



Third Sunday in Advent ▪ December 15, 2019

The Worship of God

Preparing for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

***Call to Worship**

We are ready, O Lord, to behold the presence of your spirit among us.

Bless our spirits with openness and joy!

We have come on this journey seeking hope and peace.

You, O Lord, have poured your spirit on us!

Justice and peace shall be brought to all God's people.

No more shall fear and doubt claim us.

God is fulfilling the ancient promise of a Savior.

Our hearts rejoice at this good news of God's love. AMEN.

[ministrymatters.com]

***Hymn** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* UMH 196

***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 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 Third Advent Candle,
The Candle of Joy**

Celeste and Candace
McCollough

Reading and Sharing the Word

***Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 11:2-11

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Celebration of Our Children

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

Sermon *Expectations* Rev. Lisa Gwock

WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Preacher: Rev. Lisa Gwock
Assistant: Gracie Ellis
Liturgist: Holly Elrod
Children's Time: Jeff McCord
Advent Wreath: Candace and Celeste McCollough
Acolytes: Jeremy, Henry and Abram Jones
Ushers: Bryan Russell, Eddie Hardy
Altar Guild: Karen Merritt
Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Annie Jackson
Counters: Clay Elrod and Jack Warner

We are so excited that you are with us at St. Paul UMC! Holiday season is always busy and we are glad that you are with us! Know that this holiday season even if you have to sit at the dinner table with your Uncle Gary and rehash events from 50 years ago, you can find solace here on Sunday mornings. Come on in, sit down, chat with your neighbor, or don't, that is entirely up to you! Our Pastor, Rev. Cassie Rapko is currently on Maternity Leave, so you are in for a treat with our great line-up of guest preachers! So welcome to this place 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 last Christmas. 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.

In case of a pastoral emergency, such as a hospitalization or death, please call 229-234-0153 and leave a message.

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)
- 11am **Morning Worship**
- 12-ish **Hospitality:** Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (Chester Commons, most Sundays)

Choir Practice Most Wednesdays at 7 pm and Sunday at 10:15 am. Contact

Youth Group 5-7pm most 1st and 3rd Sundays. Contact annie@stpaulgrantpark.org.

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 through 3rd grade may go up to Children's Church on the third floor or remain in their pews with their parents.*