

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*We believe that God is healing and restoring the world,  
and that we are recipients of and participants in that healing and restoration.*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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# Morning Prayer, Rite II

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Opening Hymn Buenos Dias, Paloma Blanca | Fairest Dove, Most Lovely Maiden

*Here & next page.*



1. Bue - nos días, \*Pa - lo - ma Blan - ca,
  2. Ni - ña lín - da, ni - ña san - ta,
  3. Qué lin - da es - tá la ma - ña - na,
  4. Cie - lo a - zul yo te con - vi - do
- 
1. Fair - est Dove, most love - ly maid - en
  2. Love - ly maid - en, chaste and ho - ly,
  3. O how love - ly is the morn - ing:
  4. Blu - est sky, I now in - vite you,



Hoy te ven - go a sa - lu - dar,  
Tu dul - ce nom - bre a - la - bar;  
El a - ro - ma de las flo - res  
En es - te di - cho - so dí - a

---

*On your bright ce - les - tial throne,  
I de - light to sing your fame.  
Ev - 'ry flow'r from sleep a - wakes,  
In these pre - cious morn - ing hours,*



Sa - lu - dan - do tu be - lle - za  
Por - que e - res tan sa - cro - san - ta,  
Des - pi - den sua - ves o - lo - res  
A que pres - tes tu her - mo - su - ra

---

*Now re - ceive the morn - ing greet - ings  
You are set a - part in splen - dor,  
Send - ing forth its sweet - est fra - grance,  
To in - fuse your ra - diant beau - ty*



En tu tro - no ce - les - tial.  
Hoy te ven - go a sa - lu - dar.  
An - tes de rom - per el al - ba.  
A las flo - res de Ma - rí - a.

---

*That I bring to you a - lone.  
And I praise your dear - est name.  
As the qui - et day - light breaks.  
In - to Ho - ly Mar - y's flow'rs.*

Buenos Dias, Paloma Blanca | Fairest Dove, Most Lovely Maiden

cont'd.



E - res Ma - dre del Crea - dor  
 Re - lu - cien - te co - mo el al - ba,  
 Mi pe - cho con voz u - fa - na,  
 Ma - dre mía de Gua - da - lu - pe,  
*You, our great Cre - a - tor's moth - er,*  
*You, who shine like bright - est morn - ing,*  
*With a voice that swells with glad - ness,*  
 Vir - gin pure of Gua - da - lu - pe,



Ya mi co - ra - zón en - can - tas;  
 Pu - ra, sen - ci - lla y sin man - cha.  
 Gra - cias te da, Ma - dre mí - a;  
 Dá - me ya tu ben - di - ción;  
*You en - chant my heart with love,*  
*I can nev - er praise e - nough.*  
*Som - ber night, my heart for - sakes.*  
 All your bless - ings now im - part,



Gra - cias te doy con a - mor.  
 ¡Qué gus - to re - ci - be mi al - ma!  
 En es - te di - cho - so dí - a  
 Re - ci - bes - tas ma - ña - ni - tas  
*So I of - fer my thanks - giv - ing*  
*With what joy my soul is fill - ing*  
*I give thanks to you, my moth - er,*  
 And re - ceive the morn - ing prais - es



Bue - nos días, Pa - lo - ma Blan - ca.  
 Bue - nos días, Pa - lo - ma Blan - ca.  
 An - tes de rom - per el al - ba.  
 De un hu - mil - de co - ra - zón.  
*As I greet you, Fair - est Dove.*  
*As I greet you, Fair - est Dove.*  
*As the joy - ous morn - ing breaks.*  
 Pour - ing from my hum - ble heart.

## Opening Sentence

Officiant: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

*Isaiah 40:3*

## Confession of Sin

*The Officiant says to the people:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling:*

**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 Officiant 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 Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand, as able.*

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

**People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People:*

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

**People: Come let us adore him.**

*Officiant and People:*

**Jubilate**      *Psalm 100*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

*The people are seated.*

## Psalm 126



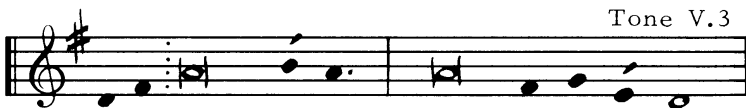
The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad in—deed.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of / Zion, \*  
then were / we like those who dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with / laughter, \*  
and our / tongue with shouts of joy. [ANTIPHON]

Then they said among the / nations, \*  
"The Lord has / done great things for them."  
The Lord has done great things / for us, \*  
and / we are glad indeed. [ANTIPHON]

Restore our fortunes, O / Lord, \*—  
like the watercourses / of the Negev.  
Those who / sowed with tears \*  
will / reap with songs of joy. [ANTIPHON]

Those who go out weeping, carrying the / seed \*—  
will come again with joy, / should'ring their sheaves.  
[ANTIPHON]



## Readings

*A period of silence will follow each reading.*

### **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

*The people remain seated.*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
For I the Lord love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*



**Canticle 15    The Song of Mary    *Magnificat***  
*Luke 1:46-55*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

*The people are seated.*

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*

**Canticle 16    The Song of Zechariah**

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

*Luke 1: 68-79*

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## **John 1:6-8,19-28**

*The people are seated.*

Officiant: A reading from the Gospel of John.

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.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*

**Canticle 19    The Song of the Redeemed**

*Magna et mirabilia*

*Revelation 15:3-4*

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

**The Sermon**

**Baudelina Paz**

Hymn 68

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

## Apostles' Creed

*All 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

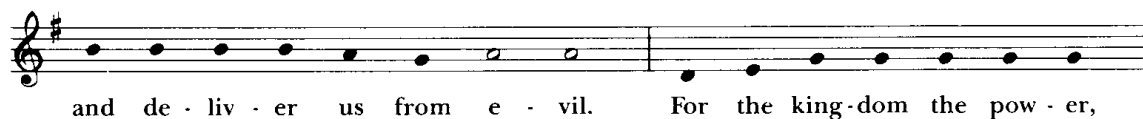
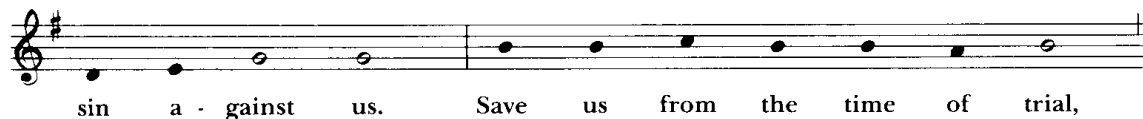
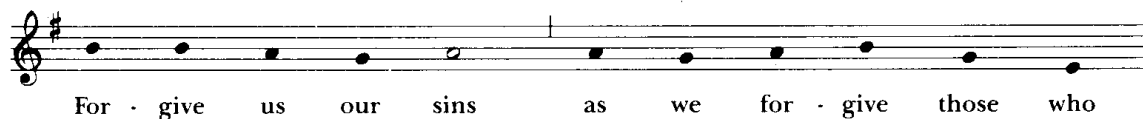
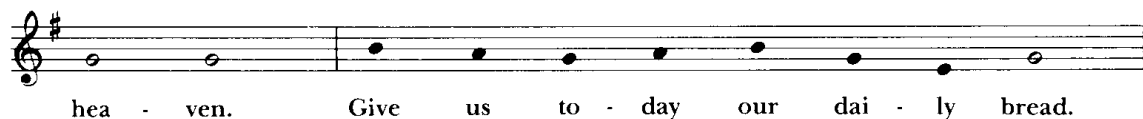
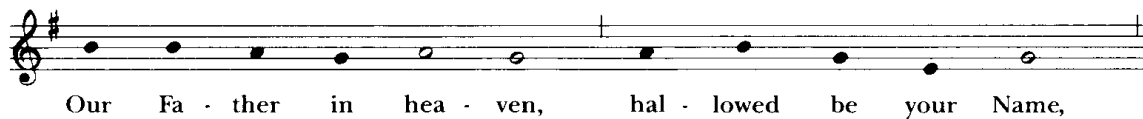
*All stand, as able.*

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

*Officiant and People:*



*The Officiant and People say responsively:*

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

**R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

**R. We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

**R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

**R. For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

**R. And we shall never hope in vain.**

## Collects

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Collect for the Virgin of Guadalupe as per the 2018 Book of Occasional Services:*

O God of love, you blessed your people at Tepeyac with the presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Guadalupe; grant that her example of love to the poor and forsaken may stir our faith to recognize all people as members of one family. Teach us to follow in the way you have prepared for us, that we may honor one another in word and action. May we who have been marked by your image share with the Mother of our Lord your commonwealth of peace, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn 75

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O \_\_\_\_\_ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee  
 3 but the word of our God \_\_\_\_\_ en - du - reth, the \_\_\_\_\_



call from the ways un - trod; Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst \_\_\_\_\_ of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The \_\_\_\_\_  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the  
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 flowers of the field they \_\_\_\_\_ per - ish, like  
 feed his \_\_\_\_\_ flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of  
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our \_\_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_\_ may go!  
 na - tions shall \_\_\_\_\_ pass like a dream \_\_\_\_\_ a - way;  
 lead them, and \_\_\_\_\_ bring them \_\_\_\_\_ safe to his fold.

## **The Prayers of the People**

*2018 Book of Occasional Services*

*Reader:* For all of your people, that we may follow the example of the Mother of our Lord, she who lived in the hope of justice, as we strive for unity among all your people;

We pray to you, God of mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

For our community, that the vision of Juan Diego will inspire us as we strive against prejudice, discrimination, hatred and violence;

We pray to you, God of mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For youth and children, the elderly and sick, the weak, helpless and poor (especially \_\_\_\_\_). May our care for them reflect the love of Mary revealed at Tepeyac;

We pray to you, God of mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For every nation and people, (especially the people of \_\_\_\_\_); for all immigrants and refugees, that the vision of Mary would strengthen us to stand with them in their struggle;

We pray to you, God of mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

That those who have died (especially \_\_\_\_\_) may rest in your peace, and those who mourn (especially \_\_\_\_\_) may find comfort in fellowship with Our Lady of Guadalupe, and all the saints;

We pray to you, God of mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

*Silence.*

*Intercessions may be offered by the people.*

*Silence.*

O God of power and mercy, who gives us roses in a season of darkness; fill us with your unexpected truth and vision of peace among all people. By the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Guadalupe may we seek the justice which unites all people everywhere; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant and People:*

**Almighty God, Source of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Closing Hymn

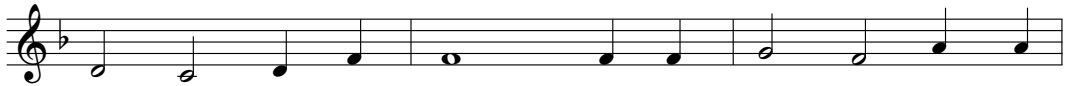
Como un Fuego Brilla y Quema |  
As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

Here & next page.



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a  
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are  
3. As a green bud in the spring - time Is a

1. Co - mo un fue - go bri - lla y que - ma Con ar -  
2. A - pren - de - mos y en - se - ña - mos, Pe - re -  
3. Un ca - pu - llo en pri - ma - ve - ra Mues - tra



bright and warm - ing flame,  
pil - grims on the way.  
sign of life re - newed,

dien - te res - plan - dor,  
gri - nos al an - dar.  
nue - va cre - a - ción.

So the Church is meant for  
We are seek - ers; we are  
So may we be signs of

Va la I - gle - sia mi - sio -  
Re - ci - bi - mos mien - tras  
Un cris - tia - no que u - ni -



mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.  
giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay.  
one - ness Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hues.

ne - ra, Dan - do glo - ria a su Se - ñor.  
da - mos, So - mos ba - rro por que - brar.  
fi - ca Vi - ve la re - su - rrec - ción.



As we wit - ness to the Gos - pel, We would  
 By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would  
 As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a  
*No por cre - dos ni cos - tum - bres Si - no*  
*Al vi - vir con gen - ti - le - za Re - fle -*  
*Co - mo bri - lla el ar - co i - ris Si la*



build a bridge of care, Join - ing hands a - cross the  
 show that Christ is light. In a hum - ble, lis - t'ning  
 storm is past and gone, May our lives re - flect the  
*pa - ra cons - tru - ir Puen - tes de her - man - dad y*  
*ja - mos luz ya - mor. Un es - pí - ri - tu hu -*  
*tem - pes - tad se fue, Que tu vi - da sea ra -*



na - tions, Find - ing neigh - bors ev - 'ry - where.  
 Spir - it, We would live to God's de - light.  
 ra - diance Of God's new and glo - rious dawn.  
*cui - do, Nues - tras ma - nos hay que u - nir.*  
*mil - de Es la di - cha del Se - ñor.*  
*dian - te Y que glo - ria a Dios le dé.*

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Romans 15:13*

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*Offertory - Thank you for giving!*

Please drop your offering in the church's mailbox or mail it to:

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
415 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

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### **Advent Devotional 2020**

The Advent Devotional Book is available daily at

*<http://stpaulsmv.org/category/devotions/prepare-the-way/>*

If you would like to receive a devotion from it each morning in your email, go here to sign up: *[stpaulsmv.org/2020-advent-devotional-book/](http://stpaulsmv.org/2020-advent-devotional-book/)*. If you have any questions, please email Jen at *[jennifer.e.mccabe@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.e.mccabe@gmail.com)*.

### **Christmas Eve Zoom Pageant**

There will be a virtual procession during the reading of the Christmas Story at the Bilingual Christmas Eve Worship on Thursday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m. Feel free to participate by moving your figurines/animals (whether it be sheep or tyrannosaurus) and other characters from your home crèches across your screens at the appropriate parts during the pageant. Questions, contact Mary Ann at *[supermat@comcast.net](mailto:supermat@comcast.net)*

Your **Vestry** members request your prayers for this congregation and their leadership. They want to be in conversation with you. Speak with them so they know the needs of the congregation:

Bonnie Schuh

Susan Cooper

Sandy McDougall

Dan Niven

Sara Young

Margaret Bird

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list.

Please email Penny Worrell at *[penny.worrell@gmail.com](mailto:penny.worrell@gmail.com)*.

All music used during this service is licensed for online streaming through OneLicense.net #A-725912

Cover image: *<https://twitter.com/UniLentUK/status/942353171409768448/photo/1>*



## *Where are we on the Liturgical Calendar? – Advent*

Advent Tells Us Christ is Near...

With the First Sunday in Advent, we begin one of two major cycles of the Church year: Advent-Christmas-Epiphany (the Incarnation Cycle). The other major cycle is Lent-Holy Week-Easter (the Paschal or Resurrection Cycle). In our liturgies, seasonal changes in scripture readings, liturgical texts, music and practice, along with colors and ornamentation, reveal each season's meaning within the overall shape of the cycle of which it is a part.

Advent means “arrival” and “coming.” Advent's readings weave together the three comings of Christ: in the past, in history, as a baby born in Bethlehem; in the future, at the end of all history, to bring in God's kingdom; and in the present, today and every day, in the Word and Bread and Wine of the Eucharist, in friend and stranger, in the ordinary moments of living, in our hearts. Advent is a season of waiting and expectation, hoping and yearning, looking for, preparing for, the coming of Christ.

At Christmas, God's promise of salvation is revealed in the birth of Jesus. The unlikely and wondrous gift is given—Incarnation! – God's Word made flesh. And the Word God has spoken in Incarnation is Love. Christmas is a season of amazement and celebration of Emmanuel, God's Love come among us in Christ.

Epiphany means “appearance, manifestation.” We hear stories of God revealed in Jesus, God in a human being made manifest. The season begins with the visit of the magi to the manger on the Feast of Epiphany and the baptism of Jesus on the first Sunday after. It ends with the vision of Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop, shot through with the glory of his divinity. Epiphany is a season of growing revelation and realization of what Advent points to and Christmas makes reality – that over 2,000 years ago, in the little town of Bethlehem, in a baby in a manger, God's grace, mercy, justice and peace came into the world in human form and lived among us as one of us. And human possibilities and potential were forever changed.

Long ago, God spoke to us through the prophets, but now God has spoken to us by a Son. May we be blessed in our Advent preparations, Christmas celebrations and Epiphany discoveries, drawn ever more deeply into the mystery of God in Christ.

SO JOHN ATTRACTS  
ALL OF THIS ATTENTION  
JUST TO **GIVE IT**  
**AWAY?** YHP...



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

HE'S THE **VOICE**,  
NOT THE **WORD**.\*



\*THX 2 J.O.@CSL

**WORD!**



JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

© WETZSTEIN 17.12.13

<https://www.agnusday.org/comics/801/john-01-06-08-19-28-2017>

# We Three Kings

Pandemic Parody

Words: R. G. Huff  
A Serious Hymn-writer Gone Rogue

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.  
KINGS OF ORIENT



1. We three kings are six feet a - part. We'll Pur - ell be fore we de - part.  
2. Mel - chi - or is now quar - an - tined! Stuck in Per - sia, so \_\_\_ it seems.  
3. Bal - tha - sar has lost \_\_\_ his taste. Eat - ing food is such \_\_\_ a waste.  
4. Cas - par left the car - a - van. He post-poned his star-gaz - ing plans.



We've been test - ed as sug - gest - ed. Care - ful are we, and smart!  
No more trav - el on a cam - el 'til there's a good vac - cine.  
How dis - quiet - ing, now he's diet - ing. Life now is slow - er paced.  
No more roam - ing; Cas - par's hom - ing, scrub - bing his red - dened hands.

## REFRAIN

*Sing Only after Stanzas 1 & 4*



O \_\_\_ Do our masks go with our gowns? Do these face shields hide our crowns?  
Still our masks clash with our gowns! Face shields hide our top - pled crowns!



We've had plen - ty twen - ty, twen - ty! Still we head t'ward Da - vid's town.  
We've had plen - ty twen - ty, twen - ty! Soon we'll head t'ward Da - vid's town.

## Optional Stanza 4:

Caspar blames it all on Amahl--  
One night's visit on the long haul.  
Coughs and sneezes,  
Short-breaths, wheezes.  
Li-co-rice cures it all.

## *Welcome to Saint Paul's!*

**W**e hope that your worship with us will be both inspirational and spiritually nurturing. Please feel free to participate in the worship service as much or as little as you wish. The prayer book gives directions as to when we stand, sit, or occasionally kneel; these are guidelines. What is more important is that you bring your complete self to worship God.

**E**veryone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. During the pandemic, we share Communion in spirit. We ask that those worshipping with us online reverently pray and meditate on God's grace and blessing whenever you observe the Eucharist being taken.

The Rt. Rev. Gregory H. Rickel <i>Bishop</i>	206-325-4200	grickel@ecww.org
The Reverend Paul Moore <i>Rector</i>	254-368-6475	padrequiteno@gmail.com
The Reverend Dennis Taylor <i>Deacon / Faith Community Nurse</i>	360-661-1551	deacon2rn@comcast.net
David Sloat <i>Organist and Music Director</i>	713-834-4335	dsloat617@msn.com
St. Paul's Office <i>Parish Administrator</i> <i>Bookkeeper</i>	360-424-1822	stpaulmv@comcast.net spbookkeeper@comcast.net

If you would like to receive our e-news, please send a message to [stpaulmv@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulmv@comcast.net).