



SAINT
100 YEARS STRONG
PAUL'S



more than enough!

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025, 9:30 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your cell phone.

We ask your prayers for: Sherrie, The families of Diana and Jon Sebal, Nancy, Pat, Sharon, Ken, Candace, Lori, Debi, Nevitt, James, Avery, Pamela, Connie, Linda, Anne, Kim, and Ella.

And for those serving in the Armed Forces and Diplomatic Corps of our Country: David Craddock, John Sampson, Brett Griffin, Zachary Falter, and Isabel Steen Falter.

See list of Birthdays in the weekly email.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer—The Church of Bangladesh.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer—Church of the Advent, Cincinnati; and Minority Empowerment Initiative Trust.

The Altar Arrangements are given to the Glory of God.

SERVING TODAY - 12/07/25 - 9:30AM		SERVING NEXT SUN. - 12/14/25 - 9:30AM	
Altar Guild	Barbara O'Hara Cathy Kremmel	Altar Guild	Diane Labrie Ellen Walters
Chalice	OPEN	Chalice	OPEN
Crucifer	OPEN	Crucifer	OPEN
Book	OPEN	Book	OPEN
Reader	Mary Ellen Foster Laura Walters	Reader	Charlie Campbell Diana Uhlman
Ushers	Mike Miller Linda Miller	Ushers	Micky Neben Jim Filson

PRELUDE: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Pachelbel

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL: HYMN #65

Bereden vag for Herran

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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.**

TRISAGION, Hymnal #S100

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

LIGHT ONE CANDLE TO WATCH FOR MESSIAH (*SUNG BY CHOIR*)

Yiddish Folk Tune

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

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 11:1-10

A Reading from Isaiah

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide by what his ears hear;
 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
 The wolf shall live with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
 The cow and the bear shall graze,
 their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
 They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain;
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.
 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire
 of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 (*SUNG BY CHOIR*)

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
 and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
 and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
 and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
 he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
 from one generation to another.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
 like showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
 who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
 and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
 Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 15:4-13

A Reading from Romans

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,
 "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";
 and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."
 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if able.

GOSPEL PROCESSION: HYMN #597

Jerusalem

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:1-12

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

HOMILY

THE REV. JEAN VARGO

SILENT REFLECTION

Please stand if able.

THE NICENE CREED

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 - From the book "*Hear Our Prayer*"

After each petition the people respond with "***Hear Our Prayer***".

Please stand or kneel if able.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader 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.

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY MUSIC: KEEP YOUR LAMPS

André Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary.
Children, don't get weary.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.

Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Please stand if able.

HYMN #43, vs. 4

The Eighth Tune

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer for Advent, Christmas & Epiphany
(from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* Augsburg Fortress 2006)

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is indeed our joy, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you, gracious God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will make all things new. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Please stand or kneel if able.

SANCTUS, Hymnal #S124

**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.**

The Celebrant continues

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise made to your people
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

With this bread and cup we remember your Word, Jesus Christ, dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in Christ's death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

People **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Blessing, praise and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, world without end. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER, BCP 364

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD BCP 364

FRACTION ANTHEM: HYMNAL #S154

Celebrant 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.

Please bring your Pledge Card with you to communion and place it in the basket.

COMMUNION MUSIC: HYMN #616

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

Please stand or kneel if able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE

RECESSIONAL: HYMN #67

Psalm 42

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Paul Manz

+ + + + +

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

St. Paul's and St. Mark's

Blue Christmas Prayers: Devotionals with scripture are available in the St. Paul's Chapel throughout the Advent Season. Pray, light a Candle, and connect with our Lord. Know that Christ is Born anew in each of us.

Sunday Worship in Advent: 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's and 11:30 a.m. at St. Mark's

Christmas Concert: TONIGHT! Sunday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.

Sonare Chamber Ensemble

Free will offerings will support ABLE (Advocates for Basic Legal Equity)

Staff and Vestry Christmas Party: December 16, 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's

Carols on the Green: Dec. 18, 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Green Space at St. Paul's

The community is invited to join us and the Dayton Metro Barbershop

Chorus as we welcome the season with song!

Christmas Eve Worship Services: 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's / 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark's

Lessons and Carols Joint Service: Sunday, Dec. 28, 10:30 a.m. at St. Mark's

NO WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S on December 28.

The Arrival of the Wisemen: Sunday, January 4

9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's

11:30 a.m. at St. Mark's

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEDGING IS A GIFT TO GOD

TODAY marks the official conclusion of the 2026 Stewardship Campaign. We give thanks for the many pledges that have been received and will be blessed today. If your pledge card is still in your “to do” file, it’s not too late to pledge. Click on <https://vist.ly/4ei37> and select “Pledge Fund” from the drop-down menu. You also can set up a recurring gift to support St. Paul’s.

Although the tradition of gift giving during Advent varies throughout the world-wide Christian community, everyone anticipates with joy the birth of Jesus Christ, the greatest gift that God could give to mankind – the birth of his only son in human likeness. With thanksgiving and understanding that God also has generously blessed us with all that we have, let us take inventory of our spiritual resources at St. Paul’s, the strength of our community, and our capacity for generosity. There is now, and always has been, **More Than Enough**.

Currently Accepting Nominations for Vestry and Convention Delegates

The following parishioners have graciously agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee: **Chair, Charlie Campbell, Linda Bumiller, Mary Beth Coker, Jim Filson, Micky Neben, Margaret Sampson, and Cheryl Strine**

Please prayerfully consider helping St. Paul's move forward into our second century by serving on the Vestry or as a Delegate to Convention in 2026. You are invited to nominate yourself or someone else (please ask their permission before doing so) for the following positions:

- Senior Warden, one-year term beginning in Feb. 2026
- Junior Warden, one-year term beginning in Feb. 2026
- Three Vestry members for three-year terms beginning in Feb. 2026
- Four Delegates for the 2026 DSO Convention
- Two Alternate Delegates for the 2026 DSO Convention

Nominations should be sent to Charlie Campbell (phone: 937-657-9052 or charliec@ameritech.net) **before December 15, 2025**. The Nominating Slate will be posted on December 31, 2025, and voted upon at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 8, 2026.

THANK YOU so much for the huge number of sock donations. They will be appreciated by all. Continuing contributions of kids and adult socks would be wonderful. God Bless.

CRAZY CHRISTIANS BY MICHAEL CURRY - This book will change your Advent and Christmas because it helps us better understand how Christ will be born anew in us. Books are available in the church office for \$10.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY - CHRISTMAS: THE SEASON OF LIFE AND LIGHT,
BY EMILY HUNTER MCGOWIN - “O WONDROUS EXCHANGE!”

We’ve been discussing how God changes our human existence, our glories, His expression of love.

Join Kathleen and Laura Walters in the cloister at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church on Mondays at **5pm. The remaining dates are** Monday, December 8, 15, and 22nd.

Christmas Flowers

Would you like to remember - or give thanks for - a loved one(s) this coming Christmas season? Consider a donation to the Altar Guild Sanctuary Fund for the Christmas poinsettias that will adorn the altar area. (\$40 suggested minimum) The name of the loved one(s) you would like to honor/remember will also be included in the Christmas bulletin. Please respond by **Friday, December 12** in one of several ways:

1. Mail donation and names to be honored/remembered to the church. Put “Christmas Flowers” in the notes.
2. Use the St. Paul’s app or visit stpauls-dayton.org. Click the *Giving* button and complete the form. Remember to select *Flowers-Christmas*. Indicate the name(s) in the Notes section. *First-time users will need to create an account and will have the option to pay the 1.5% fee to maximize their donation to St. Paul’s.*
3. Pick up an envelope in the Narthex and complete. Mail to the office or place in the offering plate.

2025 Contribution and Reimbursement Deadline

Please remember that in order to claim a charitable contribution tax deduction for 2025, all contributions must be received in the parish office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2025. The IRS has strict guidelines regarding this matter and no exceptions can be made.

Also, if you need to be reimbursed for any authorized church-related expenses that occurred in 2025, please complete a check request form (available in the parish office), attach your receipt, and turn it in to the parish office no later than December 31, 2025.

Your promptness is greatly appreciated!



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

Q	I	X	E	H	J	R	S	F	P	M	G	H	H	U	V	X	G
B	Y	K	M	Y	U	L	T	R	J	A	S	Y	B	K	U	G	W
P	S	M	I	U	E	S	A	Y	F	R	X	V	E	L	S	O	K
G	J	N	H	G	D	Q	R	V	Y	Y	R	R	T	G	F	L	J
M	L	P	N	D	S	G	P	F	M	C	D	Y	H	X	B	T	O
K	A	A	Y	E	Y	V	S	B	Z	K	O	W	L	B	W	J	S
N	O	N	H	H	I	J	N	A	O	M	N	G	E	I	T	J	E
Z	D	M	G	W	U	R	H	H	B	S	K	Y	H	W	G	Y	P
N	P	T	H	E	U	T	D	V	W	H	E	A	E	J	V	I	H
C	F	E	A	K	R	P	H	Q	Q	S	Y	E	M	A	O	D	Z
J	N	T	Y	I	G	O	L	D	N	B	P	J	M	I	Z	C	S
E	W	A	B	N	B	A	M	E	A	P	Y	S	F	Q	S	J	O
S	X	I	H	G	O	X	C	B	R	K	C	Q	C	J	L	Z	
U	F	V	S	S	A	N	O	S	T	A	B	L	E	S	X	P	R
S	G	V	Z	E	I	P	V	T	W	B	W	M	T	H	G	X	I
G	T	D	H	K	M	J	M	I	R	Y	Y	F	S	O	N	A	Y
M	I	M	N	B	H	E	M	Y	C	P	H	Z	D	A	W	K	H
N	B	A	G	N	C	L	N	L	R	R	M	K	O	H	O	T	X
O	R	G	I	F	T	S	Q	M	C	R	A	K	I	A	U	P	I
F	Z	D	M	H	X	E	J	X	W	E	H	O	L	Y	L	R	T



ANGEL
BABY
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
DONKEY

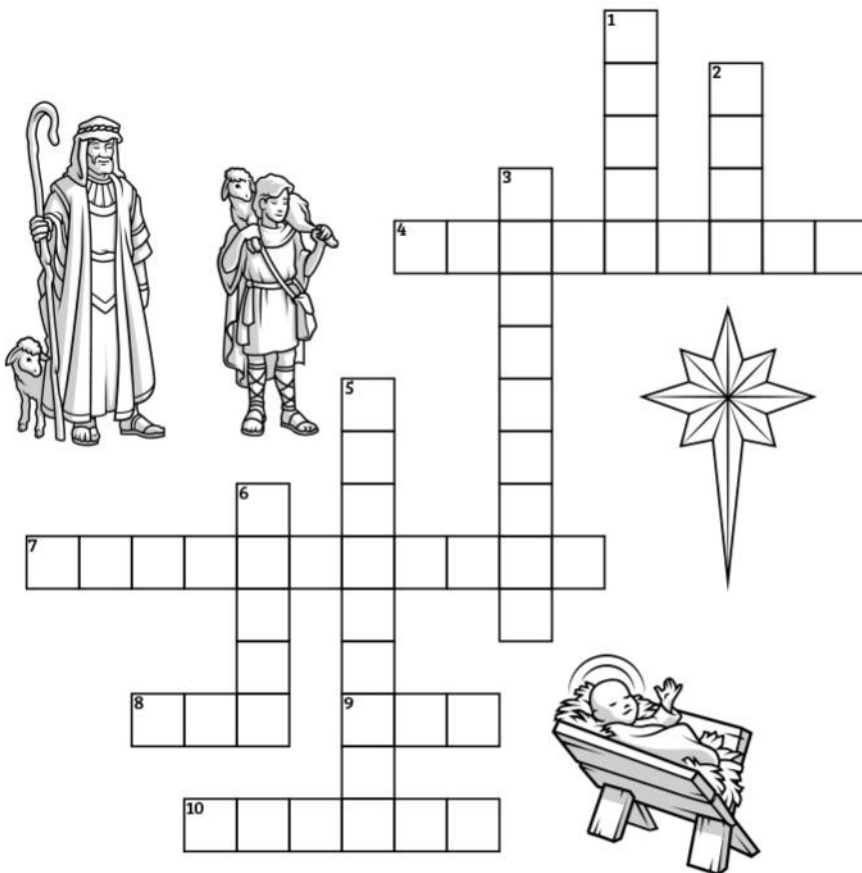
FRANKINCENSE
GIFTS
GOLD
HAY
HOLY

JESUS
JOSEPH
KING
MANGER
MARY

MYRRH
SON
STABLES
STAR
WISE MEN



CHRISTMAS NATIVITY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

4. _____ watched their flocks by night.
7. Mary and Joseph brought _____ as a sacrifice to the temple.
8. Angels brought good tidings of great _____.
9. There was no room for Mary and Joseph in the _____.
10. Jesus lay in a _____.

DOWN

1. The wisemen brought gold, frankincense, and _____.
2. The _____ appeared in the East.
3. Mary and Joseph traveled to _____ to be taxed.
5. Jesus was wrapped in _____ clothing.
6. The _____ of the Lord shone down on the shepherds.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

33 W. DIXON AVE.
DAYTON, OH 45419
937-293-1154

www.stpauls-dayton.org

WELCOME!

We're glad you're here today! Your presence with us is a blessing. We invite you to participate in worship, say the prayers, sing the songs, and introduce yourself. You'll find a visitor card in the pew back in front of you. We're so excited to meet you.

WORSHIP TIMES

9:30 am - Worship Service with Hymns

Office hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday – Thursday

9:00 am - 12:00 pm on Friday

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

The Rev. Jean Vargo—Interim Pastor jean@stpauls-dayton.org

Cara Whitby—Director of Music cara@stpauls-dayton.org

Lois Smith—Parish Administrator lois@stpauls-dayton.org

Sue Starner—Finance & Properties Administrator sue@stpauls-dayton.org

ST. PAUL'S VESTRY

Class of 2026 - Linda Bumiller, Charlie Campbell, Steve Ireland

Class of 2027 - Cheryl Strine, Kathleen Walters

Class of 2028 - Chris Brandt, Jill Davis

Senior Warden (*term expires 2026*)- Paul Sampson

Junior Warden (*term expires 2026*)- Joe Cairo

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