

## Intercessions

### Birthdays

Christine Hammer 1/02, Dennis Music 1/03, Paula Fall 1/04, Holly McCalla 1/05, Dennis Blubaugh 1/06

### Continued Prayers

John Adam Tallman, Rachel Small, Susan Bannister, Leslie Milauc, Nancy Whitaker, Don Baumgartner, Matthew B., Nancy Warmath, Barb Smith, Eric Weber - COVID  
Carol Weide, Eric Sandys, Robin Womack, John Trame, Joan Nowak, Ray Fidler & Kathy Greene – travel

### Military

Pvt. Max Elliott, SSGT Sean Stuart, TSgt Kenney Dupre, A1C Gage Graham, Senior Master Sergeant James Ashton, Technical Sergeant Valerie Warren, USAF, Ensign Jason Warren, USN

### Service Ministers

**Officiant:** Todd Deye

**Director of Christian Education:** Jennifer Vasquez, ELCA Deacon

**Director of Music:** Brad Cresswell

**Organist:** Jane Weber

**Livestream Engineer:** Rebekah Vasquez

**Lectors:** Tara Robinson, Carol Sachs, Kelly Trame, Jane Weber, Claudia Stein, Deno Music, Todd Deye, Jennifer Vasquez 10AM

**Chalice Bearer:** Carol Sachs 10AM

**Altar Guild:** Deb Graham, Dru Hazard, Dee Pauken, Terry Pratt

**Ushers:** Jerry Martz 10AM



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*St. Paul's is a loving family united in the ministry of Jesus Christ; worshiping, learning, and serving together in the Episcopal tradition.*

The Rev. Dr. J. Paul Board, Rector • 310 Elizabeth St. • Maumee, Ohio • 419-893-3381

## Lessons & Carols for Christmas

**December 31, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

*“The Prelude is a call to silent personal preparation for worship”*

**Prelude** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming.....arr. Johannes Brahms*

**Processional Hymn** *“Once In Royal David's City”.....vs. 1-4 [H102]*

### A Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God:

In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in Maumee.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and

unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

*(Intercessions added here)*

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

**The Lord's Prayer** *(traditional)*..... [BCP 364]

*All: Our Father, who art in Heaven  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom,  
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*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen*

**Lesson I** - Carol Sachs

**Genesis 2:4b-9,15-25**.....[Bible pg. 2]

*“God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.”*

**Hymn** *“Morning has Broken”* vs. 1 & 3.....[H8]

## Announcements

**Church office will be closed Monday, New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Sunday School Class Schedule:** *Sunday School classes (all ages) will not meet on December 31.*

**New Discussion:** Starting January 7, we will be reading the book *When Church Stops Working* and discussing it on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:50. We will also provide opportunities to discuss the book asynchronously. If you would like a copy of the book to read (\$11), please see Jennifer V.

### **Bible Study:**

Start the New Year with a new Bible Study! It begins January 3rd and will meet every Wednesday at 8PM on Zoom. We will begin at the beginning, with Genesis! To see which chapters we will discuss each week, and to access the optional podcasts to listen to before each class, please see the church website.

### **Epiphany+1 Dinner Party:**

On January 7 (Epiphany plus one day), we will be hosting a dinner along with Epiphany traditions and activities (drama, singing, chalking the church, kings' cakes, and more). Please RSVP to [bit.ly/Epiphany24](http://bit.ly/Epiphany24). Please visit the website to sign-up to help.

### **St. Paul's Book Club:**

You're invited to join St. Paul's Book Club. We meet virtually on the second and fourth Tuesday at 6:30 pm, and we read one book a month from a variety of different genres. You don't need to join in for every book discussion; we have people who come because they are interested in a particular book. For more info, please contact Donna Dick ([donnadick@gmail.com](mailto:donnadick@gmail.com)). **January Schedule:** January 9 & 23: *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

### **Many Voices Book Discussion Group:**

Are you interested in learning more about social justice issues? Join us for our monthly "Many Voices" non-fiction book discussion group, we meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7PM over Zoom! For more information, see the church website. All are invited!

### **Lesson II - Claudia Stein Genesis 3: 1-15**

*"Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden"*

**Hymn** *"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"* vs. 1 & 5.....[H65]

### **Lesson III - Deno Music**

**Isaiah 35:1-10**.....[Bible pg. 578]

*"The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us."*

**Hymn** *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* vs. 1 & 4.....[H66]

### **Lesson IV - Jane Weber**

**Luke 1:5-25**.....[Bible pg. 831]

*"An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son."*

**Hymn** *"Angels We have Heard on High"* vs. 1 & 4.....[H96]

### **Lesson V - Jennifer Vasquez**

**Luke 1:26-58**.....[Bible pg. 831]

*"The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High."*

**Hymn** *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* vs. 1 & 3.....[H87]

### **Lesson VI – Kelly Trame**

**Luke 1:57-80**..... [Bible pg. 832]

*"John the Baptist is born and his father rejoices that his son will prepare the way of the Lord."*

**Hymn** *"Away in a Manger"* vs. 1 & 3.....[H101]

**Lesson VII** – Tara Robinson

**Luke 2:1-20**.....[Bible pg. 832]

*“Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.”*

**Hymn** *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* vs. 1 & 3.....[H101]

**Lesson VIII** – Todd Deye

**Luke 2:21-35** .....[Bible pg. 833]

*“Jesus receives his name and is presented to Simeon in the Temple.”*

**Hymn** *“Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming”* vs. 1 & 2..... [H81]

**Lesson IX** – Jennifer Vasquez

**John 1:1-18** .....[Bible pg. 862]

*“The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory.”*

**Hymn** *“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”* vs. 1 & 4.....[H89]

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Blessing**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill us with joy, and make us heralds of the Gospel. Amen.

**Recessional Hymn** *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”*.. .....[H107]

**Dismissal**

**Postlude** *“Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts”*.....Camille Saint-Saens  
From “Christmas Oratorio”