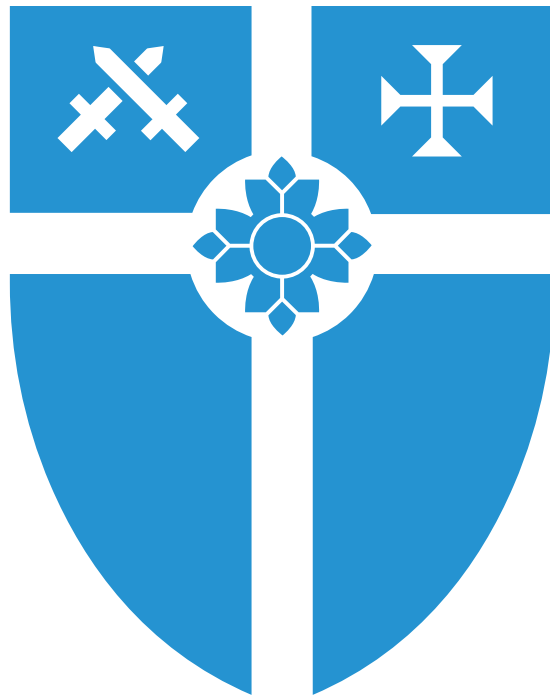


# The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025, at 11:15 AM



**stPaul's**  
Episcopal

Holy Eucharist **Rite II**

LIVE-STREAM AND IN-PERSON

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S.** Wherever you are on your journey, we are grateful you are here today. If you are new, you can connect further by filling out a welcome card and leaving it in the offering basket or by visiting [www.stpauls.ws.org/hello](http://www.stpauls.ws.org/hello) and introducing yourself.

*Childcare for infants through 4 years is in Room 233 (past the second floor office area).*

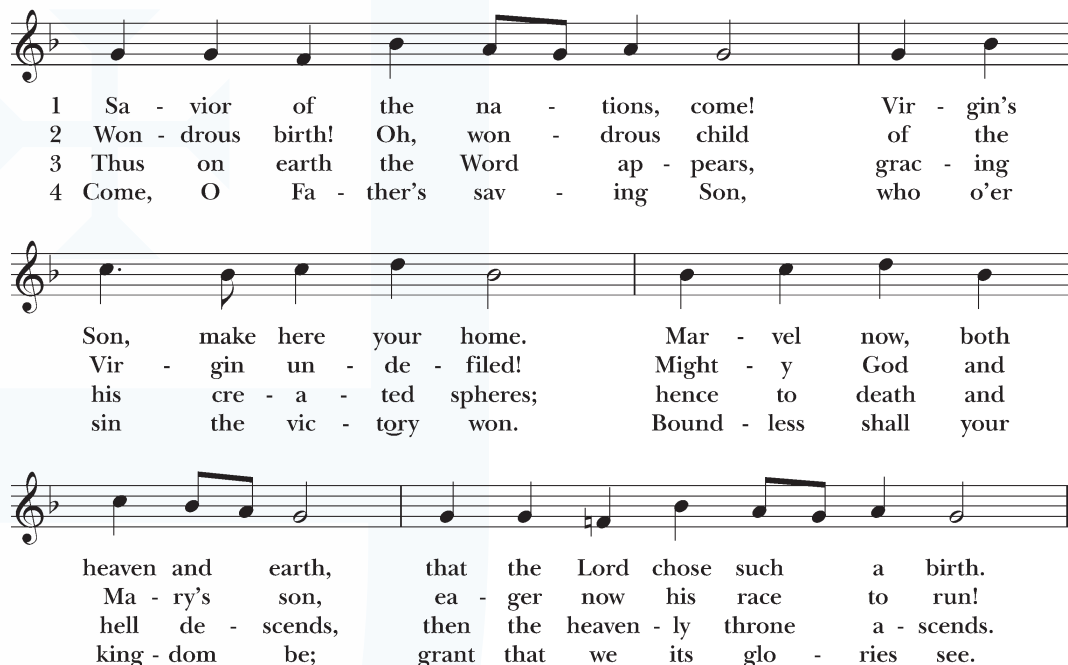


# The Word of God

*All stand and sing*

HYMN 54

*Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's  
 2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the  
 3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing  
 4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both  
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and  
 his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and  
 sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your

heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
 Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
 king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

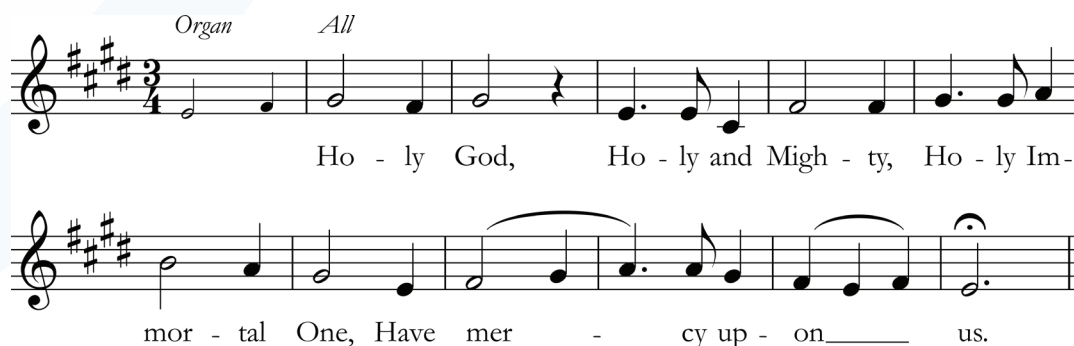
## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

*Sung by all three times.*

TRISAGION

Jeffrey Smith (b. 1960)



*Organ* *All*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Migh - ty, Ho - ly Im -

mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

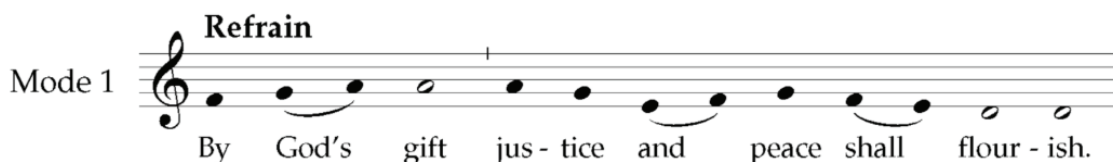
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.  
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 | *Deus, iudicium*  
*Refrain sung by all, verses sung by the choir.*

Chant: Plainsong



- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness. **Refrain**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth. **Refrain**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*  
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
Amen. Amen. **Refrain**

## THE SECOND LESSON | Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name”;  
and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;  
and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him”;  
and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand and sing*  
HYMN 56

*Veni Emmanuel*

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from  
3 tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the  
4 Sa-tan's tyranny that trust thy mighty power to  
3 law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them victory o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
Em-man-u-el shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

THE HOLY GOSPEL | Matthew 3:1-12

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Lucy B. Strandlund

*The People stand.*

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*The People stand or kneel.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, singing,



For the faith of the Church, for courage in our proclamation, and for hope as we await Christ's coming, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the welfare of the world, for peacemakers and healers, and for greater understanding between nations, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the people of this land, and for an increase of justice, love, and mercy among all our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those living in poverty, for refugees and those who have no homes, and for the unseen and the ignored, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are sick, for those living with addiction, and for those weighed down by grief, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have died, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Paul, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.



*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*All kneel.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**



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

*All stand.*  
**THE PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*All greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Thank you for supporting St. Paul's and giving generously so that our ministries and programs can continue to share the Gospel.*  
*You can easily make a contribution by visiting this link: <https://www.stpauls.org/> or scanning the QR code located in the at St. Paul's newsletter.*

# The Holy Communion

## ANTHEM

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

This is the record of John  
When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him  
Who art thou?  
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly  
I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?  
And he said, I am not  
Art thou the prophet?  
And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him  
What art thou? That we may give an answer unto them that sent us.  
What sayest thou of thyself?  
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness  
Make straight the way of the Lord.

*All stand.*

## AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Jeffrey Smith (b. 1960)

Refrain  
Congregation

(Organ) All things come of Thee, O Lord

and of Thine own have we giv - en Thee.

CHOIR:

Present yourselves as a  
living sacrifice, holy and  
acceptable to God, which is  
your spiritual worship.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Sung by all.*

# SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Smith

*Organ*      *All*  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly 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, ho - san - - na,  
ho - san - - na in the high - est.

*All stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

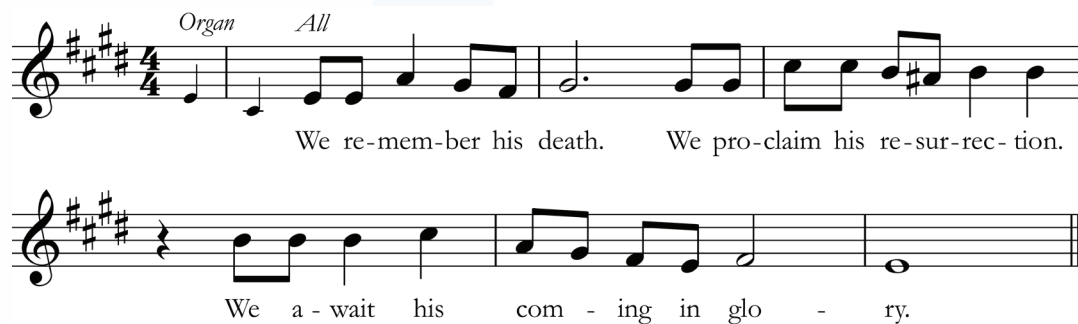
On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to 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,

#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Smith



#### *Celebrant*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 for ever.



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,



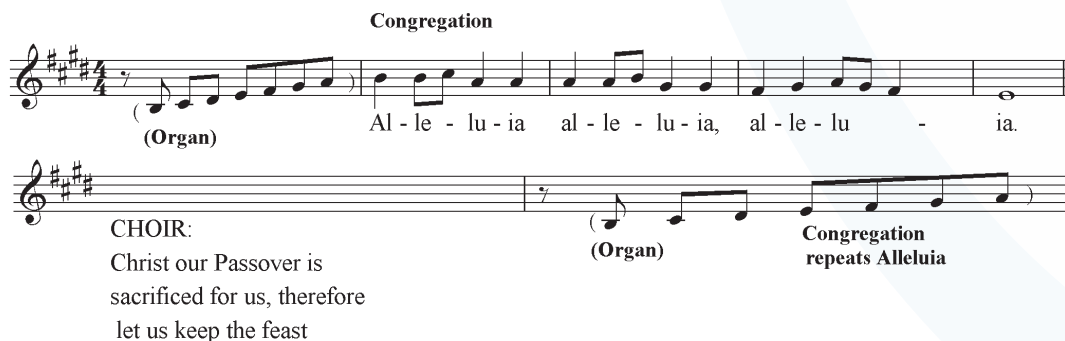
Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Smith



**Congregation**  
(Organ) Al - le - lu - ia al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
**CHOIR:**  
Christ our Passover is  
sacrificed for us, therefore  
let us keep the feast  
(Organ) **Congregation repeats Alleluia**

*Facing the People, the Celebrant says the following invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*All baptized Christians of any denomination are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. Please come forward at the guidance of the usher, or let an usher know if you need communion brought to your seat. Receive the bread (a wafer) with open and outstretched palms. Receive the wine either by drinking from the cup (guiding it to your lips) or by touching the wafer lightly to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please let us know by crossing your hands across your chest. Receiving only the bread or the wine is considered full participation in the Eucharist, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayers for healing during communion, a member of the healing prayer ministry will be stationed at the Side Altar.*

*Sung by all.*  
HYMN 53

*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;  
2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us  
3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,  
4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.



came in like - ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;  
from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:  
but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,  
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;



bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.  
not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.  
he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.  
let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

## THE SENDING OUT OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*The Minister and the People say the following*

**In the name of this congregation, we send you out bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.**

*All kneel.*

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Celebrant blesses the People, then all stand.*

THE DISMISSAL

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Sung by all.*

HYMN 59

*Merton*

*Descant*

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.  
5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

ALTAR FLOWERS

*The flowers on the high are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of*

Roberta “Pat” FitzHugh Michal

David Hill Michal Sr.

Adele Ferratt FitzHugh

Mayo McGill FitzHugh

Emily Hill Michal

Thomas Lenoir Michal

June Lyday Orton

*and on the side altar are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of*

Robert G. Prongay

Melville Prongay

Ruth Griffith Prongay

Margaret Prongay Mulvey

Edward T. Mulvey

Marion S. Lewis

Jody Kamm Prongay

Lou Lewis Prongay

David M. Prongay

Barbara Lewis Prongay

JOIN US THIS  
**Advent & Christmas**

**December 7**

5:00 PM: Advent Lessons & Carols

**December 14**

4:00 PM: Las Posadas

**December 17**

5:30 PM: Feast of St. Thomas Service

**December 21**

5 PM: A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

**December 24**

11 AM: Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant

3 PM: Holy Eucharist

5 PM: Holy Eucharist

11 PM: Holy Eucharist (*with incense*)

**December 25**

10 AM: Holy Eucharist

**January 4, 2026**

8 & 10 AM: Holy Eucharist

5 PM: Feast of Lights

**stPaul's**  
**Episcopal**

A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
520 Summit Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101  
[www.stpaulswinstonsalem.org](http://www.stpaulswinstonsalem.org)