

Georges du Mesnil de La Tour, 1593-1652. Birth of Christ, detail, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

CHRISTMAS DAY

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER

December 25, 2021 | 10:00 AM



A Little About St. Paul & the Redeemer

What kind of church is this?

St. Paul & the Redeemer (SPR) is a community that seeks to mirror the radical hospitality practiced by Jesus, holding together a progressive outlook and a rootedness in the Christian faith. We are woven of different races, economic statuses, cultural backgrounds, faith backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations, and we are strengthened and enriched by each person's story and voice.

Let's Get Connected

Welcome! If you are new, tell us about yourself and get connected to what's happening at St. Paul & the Redeemer. Scan the code or visit sprchicago.org/new to complete a Let's Get Connected form.



Children's Formation

Nursery, 9:00am-12:30pm | Professionally staffed nursery care is available during the services for children ages 0-4. The nursery is down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the downstairs restrooms and the nursery.

Children's Chapel, Sundays, 9:30am-9:45am | During the sermon at the 9:15 service, children from preschool to second grade are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

Godly Play, Sundays, 10:20am-11:05am | Children in preschool through fifth grade are invited to Godly Play. Children are welcome to join Godly Play at any time during the year. To learn about volunteering with Godly Play, contact director of children's formation Dafne del Risco-Nolla (nolla@sprchicago.org). Godly Play will resume on January 9, 2022.

SPR's Anti-Racism Vision Statement

We strive to become a beloved community that reflects on our own racial identities and recognizes racism and privilege in our church and society; works for justice by building relationships and sustained efforts to heal, reconcile, and seek Christ in each other; and acts to interrupt and dismantle white supremacist structures, transforming ourselves and our church to become a living embodiment of justice and peace.

Giving to SPR

Every dollar you give to SPR supports our ministry to and with our community. You may place cash or a check in the offering plate, give online at sprchicago.org/give-online or scan this code. If you are visiting, please do not feel obligated to give—it is our honor to have you as our guest!

Bulletin Rubrics

Throughout the bulletin, the congregation is invited to say all **bolded** text aloud. There are also times when it is customary to make the sign of the cross by touching your forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder. If you wish to do so, the + indicates that.

Youth Ministries

Youth Formation, Sundays, 10:20am-11:05am | Join us for youth formation (grades 6-12). We gather for 45 minutes to enjoy donuts and discussion. Youth Formation will resume on January 9, 2022.

Youth Group, Sundays, 5-7pm | All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join the youth group at any time throughout the year. For details, contact director of youth formation Ross Fogg (fogg@sprchicago.org). Youth Group will resume on January 9, 2022.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

When Christmas Comes Music: Claude Balbastre (1724-1799)

Meditation on "Silent Night" Music: Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)

Entrance Hymn

All sing. faith 1. O come, all joy - ful tri um - phant, come ye, O God from God, Lo! Light from Light e - ter ab he Sing, choirs gels, ex - ul - ta sing, all 3. of an sing in tion; ye Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap -py morn ing; Je sus, him, born the King le - hem; be -hold ye come, and an - gels; Vir Son of God Fa - ther; hors not the gin's womb; be - got ten the on cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo God, glo - ry in the high - est; - **r**y to thee glo ry given; Word of the Fa ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing; be dore O let him, let dore him, come, us come, us dore the Lord. come, let us him, Christ

The Hymnal 1982 - #83 "O come, all ye faithful"

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others

Music: Adeste fideles, Irr., present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906

Welcome

+ Blessed are you, holy and living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God,

you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 52:7-10

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn at the Gradual



The Hymnal 1982 – #96 "Angels we have heard on high" Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.

Music: Gloria, 77.77 with Refrain, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 1:1-12

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.

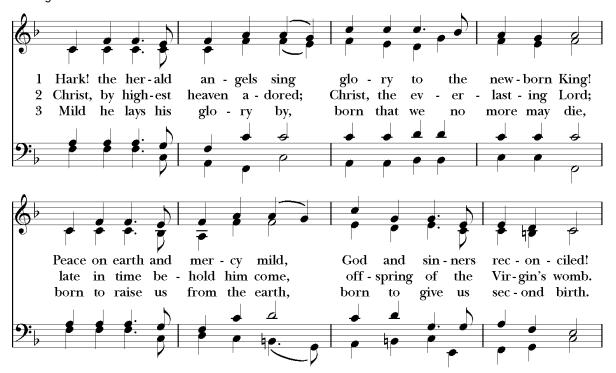
For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn at the Sequence

All sing.





The Hymnal 1982 - #87 "Hark! the herald angels sing"

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Mendelssohn, 77.77. D with Refrain, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

At the + below, you are invited to trace a cross over your forehead, your mouth, and your heart.

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

John 1:1-14

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Today's Preacher: The Rev. KJ Oh (Assistant Priest)

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

All stand as able.

Let us pray in the peace of God, that all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days be but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh this night. And from grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying, Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the child born to us find in our hearts a warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this time of gift giving, may we become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the rejoicing of this day be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the joy and consolation of the wonderful Counselor enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the blessed hope we celebrate at Christmas be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings, ending each with "Lord, in your mercy."

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Please remain at your seat and wave to greet your neighbors. Some announcements will be given; there's much more to find out in the front and back pages of this bulletin.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn at the Offertory



The Hymnal 1982 - #79 "O little town of Bethlehem" (St. Louis)

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Music: St. Louis, CMD, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

The Great Thanksgiving

All stand as the offering is brought to the altar.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

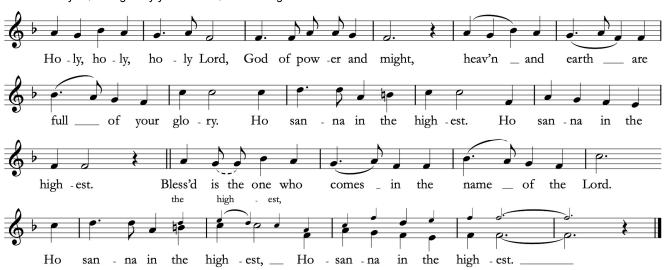
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:



The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #S-125

from A Community Mass, Richard T. Proulx (1937-2010)

Music Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704721

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Eucharistic Prayer D.

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

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem



The Hymnal 1982 - #79 "O little town of Bethlehem" (St. Louis)

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Music: St. Louis, CMD, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All, without exception, are invited to receive communion. If you want gluten-free bread, tell the communion minister. If you would like a blessing in place of communion, cross your arms over your chest.

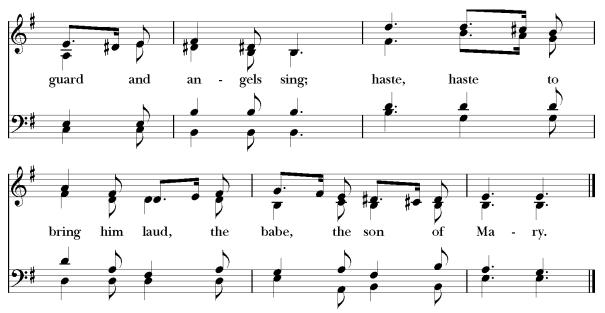
Hymns during Communion



"Away in a Manger"

Words: sts. 1-2 anonymous, st. 3 John T. McFarland (1851-1913) Music: *Mueller*, 11 11 11 11; James R. Murray (1841-1905)





The Hymnal 1982 - #115 "What Child is This?"

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Greensleeves, 87. 87 with Refrain, English melody; harm. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

Sending Forth & Blessing

Please stand as able.

Let us pray.

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 Presider blesses the people. You are invited to cross yourself as the Presider traces a cross over the congregation.

+ May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn



The Hymnal 1982 – #100 "Joy to the world"

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: Antioch, CM with Refrain, Georg Friedrich Händel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

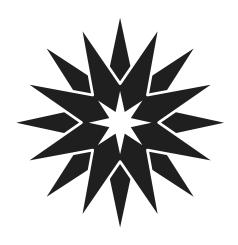
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Noël-Postlude

Music: Cesar Franck (1822-1890)

We extend our sincere thanks to Robert Woodworth, supply organist, for leading our music today while Christian is away, celebrating Christmas with his family.



We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year!

First Sunday of Christmas (Sunday, December 26): 8:00 & 10:00 AM
On the Sunday after Christmas, we will have combined worship services at 8:00 & 10:00 AM.

Serving Today

December 25, 2021

Presider: The Rev. KJ Oh Preacher: The Rev. KJ Oh Organist: Robert Woodworth Acolyte: Mahrhoztal Rosier

Lectors: Curtis Edmonds, Kenji Kuramitsu,

J'Heannhehbelle Rosier

Ushers: Shawn Hannan, Vincent Johnson

Staff

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy, Rector

The Rev. Barnabas E. Pusnur, Associate Minister

Christian M. Clough, Director of Music

Dafne del Risco-Nolla, Director of Children's Formation

Ross Fogg, Director of Youth Formation

Lukasz Jedrzejewski, Sexton

Gretchen R. Eng, *Children's Music Assistant*Sabrina Foster, Ashley Lanfair, & Patricia Lanfair,

Nursery Teachers

Bridget Skaggs & Ariana Strahl, *Staff Singers*

The Rev. KJ Oh, Assistant Priest
The Rev. Jack Seymour, Deacon
The Rev. Roger Ferlo, Priest Associate
The Rev. Lydia Gajdel, Priest Associate

Vestry

Twila Jones, *Warden*Jordan Lanfair, *Clerk*Frances Spaltro, *Warden*Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*

O. Michael Agina Traci Beck
Nicholas Bellomy Jared Beverly
Jonathan Foiles Vicky Legge
Meryl Prochaska Jeffrey Stackert

Kerstin Wellbery

Partners in Ministry

Beulah Shoesmith Elementary School

We support our neighborhood school through tutoring, arts programs, and gardening.

Community Renewal Society

We are a member congregation of CRS, which organizes faith communities for social change.

Crossroads/Chicago ROAR

Chicago ROAR supports our anti-racism commitments through facilitation and training.

Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

We are proud to belong to the Chicago South Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

Murray Fellows

Through this program, we mentor and encourage the next generation of LGBTQ+ Christian leaders.

Open Kitchen

SPR members gather monthly to cook meals for Kenwood UCC's Feed the People Soup Kitchen.

St. Patrick's Church & School, Haiti

Our collaboration with St. Patrick's in Tom Gateau, Haiti, includes school lunch and music programs, teacher salaries, and capital projects.

St. Paul & the Redeemer Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open to the community every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 PM.

Syrian Community Network

Each year, SPR sponsors a newly resettled refugee family from Syria through visits, tutoring and more.

