



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
McHenry, IL



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## Weekly ePistle ~ December 30, 2020

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### ***St. Paul's Online Worship for Sunday, January 3rd***

Join us at **8:30 am** for Morning Prayer led by Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts. Even if you don't have a computer, you can join by phone!

To join by computer, click on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/95751784278>

To participate by phone, dial 312-626-6799 and be prepared to enter the ID below.

Our meeting ID is **957 5178 4278**

All participants will be muted upon entry to the service. If you are a reader, please be aware that you will have to unmute yourself in order to be heard. You do not necessarily have to have the video enabled if you do not wish to be seen.

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### ***From Deacon Deb***

Dear Friends,

This Sunday will be the first Sunday of the New Year. We will hear the words of the prophet Jeremiah 31:7-14, "I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow." These are words we need to pay attention to. These words remind us that God's people have faced trials and sorrows throughout the ages – we are not alone. These words remind us that God knows how we suffer – we are not alone. These words promise us that God will give us comfort and gladness once more.

We have so much to look forward to in the coming months. We will begin fulfilling our community service goals through the Vitality Grant awarded to us in the fall. We will, we hope soon, be worshipping together again. Being together will mean we can venture into shared ministry with First United Methodist Church. We will have a new bishop to lead

us. And, most of all, we can look forward to fellowship once again. Joy!  
By the grace of God, we have much work to do in His name. I am grateful to work  
alongside each one of you in service to our God and our community.

*God showed most blessedly:*

*See, I am God.*

*See, I am in everything.*

*See, I do everything.*

*See, I never lift my hands from my works, nor ever shall,  
without end.*

*See, I lead everything to the end I ordained for it  
from without beginning*

*by the same Power, Wisdom and Love which I made it.*

*How would anything be amiss?*

*Julian of Norwich*

In Christ,  
Deacon Deborah

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### ***Words from Wardens***

As we prepare for the New Year, this is typically a time that we look back at the year that is ending. My immediate reaction is to say, “Go away 2020; good riddance!” However, when I think about the year, I can’t help but to reflect how we at St. Paul’s have risen to the challenges that faced us. I see a dedicated group of people who met every obstacle head on and found strength in each other and our faith. We are resilient, but more than our resilience, we have found out that together we are stronger than we ever thought was possible. So, while we are saying goodbye to 2020, I want to rejoice in the glory of God who has been by our side and will continue to guide us to do His great works with a renewed sense of energy in 2021.

This “definition” of Church says it all – this is St. Paul’s.

Beth Lukas, Senior Warden

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## Church

a human connection of love,  
not a building

a lifestyle,  
not a weekly activity

an act of service,  
not a service to attend

|taylor duvall|

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### ***Men's Breakfast is postponed...for now***

The monthly Men's Breakfast has been postponed until spring. We will let you know when it's started up again!

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### ***Advent Outreach Ministry***

A big THANK YOU to all who contributed to our outreach ministries! Your giving, along with \$300 from St. Paul's, came to almost \$1200! Food for Thought and 1st Way Life are most grateful for our generosity!

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### ***2020 Pledges - Are you caught up?***

The end of 2020 is approaching soon and now is the time to catch up on balances for 2020. If you're not sure where you are with your 2020 pledges, just call the church office and we can let you know. Statements will go out after December 31.

### ***Speaking of pledges...***

The 2021 pledge envelopes are here and ready to be picked up. If you would like them mailed to you, please let the office know.

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### ***Mark your calendars - Annual Meeting***

Our Annual Meeting will be coming up on January 31st, via Zoom. The annual report will be available as a link for you to see prior to the meeting. We'll be reviewing 2020 and vote in the new vestry members: Heather Dodge, Jeff Lynaugh, and Al Robel.

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### ***January/February issues of the Upper Room are now available!***

Please let the office know if you'd like to stop by and pick one up or if you'd like one mailed to you.

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### ***Servants for Sunday, January 3***

Reader – Al Robel  
Intercessor – Judy Robel  
Cantor – Jeffrey Zabor

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### ***St. Paul's Prayer List***

### ***Week of January 3 - January 9***

Please keep those on our prayer list in your thoughts during this time. If you wish to add to the list, please contact the church office.

**Ongoing prayers:** Yasmin, Kay, Edna, Amy, Tim, Marty, Barb, Marianne, Jim, Lucy, Vic, and Eleanor

**Current prayers:** Jenn, Stacy, Jeff, Keith, Bobbi, Rory, Bonnie, Brandy, Danielle, Shirley-Patricia, Sheila, Colton, Shannon, Terry, Isabella, Sophia, Joy, Christine, Jeff, Todd, Justine, Frank, and June

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Cartoon by *Inherit the Mirth*

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**Questions or concerns?**

Please contact our Wardens - Beth Lukas (Senior Warden)  
or Jeffrey Zabor (Junior Warden).

***In need of pastoral care?***

Please contact Deborah Lang, our Deacon: [DeaconDeb@stpaulmchenry.com](mailto:DeaconDeb@stpaulmchenry.com)

**Office Hours**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8:30 am - 1:30 pm

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St. Paul's Email - [stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net)

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St Paul's Episcopal Church | 3717 W. Main St., McHenry, IL 60050

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