



January 3, 2021
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are a diverse, inclusive community in the Episcopal Diocese of California. We are a member of Integrity, the LGBTQ+ ministry of the Episcopal Church, and are welcoming to all who attend in worship.

We're happy to have you with us today. Our worship follows the order of the Book of Common Prayer 1979 (BCP), Rite II, with music from a variety of musical resources authorized by the Episcopal Church: 1982 Hymnal, Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) and Enriching Our Worship (EOW).

Join the service Live Stream on our
Facebook page [here](#).

The Word of God

At the sound of the bell, all stand for the entrance of the ministers.

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

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.

The following is said

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

All sit.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31: 7-14

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84

Quam dilecta!

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**
- 2 **The sparrow has found her a house
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.**
- 3 **Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.**

- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a
place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.**
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.**
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in
my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;**
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.**
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!**

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1: 3-6, 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious

inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

THE GOSPEL
23

Matthew 2: 13-15,19-

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Christian Harding

A period of silence is kept following the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alice Brilmayer

Let us celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ, the Word of God. God sent him to be human, born of a woman. He walked among us, reveling in human joy and sharing human sorrow, even to death on the cross. Let us thank God, saying: Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

Lord, protect the church you have given us. Your son, whose birth we now celebrate, died so your people could have forgiveness for our sins. We grow close to you through congregation with each other. Lend strength to all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. Lend patience to all of us as we endure this physical, but not spiritual, separation.

Silence

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

Help our nation in its time of need. The new leaders who will join us soon face tremendous challenges. Grant them your wisdom. Help them to act out of love for all citizens as we heal from the pandemic and the economic suffering it has created for so many. Guide our president, vice president, and congress. Likewise, assist our governor and mayor to solve the problems ahead of us. Without you, we are adrift on turbulent waters.

Silence

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

Let us also celebrate the lengthening of the days. As we dream of green shoots and the unfurling of leaves, let us take care of the planet you have given us. Pollution and over-use of resources lessens us all, especially at the expense of the poor and under-represented. May we always keep them and the health of our earth foremost in our hearts.

Silence

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

We thank you for the gift of your word, and we thank you for all good things in our lives. After a season of shopping, wrapping, and unwrapping presents, we should turn our hearts back to the intangibles that make our lives rich. Good health and fellowship. Family, friends, and this congregation. Without these, material pleasures mean little.

The congregation may offer their thanks, followed by silence.

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

At this time of year, we feel suffering acutely. Bless the poor, the sick, the jobless, the homeless, the incarcerated. Give them comfort as the cold of winter saps their strength. Show them a better future where the riches of the world are shared equally by all.

The congregation may add their petitions, followed by silence.

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

Lord, we have lost so many of your children to this lethal disease. Millions around the world mourn them. Show the ones left behind a path through their grief. Welcome all who have died into their next life with you.

Silence

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence. All kneel.

Minister and People

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.

The Celebrant stands and says

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.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Communion

All stand as the Celebrant raises the offerings and together sing the Doxology.

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380, Verse 3
Music: Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Celebrant, says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel and the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues,

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

All **Amen.**

The Celebrant then continues,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Jesus, Lamb of God: **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins: **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world: **give us your peace.**

The Celebrant invites all to God's table saying

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 following prayer is said.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The priest blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People **Amen.**

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

People **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Our Heart was filled with Double Love this Advent!

Every Advent season, the St. Paul's community, remembering that Christ came into the world as a poor child, prepares for Christmas by helping impoverished children here in Oakland and around the world.

A thousand for a thousand in 2020. This year, like everything else in 2020, was a little different, but we once again worked with Episcopal Relief & Development and its Gifts for Life program, this time through the One Thousand Days of Love campaign. Our "village" of St. Paul's had as its goal a \$1,000 gift of a One Thousand Days of Love package to a village that needs our help. And, with the help of a small top-up from the parish outreach fund, **we made it!** Here's what will be in the package:

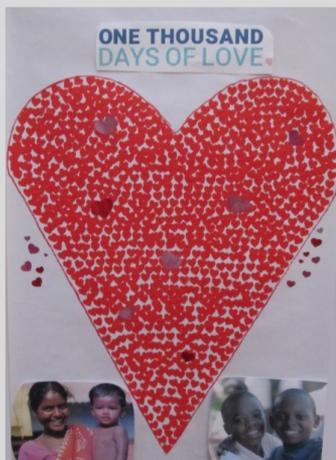
- care for five moms and their newborns,
- nurture and nourishment for 12 children,
- bicycles for three community volunteers,
- mosquito nets and training for 10 families
- four savings and loan group memberships

And here's how it will help the village:

Nurturing healthy children through improving food and nutrition, protecting health and preventing disease, empowering parents, and protecting families;

Helping children achieve their full potential by providing access to clean water, hygiene, sanitation, and reducing the impact of disasters and building resilience;

Bringing positive change to children's lives by creating economic stability.



Even better, a matching program at Episcopal Relief & Development means that ***our gift is actually \$2,000. So we are helping two villages.***

Thank you, dear people of St. Paul's, for opening your hearts this Advent!



**ONE THOUSAND
DAYS OF LOVE**

Prayer requests for you or a loved one may be communicated by placing a note in the offering plate. We will include them in our regular prayer concerns. You may also send prayer requests to prayers@stpaulsoakland.org.

Tito Alvarez
 Catherine Ann
 Kathleen Jean Anthony
 Stephanie Azlin-Carr
 Anne Barclay
 Dr. Basdeo Balkissoon
 Susan Bayh
 Aaron A. Benjamin
 Lisa Bishop
 Bob Breshears, Jr.
 Kate Britton
 Maggie Britton
 Helena Busquets
 Miguel Chamorro
 Cheryl Clausen
 Denise Conley
 Katherine Crawford
 Martika Crawford
 John Ross Devlin
 Victoria Maxine Devlin
 Edwina Devlin
 Brian Faucette
 Marshall Galinsky

Jewelle Gibbs
 Alexander Glenn
 Grace Gough
 Larry Gray
 Londell Guffen
 Vincent Hall
 Pastor Motuba Harding
 Chrystina Harris
 Michelle Hartmann
 David Holley
 Mark Hunter
 Sharon Hyde
 Nick Indehar
 Gregory Jackson
 Peter Johnson
 Rosalyn Johnson
 Reginald & Theresa Lane
 Natalie Lehman-
 Buckingham
 Joan Larson
 Annie Lesch
 Vita Lopata
 Rafael Martin

Nicole McClain
 Ruby McClain
 Garrett Petersen
 Robert Pilmer
 Mark Pingree
 Fay Putnam
 David Raskin
 Joel Reyna
 Barbara Seaton
 Manny Smith
 Margaret & Kent Smith
 Mekong (Miki) Smith
 Thomas Spitz
 Paul Sporer
 Howard Steiermann &
 Family
 Angelo & Bruna Taranta
 Ramona Terry
 Cheryl Torrance
 Cary Virtue
 Renee Walker-Bolden
 Glen
 Wood
 Robert Wright
 Norman Young

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Marc H. Andrus
Bishop of California
 The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson
Rector
 The Ven. Carolyn Bolton
Archdeacon
 The Rev. Christian Harding
 The Rev. Anne Jensen
Assisting Priests

STAFF

Christopher Kula
Music Director
 Philip Saunders
Assistant Music Director
 Jackie Kamakate
Parish Administrator
 Joan Clerk
Bookkeeper
 Danislav Nedeovski
Sexton
 Elena Nedevska
Housekeeper

VESTRY

Class of 2020
 Allison Sass—Sr. Warden
 Dylan Versteeg
 Bill Davis—Jr. Warden
Class of 2021
 Sergio Prieto
 Erica Terry-Derryck—
 Clerk
 Lisa Strait
Class of 2022
 Will Cowart
 Ann Gregory—Treasurer
 Sharon Pilmer

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

*Live stream only, until
further notice.*

Sundays

8 AM Spoken Eucharist in
the Church

10 AM Choral Eucharist in
the Church

First Sundays

4 PM Evensong in the
Church

Fourth Sundays

8 PM Compline in the
Church

Wednesdays

(Temporarily suspended)

12:10 PM Spoken Eucharist
with Healing Service on the
1st Wednesday in the Chapel

**The Sacrament of
Reconciliation may be
scheduled with any priest.**

Music usage licensing and
agreements: Church Hymnal
Corporation, New York;
OneLicense.net

Celebrant and Preacher
The Rev. Christian Harding
Assisting Priest

Lay Assistant
Stephen Tiffenson

Altar Guild
Maria Paull

DONATIONS TO ST. PAUL'S

Using your Smartphone, scan this
QR Code to make a digital
offering to St. Paul's Church. Your
donation will be processed through
SPEC's PayPal account.



WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING

Parking is available in the Senior Center/ Veteran's Memorial Building lot (across Bay Place from the church) for Sunday services. Street parking is unrestricted on Sundays, but metered/2-hour limit all other days. Additional paid parking is available at Children's Fairyland on Grand Ave. and at lots at 155 Grand Ave. and at W 23rd St. & Waverly (behind 180 Grand Ave.). The nearest BART station is the 19th Avenue stop, a .7 mile walk.



Event Notification: If you would like to receive information on St. Paul's events and ministries, or receive a call from clergy, please fill out the welcome cards in the pews and place in the collection plate or sign the visitor book in the Narthex. **To join our email list, sign up on our website, www.stpaulsoakland.org**

Parishioner Directories are available in either printed or digital form. To request your copy please call or email (510.834.4314 Ext. 501/admin@stpaulsoakland.org).

Name Tags

Let us greet you with your name! Please pick up your name tag in the narthex as you enter the Church or at the coffee hour afterwards.

The Restroom

One is located at the back of the church through the side door. A wheelchair accessible restroom is also available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Questions?

Don't hesitate to ask an usher for help if you require any assistance.



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