

St. Paul United Methodist Church

A Good Neighbor

501 Grant Street, SE • Atlanta GA 30312

404-688-7501 • fax 404- 688-4421



Rev. S. Ellen Hopkins

Pastor

Kevin Hill

Minister of Music

Colin Moore

Guest Organist

Joe Riddle

Director,

Recreation Ministries

Ashley Riddle,

Co-Director,

Recreation Ministries

Estelli Ramos

Contextual Education Intern

Becky Wellman

Director,

Golden Age Center

Ginny Pavey

Office Manager

First Sunday After Christmas Day

December 27, 2015



The Worship of God

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

***Processional Hymn** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* #229

***Call to Worship**

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to his people on earth!

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbol of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, our hope and our joy.

***Affirmation of Faith** *Apostles Creed* #881

Greeting

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

Reading and Sharing the Word

***Gospel Reading**

John 1:1-5

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Celebration of Our Children

Children's Offering

***Hymn**

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

UMH 179

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Call to Prayer

Love Has Come

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

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Chancel Choir

***The Doxology**

#95

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

We Depart to Love and Serve

Announcements

***Hymn**

Go Tell It On the Mountain

UMH 251

***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

Presider: Rev. Ellen Hopkins

Advent Wreath: Dave and Nancy Erwin, Camille and Claudia Tanksley

Liturgist: Chris Cline

Children's Time: Talley Wells

Acolytes: Angela, Cooper and Quinn Russell

Ushers: Eddie Hardie (Head Usher), Patrick Lynn, Richard Quartarone and Robin South

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Holly Elrod

Counters: Michael Solberg and Ron Rezendes

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 **Sunday School** (all ages)
- 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)

Every Wednesday:

- 7:00pm **Chancel Choir** [kevinhowardhill@gmail.com]

Youth Group Variable schedule. Contact Ashley Waite (waite.ashley@gmail.com) to be placed on her contact list.

Nursery is available for infants and toddlers on the 3rd floor of the education building prior to and during the worship service. After the Children's Sermon, children under kindergarten age may go up to child care in the gym on the third floor.