



# The Worship of God

## Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

### Chiming of the Hour

### Prelude

### \*Call to Worship

O come, O come, Emmanuel—**God with us.**  
Come into our brokenness; **come into our joy.**  
Come into our captivity; **come into our freedom.**  
Come into our fear; **come into our compassion.**  
Our souls have had their fill. **Have mercy upon us, O God,**  
**And come, O come, Emmanuel.**

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### \*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 Second Advent Candle: The Candle of Love

Leslie Truman

### Advent Song

*From Paradise to Earth I Come*

Verse 2

1 "From heaven a - bove to earth I come to bring good  
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your  
4 "These are the signs which you shall mark: the swad - dling  
5 We too must join the an - gel throng to sing a -

news to ev - ery home! Glad tid - ings of great  
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; this lit - tle child of  
 sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your  
 clothes and man - ger dark. There you shall find the  
 gain this joy - ful song: "All glo - ry be to

joy I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
 low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.  
 Sav - ior be, from all your sins to set you free.  
 in - fant laid by whom the heavens and earth were made."  
 God in heaven, who un - to us his Son had given."

### Reading and Sharing the Word

**Psalm 72**

UMH 795

**\*Gospel Lesson**

John 3:1-17

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God**

**Celebration of our Children**

**Children's Offering**

**\*Hymn**

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

UMH 209

**Sermon**

Rev. Ellen Hopkins

**Responding to the Word**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Sh'Kur Francis

**The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Musical Offering**

*Before the Marvel of This Night*

Chancel Choir

**\*The Doxology**

UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Service of Word and Table**

UMH 12

**The Great Thanksgiving**

UMH 13

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Music**

*View the Present Through the Promise*

Chancel Choir

**Prayer after Holy Communion**

**Eternal God,  
We give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your spirit  
to give ourselves for others  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Departing to Love and Serve**

**Announcements**

**\*Hymn**

*People Look East*

UMH 202

**\*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

Liturgist: Holly Elrod

Children's Sermon: Clayton Davis

Advent Liturgy: Leslie Truman

Loving Childcare: TBD

Acolytes: Rebecca and Billy Wallace

Ushers: Don Wallace (Head Usher), Robin South, Talley Wells, Patrick Lynn

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Kolbi Lynn

Counters: Jeremy Varner and Fred Fuller

**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](mailto: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](mailto:kevinhowardhill@gmail.com)]

**Youth Group** Variable schedule. Contact Treah Caldwell ([miss.treah@gmail.com](mailto:miss.treah@gmail.com)) to be placed on her contact list.

Nursery is available for infants and young toddlers on the 3rd floor of the education building prior to and during the worship service. After the Children's Sermon, children ages 3 through 2nd grade may go up to Children's Church on the third floor or remain in their pews with their parents.

