



St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry

December 2, 2015

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**St. Paul's
Episcopal Church**

3706 W. St. Paul Ave.
McHenry, IL 60050
815-385-0390

Holy Eucharist
and Laying on of Hands for Healing
tonight at 6:30 p.m.

All are Welcome!

Women's Wednesday is tonight!

The women of the church (along with friends) are invited tonight at 7pm for bible study and friendly conversation. Bring a little snack to share if you like.

Men's Breakfast is this Saturday!

*December 5th at 8:00 a.m.
at Kim & Patty's*

Church Email:
stpaulmchenry
@sbcglobal.net

Lori's Email:
lorilowe@
stpaulmchenry.com

Quick Links

St. Paul website

Vestry Minutes

January 2015

February 2015

March 2015

April 2015

May 2015

June 2015

August 2015

September 2015

October 2015

Diaper Bank

Episcopal News
Service

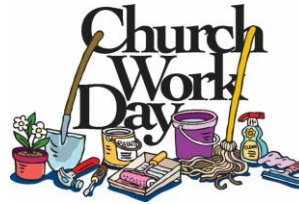
Diocese of Chicago

Lectionary Calendar

Forward Day by Day

Join Our
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*December 5th will be Church Clean Up day!
Starting at 9:00 a.m!*

A VERY SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER THIS SUNDAY

Many months ago, I invited Courtney Reid to be our guest preacher for this coming Sunday, December 6th. Courtney is the Director of Operations for the Diocese of Chicago - and yes, that means she runs the place! She is also a licensed (and wise) preacher. I know you'll give her a warm St. Paul's welcome. lml+



Thoughts from Lori

The quiet little street where Bill and I live is ablaze with Christmas lights. Yes, I've come to understand that people put them up early while it's still relatively warm and before there is snow to make it harder to do. But I was still surprised to see them all lit up right after Thanksgiving. They all make our house look really plain and dull. So I guess we'll at least put our Christmas wreath on the door and our antique wooden Santa on the front of the garage. Still, we'll wait until around the 20th to put up our tree. It's our way of trying to keep Advent in some small way. And of course, we leave the tree up until Epiphany (January 6th) in observance of the Twelve Days of Christmas. We are, after all, church geeks - or is it nerds?

In the meantime, it's impossible to not get caught up in the tide toward Christmas. In addition to the decorating, there is shopping to do, parties to attend, preparations for family visits. My hope for myself and for you, is that we can enjoy all these activities in the spirit of anticipation, the spirit of waiting (which is what Advent means), so that when Christmas does finally come, we can truly celebrate it. Celebrate the first coming

of Christ; celebrate the reign of love and forgiveness that coming initiated; and recommit to expanding that reign until there is justice and peace for all people.

So, dear friends, may this season of Advent be a blessing to you. May all that we do in this time of waiting be preparation for the celebration to come!

Faithfully,
Loritt

PLEDGES

Your response to our annual pledge drive has been wonderful! If you have not yet turned in your pledge, you may place it in the offering plate on any Sunday or mail it to the church office (3706 W. St. Pauls Ave., McHenry 60050).
THANK YOU!



Christmas Angel Tree decorating will be this Sunday, December 6th, after the service.



Poinsettias for Christmas

Please take part in the beautification of the church for Christmas by donating \$25 (each) for Poinsettias. Your donation may be given "in memory of" or "in thanksgiving for" someone in your life, or simply for this parish. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.



Advent Baby Baskets

Again this year, our Advent outreach project will be in the form of filling "Moses baskets" with new items needed for mothers who are without extended resources for all those many baby products that most of us took for granted. Start collecting (and/or making) baby things for the Advent Baby Baskets. Last year, we filled four to overflowing, so this year we'll have six! They will be in the narthex all four Sundays in Advent, after which we will ask the Diaper Bank to distribute them to participants in their New Mothers program. In addition to the list below, we would love to include a handmade (knitted, crocheted, or otherwise) blanket in each basket. Here is the list of items needed:

- Onesies
- Burp cloths
- Changing pads
- Receiving blankets
- Soft toys for newborns
- Baby bottles for water, juice, formula
- Wet wipes
- Baby lotion
- Diaper rash ointment
- Etc., etc.!



Men's Breakfast - Saturday, Dec. 5, 8:00 a.m.
Church Cleanup Day - Saturday, Dec. 5, 9:00 a.m.
Christmas Tree decorating - Sunday, Dec. 6
Vestry - Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7:15 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service - 9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Service - 10:00 a.m.
Office closed - Dec. 31/Jan 1
Open House at the Rectory - Jan. 3, 4-6:00 p.m.

A message from Julie Sundin, Music Director:

The music you will sing and hear during the next several weeks will tell the story of Jesus in a multitude of ways - from Advent, a season of preparation, to Christmas, the fulfillment of the Advent expectations and Epiphany, which serves as a bridge between the birth of Jesus and his passion. Their tunes come from almost every country in Europe as well as folk tunes from America. The music dates from prior to the 9th century (O Come, O Come, Emmanuel) to the contemporary hymns found in our hymnal.

Each Sunday in Advent, the organ prelude will be a different setting of the chorale "Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland" (Come now, Savior of the Nations) by such composers as Paul Manz, Max Reger, John Eggert and Johann Sebastian Bach. The congregation will sing this hymn on the last Sunday of Advent in urgent expectation of Christ's birth.

May the music we share help us experience more fully, together as the body of Christ and, individually in our own way, the celebration of Christ's birth.

Lessons and Hymns

Sunday, December 6, 2015

Advent 2 - Year C

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-4. The prophet Malachi tells people that God is sending a messenger to prepare the way for a time of purification. In place of the Psalm we will recite the "Song of Zechariah."

The Epistle: Philippians 1:3-11. St. Paul reminds the church at Philippi of his great love for them and urges them to overflow with love for one another.

The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6. This passage tells the story of the coming of John the Baptist (son of Zechariah) calling for people to "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

THE HYMNS:

Processional Hymn: No. 57. "Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending." Charles Wesley wrote this hymn which is reminiscent of Daniel 7:13-14, "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of

man." The tune, "Helmsley" is a melody composed by Thomas Augustine Arne who is most famous for producing the English anthem, "Rule Britannia!"

Sequence Hymn: No. 76. "On Jordan's Bank." Charles Coffin, a French Latin teacher wrote this hymn in that ancient language and it was later translated into English by the Episcopal priest/musician, the Rev. Dr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). The second verse truly captures the nature of repentance: "Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come." The hymn is set to the lively tune, "Winchester New".

Presentation Hymn: No. 657. "Love Divine All Loves Excelling." Here is a famous Charles Wesley hymn which he published in a pamphlet titled, "Hymns for Those that Seek, and Those that Have Redemption in the Blood of Jesus Christ." Some of the symbolic imagery of Revelation is found in these words, "Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise." The tune, "Hyfrydol," composed by Rowland Hugh Prichard, has some delightful harmonies and movement.

Communion Hymn: No. 712. "Dona Nobis Pacem." These three words are Latin for "Grant Us Peace" and the hymn is an old monastic canon of unknown authorship and composing. As we approach the altar for Holy Communion, we want to pray for peace in our hearts and souls and these words are a wonderful preface to receiving this sacrament.

Recessional Hymn: No. 65. "Prepare the Way, O Zion." This hymn is new to the 1982 Hymnal and was written by a Finnish lyric poet named Frans Michael Franzen. Because of the simplicity of his works, his contemporaries said that "the cultured man will appreciate them and the unlettered man can understand them." As we leave worship singing this hymn, we proclaim the spirit of Advent and the coming of Christ, along with a tune that is a Swedish melody-most befitting a Finnish hymn!

December 6th Servants

Ushers: Terry and Don Jaworski

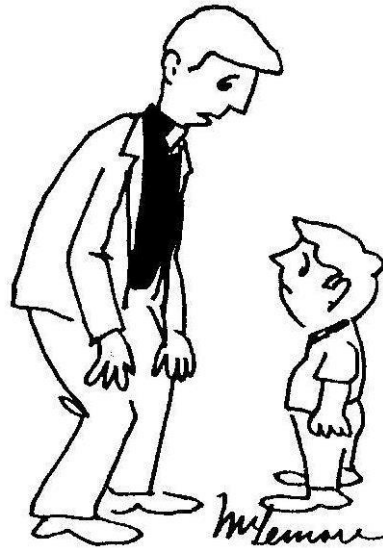
Lector: Rick Carlstedt

Intercessor: Judy Robel

Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Dietmeyer,
Michelle Wiejaczka

Vestry Person of the Day: Darrell Rowe

From the cartoons created by
the Rev. William P. McLemore



"No, son, we don't give Advent presents."

Church
Bulletin
Bloopers



*"The choir invites any member of the
congregation who enjoys sinning to join
the choir."*