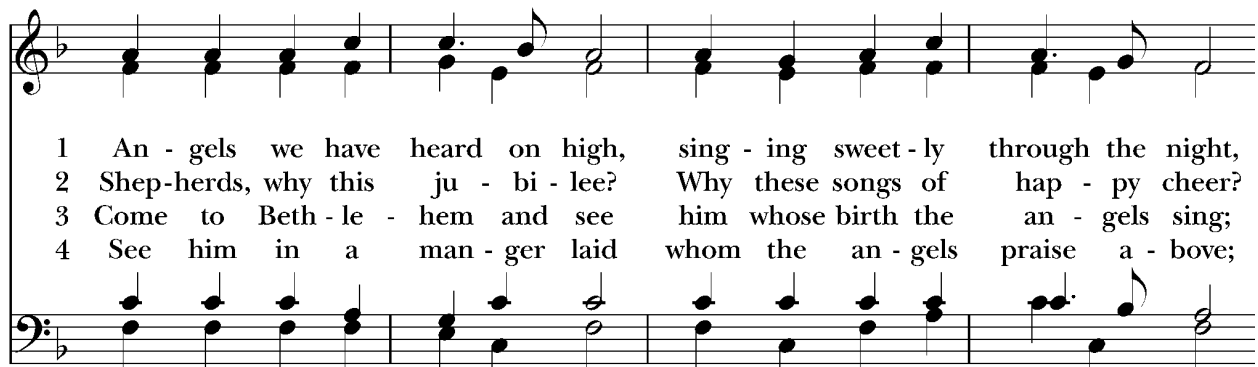
### THIRD COLLECT (BCP p. 98)

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### PRAYER FOR MISSION (BCP p. 100)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

### HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Gloria) (H 96)



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
 What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (BCP p. 101)**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
 to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
 and all the blessings of this life;  
 but above all for your immeasurable love  
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

**A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM (BCP p. 102)**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**CONCLUDING VERSICLE (BCP p. 102)**

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**CONCLUDING SENTENCE (BCP p. 102)**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
*Amen. Romans 15:13*

**Participants in today's liturgy:**

**Deacon-in-Charge:** Rev. Dr. Robin Woodberry

**Lector:** David Lewis

**Camera/Audio:** David Lewis

**Counters:** Carol Sutek, M.L. Schultze

**A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson:**

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.



## **Upcoming Holiday Worship Service Schedule**

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, Epiphany Lessons & Carols Service @ St. Tim's Massillon, 5:00p**

**Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, MLK Day Events:**  
**12:00p, Worship Service @ St. Paul's**  
**2-4p, Community Service Projects**  
**5:30p Courageous Conversation Kickoff @ St. Paul's**

## **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

### **Bishop**

The Right Reverend Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

### **Deacon-in-Charge**

The Reverend Dr. Robin Woodberry

### **Staff**

Edward T. Grimes, Director of Music

Peggy Neidig, Office Manager

Paul Schmucker, Sexton

*\*Music Begins Sunday Services at 10:25 are also live streamed on Facebook.*