

St. Paul United Methodist Church

A Good Neighbor

501 Grant Street, SE • Atlanta GA 30312

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Rev. Ellen Hopkins

Pastor

Kevin Hill

Minister of Music

Daniel Wilkinson

Organist

Estelli Ramos

Contextual Education Intern

Joe Riddle

Director,

Recreation Ministries

Ashley Riddle

Co-Director,

Recreation Ministries

Becky Wellman

Director,

Golden Age Center

Ginny Pavey

Office Manager

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015



The Worship of God

Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

*Call to Worship

We sing of God's mercy and grace shown to all generations.

We praise God's constant and never-ending love and faithfulness.

We rejoice that God's promise of an anointed one—the Messiah—
is about to be fulfilled.

O come, O come, Emmanuel—God with us—forever!

*Hymn *Once in Royal David's City* UMH 250

*Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed* UMH 881

Greeting

We want to know that you were here worshipping with us today, especially if you are a first time visitor. Please fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew), and place it in the offering. After the service, please introduce yourself to your neighbors and join us for cookies and conversation.

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle:

The Candle of Peace

Danielle Hanson,
Annika and Olivia Egerstedt

Advent Song *Verse 4* TFWS 2090

Reading and Sharing the Word

First Lesson

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God

Isaiah 9:2-6

*Gospel Lesson

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God

Luke 2:8-14

Celebration of our Children

Children's Offering

*Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH 230

Sermon Jeff McCord

Responding to the Word

Call to Prayer

Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (Creator) 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 forever. Amen.**

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Musical Offering

Star in the East

Chancel Choir

***The Doxology**

UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God on high, ye heavenly host.
Praise God, the Son and Holy Ghost!
Amen!**

Departing to Love and Serve

Announcements

***Hymn**

Star Child

TFWS 2095

***Benediction**

***The Congregational Blessing**

Go Now in Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

***The Light Goes Forth**

Postlude

*Please stand in body or spirit.

WE REJOICE TO WELCOME YOU to this service of worship at St. Paul United Methodist Church. We pray God's blessing upon you this morning. We are pleased you chose to worship with us today. If you are just visiting, we encourage you to fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew) and place it in the offering so we can be in touch with you. If you are looking for a church home, look no further—you have found one at St. Paul. If this community can assist you in any way, please let us know. If you are interested in becoming a member of this church or want to talk about membership, please speak with our Pastor, Rev. Ellen Hopkins, after the service. **Welcome. Welcome. Welcome!!!**

WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Guest Preacher: Jeff McCord

Liturgist: Treah Caldwell

Children's Time: Bryan Russell

Acolytes: Nancy Erwin, Camille and Claudia Tanksley

Ushers: Bryan Russell (Head Usher), Angela Russell, Cooper Russell and Marcus Merritt

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Angela Russell

Counters: Bill McKinnon and Sarah Caldwell

Want more information about what's happening at St. Paul? We generally send out emails weekly. If you'd like to be on our email list, contact the church office at office@stpaulgrantpark.org or 404-688-7501.

Activities. Members, visitors, friends, all are invited to participate in the various ministries at St. Paul. If you need more information please call the church office 404-688-7501.

Every Sunday:

- 10am **Adult Sunday School**
- 8:45am **Worship First** (casual, contemporary service with Holy Communion)
- 11am **Morning Worship** (traditional service)
- 12-ish **Hospitality:** Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (Chester Commons, most Sundays)

Wednesday:

- 7 pm **Choir Rehearsal** (kevinhowardhill@gmail.com)
- **Youth Group** Variable schedule. Contact Ashley Riddle to be placed on her contact list (ashleywaiteriddle@gmail.com).

Nursery is available for infants and toddlers on the 3rd floor of the education building prior to and during the worship service.