



ST. PAUL'S
Episcopal Church
1135 12th St.
Sparks, Nevada
775-358-4474 StPaulsSparks.org



Traditional Rite II with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m.



Christmas Day

December 25, 2024

The Rt. Rev. Elizabeth Gardner
Bishop of Nevada

The Very Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff
Rector

Welcome to All

We know you had many options in choosing where to worship on Christmas Eve and we thank you very much for choosing to worship with us here at St. Paul's.

Communion in the Pew

If you desire to receive Holy Communion but are unable to walk up to the railing, please notify an usher. They will inform the clergy of your request, and the clergy will gladly bring Holy Communion to you in your seat.

Who Are We

St. Paul's is a theologically diverse community who seeks to embrace their diversity in order to live through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a place of belonging for all people.

Kid's Area

Located on the south side of the church is a special area where there are some coloring materials which can be used there or at other places in the church. Please return these supplies to their baskets following worship.

Helpful Hints for Receiving Holy Communion

- Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. Everyone!
- The usher will let you know when it is time for your row to go up.
- Watch the people in front of you to get the flow of things.
- To receive the bread and if you want to Intinct ("dipping" the wafer into the cup of wine/grape juice) the minister will place the wafer between your thumb & pointer fingers (pinch it) then you can Intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice.
- Please do not drink from the cup. Intinction only.
- There is a designated chalice on the north side, that has **grape juice**.
- If you would like a **gluten free** wafer, either say gluten free to the clergy distributing the bread, or you can get a small black stone from the basket in the back of the worship space on the north side. Present it in the palm of your hand to the clergy and they will exchange it for a gluten free wafer.

Just a Reminder!!
St. Paul's
Annual Parish
Meeting
with Holy Eucharist
January 26th, 2025
10:00 a.m.



Special Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering this year will be split between St. Paul's General Fund & The Community Food Pantry.

Next Week

Sunday, December 29th
10:00 a.m.
Praise with Holy Communion



All stand in body or spirit

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: 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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider: Almighty God, you have given your
only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and
to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we,
who have been born again and made your children by
adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy
Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with
you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and
for ever. **Amen.**

All sit

THE FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 52:7-10*

Lector: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the
messenger who announces peace, who brings good
news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion,
"Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up
their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain
sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break
forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for
the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed
Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before
the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth
shall see the salvation of our God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

Lector: We will now say Psalm 98 in unison.

**Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.**

**With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.**

**The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations.**

**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness
to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.**

**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

**Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.**

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.**

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

**Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before
the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.**

**In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.**

THE SECOND LESSON *Hebrews 1:1-4*

Lector: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and
various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he
has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of
all things, through whom he also created the worlds.
He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint
of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his
powerful word. When he had made purification for sins,
he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
having become as much superior to angels as the name
he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand in body or spirit

THE GOSPEL *John 1:1-14*

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was God. He was in the
beginning with God. All things came into being through
him, and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life, and the life
was the light of all people. The light shines in the
darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There
was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He
came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might
believe through him. He himself was not the light, but
he came to testify to the light. The true light, which
enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being
through him; yet the world did not know him. He came
to what was his own, and his own people did not accept

him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Very Rev. Kirk Woodliff, Rector

All stand in body or spirit

THE NICENE CREED *(All in unison)*

**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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: All the gifts we shall give and receive in this season are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh. From grateful hearts let us pray, saying;

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord God, on this holy day your Son our Savior was born as a human child. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day Christians the world over are celebrating Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day Mary in the pain of labor brought your son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in any kind of pain or distress.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day shepherds in the fields heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to share the Good News of Christ's redemption.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day the angels sang "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" Strengthen those who work for your peace and justice in all the world.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger. Receive the worship we offer you in fellowship with Mary, Joseph, and all the saints.

Lord in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Presider: All these things we ask in the name of him who came as the light in the darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the love of Christ.

THE OFFERTORY

Presider: Let us make an offering of the gifts we have been given and make an offering of ourselves to God.

During this time we make an offering to the church for its mission and it is also a time in which we fully offer ourselves to be Christ in the world around us.

The Christmas Offering this year will be split between St. Paul's General Fund & The Community Food Pantry.

If mailing in an offering, please remit to:
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 737, Sparks, NV 89432
Or online at www.StPaulssparks.org:
or <https://tithe.ly/give?c=37265>



Scan with your smart phone camera to give secure and "contact free" donations.

All stand in body or spirit

THE PRESENTATION

Presider: All things come of thee O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: 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:

People and Presider:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider: 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,

Presider and People:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Presider: 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 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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we now pray,

People and Presider:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider: Alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.
You are all welcome and belong here at Christ's table.

COMMUNION TO THE PEOPLE

If you are new to receiving Holy Communion, there are helpful hints on the front page.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us all stand in body or spirit
as we pray together.

People and Presider:

**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.**

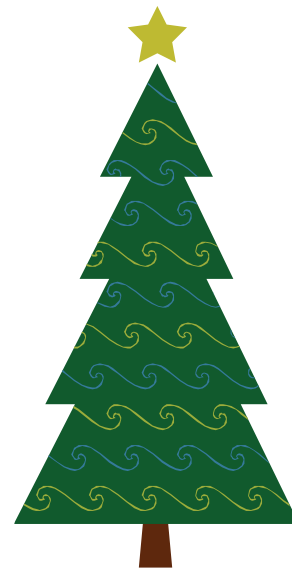
THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Presider: May Christ, who by his Incarnation
gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with
you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**





**THE FLOWERS ADORNING THE
CHRISTMAS ALTAR WERE GIVEN
TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY:**

SAM ALLEN, in memory of Patty and our life together.

PAT BERGE, in thanksgiving for all God's children.

MARGARET BOUZEK, in loving memory of family who have gone before.

DOROTHY DEVINE, in thanksgiving for family and friends.

LINDA & JEFF DEVON, in memory of Friends and Family no longer with us.

SANDRA EDWARDS, in thanksgiving for Blessings.

NANETTE FLEMING, in memory of Robert & Nancy Lerche.

VICKI GARDNER, in loving memory of my mother Jerie Taylor.

DOUG & SANDY HOUSTON, grateful thanksgiving of all our blessings in family and church family.

MILLIE MITCHELL, in thanksgiving of the Christmas season.

PETER & BARBARA PAPADAKOS, in honor of our loved ones.

DICK & DOTTIE STUFFLEBEAM, in thanksgiving for all our blessings, family, and friends.

VERN & DOT WATTS, in loving memory of Thomas & Hilda Graham.

KIRK & TRICIA WOODLIFF, in loving memory of Lucy.