

St. Paul United Methodist Church
501 Grant St. SE
Atlanta, GA 30312

www.stpaulgrantpark.org ▪ 404-688-7501



Second Sunday in Advent
December 9, 2018, 2018



The Worship of God

Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

***Call to Worship**

The Lord is coming to us soon. Make ready your hearts to receive Him.

We are caught up in the rush of the season. Calm us down, Lord.

The Lord is bringing peace to you.

Praise be to God who brings peace to a hectic world. AMEN.

[*ministrymatters.com*]

***Hymn**

Prepare the Way of the Lord

UMH 207

***Affirmation of Faith**

A Modern Affirmation

UMH 885

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 Connect 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 Peace

David, Kristen and Jude Watts

Advent Candle Song

Light two candles, Christ is coming,
Christ, the Peace of the World.

Light two candles, Christ is coming,
Christ is coming soon.

Reading and Sharing the Word

Old Testament Lesson

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Malachi 3:1-4

***Gospel Lesson**

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Luke 3:1-6

Celebration of Our Children

***Hymn** *Soon and Very Soon* UMH 706

Sermon *Jesus Is Coming* Rev. Cassie Rapko

Responding to the Word

Call to Prayer *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* 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 *I Hear the Prophet Calling* Chancel Choir

***The Doxology** UMH 95

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

We Depart to Love and Serve

Announcements

***Hymn** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* UMH 220

***Benediction**

***The Congregational Blessing**

Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God,
Love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod,
This year, this year, let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

***The Light Goes Forth**

*Please stand in body or spirit.

WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Presider: Rev. Cassie Rapko

Liturgist: Bill McKinnon

Children's Time: Bryan Russell

Acolytes: Megan, John and Will Noble

Ushers: Angela Russell, Cooper Russell, Richard Quartarone

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Karen Merritt

Counters: Bill McKinnon

WE WELCOME YOU if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or if you only sing in the shower. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism. We are glad you are here.

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)

Choir Practice most Wednesdays at 7 pm and Sundays at 10:15 am.

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, Kindergarten aged and pre-K children may go up to the nursery on the third floor or remain in their pews with their parents.