

Presentation in the Temple, George Sagat.
From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER DECEMBER 31, 2023 | 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 & Youth at SPR

KidZone (Nursery), Sundays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Professionally staffed nursery care is available for children ages 1–4 in our KidZone, located down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the downstairs restrooms and the KidZone.

Children's Chapel, Sundays during sermon

During the sermon at the 10:00 service, children from preschool to second grade are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

Children's chapel will resume on January 7.

Christian Formation

From September through May, we welcome all ages to join our formation (Christian education) gatherings, downstairs from 11:05 to 11:50 AM. Christian formation will resume on January 7 (children and youth) and January 14 (adults).

- Godly Play: Preschool to grade 2
- Junior Youth Group: Grades 3 to 5
- Youth Group: Grades 6 to 12
- Adult Formation: Teens and adults
 High-school youth are welcome to attend either youth group or adult formation.

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.

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.

Giving to SPR

Every dollar you give to SPR goes toward 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. Thank you so much for your support of our church!

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About the Cover Artwork

From *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Entrance Hymn



The Hymnal 1982 #82 "Of the Father's love begotten"

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr John Mason Neale (1818-1866), and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

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.

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.

Please be seated.

The Lessons

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,

my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise

to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,

and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest.

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,

and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,

and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name

that the mouth of the LORD will give.

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

Let us read the psalm responsively by verse.

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all you host!

Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God commanded, and they were created.

God established them forever and ever, and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for the Holy Name alone is exalted; God's glory is above earth and heaven.

God has raised up a horn for us,
praise for all the faithful, for the people of Israel
who are close to God. Praise the LORD!

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Galatians.

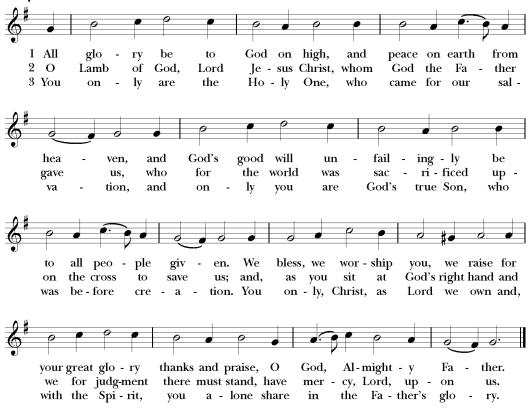
Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





The Hymnal 1982 #421 "All glory be to God"

Words: Nicolaus Decius (1490-1541); tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.; para. of *Gloria in excelsis*. Music: *Allein Gott in der Höh*, melody att. Nikolaus Decius; harm. Hieronymous Praetorius (1560?-1629).

Gospel Reading

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 Luke.

Luke 2:22-40

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentile and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Today's Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy, Rector

Apostles' Creed

Please stand as able.

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

Gracious God, give peace and joy to the world, and may your joy be known among us.

For your love revealed in your manger birth, we join with the shepherds to glorify and praise you; we rejoice in your presence among us. Let your church proclaim your glory and your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, may the nations come to know that peace which only you can give; we pray that we learn to live together in harmony and fellowship.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks with all our hearts for **Esther** Foiles (12/31), **Sara** Kennedy (12/31), **David** Larsen (12/31), **Shaney** Swift (12/31), **Peggy** Johnson (1/2), **Overtis** Sykes (1/2), **Ruth** Woll (1/2), **Bob** Bator (1/3), **Vicky** Legge (1/4), **Kerstin** Wellbery (1/4), **Mary** Wildenberg (1/4), **Sam** Lear (1/5), **Jim** Pomposelli (1/5), and **Caleb** Scott (1/6) as they begin another year, and for **Jonathan & Daniella** Pereira (12/31) and **Charlie** Cooper & **Kim** Hart (1/1), as they celebrate their anniversaries.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, we remember all who are lonely during this season: all who are troubled or sad, all who are unable to enter into the fullness of joy through sickness or bereavement. We pray for parents anxious about their children. We remember all who are in the shadow of the fear of death. We pray today for **Pamela** Anderson, **Helen** Johnson, **Brenda** Kilpatrick, **D. Maria** Neighbors, **John** Mulholland, **Jennifer** Penn, **John** Bellomy (father of Nick Bellomy), **Cindy** Askins (mother of Jonathan Foiles), **Becky** Newman (sister of Mary Naftzger), **Hilton** Clark (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), and all those on our prayer list.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, we remember all who have entered into joy and peace in the glory of your kingdom. We pray especially today for **Albert** Ferlo (father of Roger Ferlo, 1/1/2015) and **Victor** Heyman (father of Steve Heyman, 1/6/2009). May they rejoice in your presence and your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

Prayers adapted from Sundays & Seasons (Augsburg Fortress) and Traces of Glory: Prayers for the Church Year (David Adam).

Prayer List: Pamela Anderson, Jacky Corey Hain, Marian Elliott, Susan Hartger, Naomi Haynes, Helen Johnson, Brenda Kilpatrick, Becky Kruse, Rahsaan Clark Morris, John Mulholland, D. Maria Neighbors, Jennifer Penn, Peter Pereira, Celia Scott, John Bellomy (father of Nick Bellomy), Cindy Askins (mother of Jonathan Foiles), Alarra Tozin (friend of Twila Jones), Hilton Clark (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), Alphonso Guerrero (nephew of Cecilia Mowatt), Rosalyn Hill (friend of Cecilia Mowatt), Brenden Jones (godson of Cecilia Mowatt), Tim Brown (cousin of Maureen Jesuthasan), Becky Newman (sister of Mary Naftzger), Ann Rigney (friend of Mary Naftzger), Amelia Dammen (grandniece of Lisa Rademacher), and Penny & Dom Piantedosi (sister and brother-in-law of Val Tonsgard), as well as their caregivers.

Confession & Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

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

Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to greet those around you with the words "Peace be with you." Some announcements will be given; there's much more to find out in the front and back pages of this bulletin.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

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.

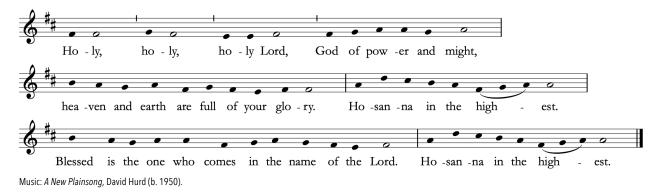
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Presider adds a proper preface.

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.

All sing.



Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator 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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

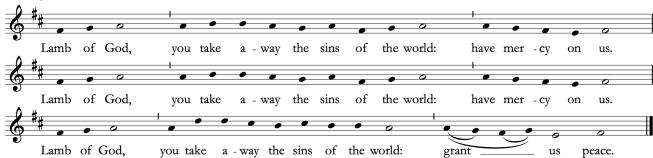
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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

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

All sing.



Music: A New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950).

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All, without exception, are invited to receive communion. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let the ushers know. 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.

No matter whether or how you choose to receive the Eucharist, may this time in the service be one of contemplation and prayer, enabling you to draw nearer to the quiet presence of God.

Communion Music

All sing.



"The holly and the ivy"

Words: Traditional English carol.

Music: Traditional English, harm. Edward L. Stauff.



Lift Every Voice and Sing #21 "Go tell it on the mountain" Words: Traditional Negro Spiritual, Luke 2:8-20, adapt. John W. Work (1871-1925). Music: adapt. William Farley Smith (b. 1941).

Sending Forth

Please stand as able.

Let us pray.

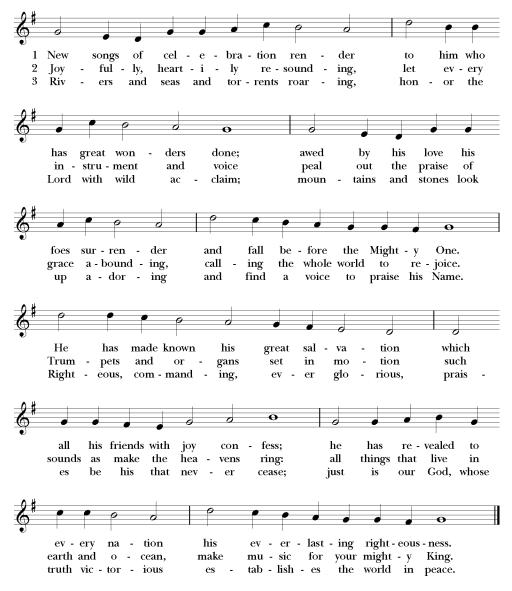
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and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

The Presider blesses the people.

+ May the Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

Source: Celtic traditional, Enriching Our Worship 1, p. 71.

All sing.



The Hymnal 1982 #413 "New songs of celebrations render" Words: Erik Routley (1917-1982); para. Psalm 98.

Music: Rendez à Dieu, melody att. Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?) harm. Erik Routley.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude



Exhibition: Crèches from Around the World

Throughout Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, SPR is hosting a global crèche exhibit in the Byllesby Room. Visit the exhibit through **Sunday**, **January 14**.

20s/30s Gift Swap

Members in their 20s and 30s are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 7, after the 10:00 service** in the Byllesby room for a White Elephant gift swap and hangout. For the White Elephant, bring a wrapped fun/goofy gift, around \$5. Contact Julia (mcmillan013@gmail.com) with any questions.

Adult Formation on Break:

December 24 & 31, January 7

Adult Formation is on a **holiday hiatus until Sunday**, **January 14**, when we will welcome composer/conductor Marques Garrett to talk about his work editing *The Oxford Anthology of Choral Music by Black Composers*.

Save the Date: Guest Speaker Michelle Duster

On **Sunday, February 18, at 9:00 AM** in the parish hall, we will welcome author and Ida B. Wells descendant Michelle Duster to speak on the legacy of Black women in U.S. History. Invite your friends to this important event, sponsored by the 8:00 AM Black History Month team.

Save the Date: Residency with Marques Garrett

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday**, **January 13** when we welcome guest composer and conductor Marques Garrett to SPR. Marques is the editor of the *Oxford Book of Choral Music by Black Composers*, and will be in residency to teach many of the anthems from the anthology as part of a community-wide event at SPR. For more information, and to register for the event, please visit sprchicago.org/garrett.

Serving Today

December 31, 2023 | 10:00 AM

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy

Deacon: The Rev. Jack Seymour Music Leader: Thomas Christensen Children's Chapel Leader: Lindsey Strieter

Lectors: Tom Irving, Twila Jones

Intercessor: Sem Sutter

Chalice Ministers: Peggy Johnson, John Omoworare,

Gail Williams

Ushers: Joe Dunn, Chinyere Agina Linen Washer: Jack Seymour Vestry Greeter: Anne Harlan

Communion Bread Baker: Jim Tonsgard

Staff

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy, Rector

The Rev. Barnabas E. Pusnur, Associate Rector

The Rev. Jack Seymour, *Deacon* Mark Bilyeu, *Director of Music*

Megan Cather, Children's Music Assistant Lindsey Strieter, Director of Children's Formation

The Rev. Roger Ferlo, *Priest Associate*The Rev. KJ Oh, *Priest Associate*

Savannah Hegyi, Wesley Krist, Ian Murrell, &

Ariana Strahl, Staff Singers

Sabrina Foster, Ashley Lanfair, & Patricia Lanfair,

Nursery Teachers

Tony George, Interim Sexton

Vestry

Twila Jones, *Warden*Baiju Markose, *Clerk*Frances Spaltro, *Warden*Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*

Nicholas Bellomy Joshua Daniel
Jason Evans Jonathan Foiles
Anne Harlan Vicky Legge
Rebecca Luttrell Andrew Rostan

Celia Paris

Get Involved at SPR

Learn more about our ministries inside and outside the church walls at sprchicago.org, or contact a ministry leader to get started!

Connection (Education & Fellowship)

Children's Formation (grades PK-5) | Lindsey Strieter

(lstriete@gmail.com)

Youth Formation (grades 6-12) | Jen Jackson

(jenniferjeanjackson@gmail.com)

Adult Formation | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

(pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Thursday Bible Study | Anna Mary Wallace

(amawallace29@gmail.com)
Women's Retreat | Toni Daniels

(antoinettedaniels421@gmail.com)

Coffee Hour Fellowship | Cynthia Bagrowski

(cbagrowski@gmail.com)

Life Groups | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Creation (Music, Arts & Worship)

St. Nicholas Choir (grades PK-2) | Megan Cather (cather@sprchicago.org)

Choristers (grades 3-8) | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Adult Choir | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Arts Committee | Carolyn Pereira (pereira1700@yahoo.com)

Worship Ministries | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Community (Service & Outreach)

Food Pantry | Rev. Catherine Healy (healy@sprchicago.org)

Open Kitchen | Fran Spaltro (pambasilea@gmail.com) Food Garden | Mel Parks (mellemel83@yahoo.com)

Anti-Racism Working Group | Sara Bigger

(sarafaganbigger@gmail.com)

Faith in Action Team | Brianna Kuramitsu

(brianna.kuramitsu@gmail.com)

Migrant/Refugee Ministry | Bob Bator (rbator@gmail.com) &

Jason Evans (jasoncoryevans@gmail.com)

Haiti Partnership | Gail Williams (gwilli8787@gmail.com)

Shoesmith School Partnership | Carolyn Pereira

(pereira1700@yahoo.com

