



December 29, 2019

Epiphany Sunday

Praise, Proclaim, and Prophecy!

Rev. Becky Rokitowski

The mission of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is to be a faithful community of disciples who serve as the heart, hands and feet of Christ so that all people come to know the love of God.

9:30 a.m. ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please see our ushers for large print hymnals and bulletins.
We also have hearing loops for hearing aids with t-coil technology.

Prelude *How Great Our Joy* J. Weber

Welcome and Greeting Rev. Becky Rokitowski

Call to Worship

(Congregation sings the Refrain as indicated: *Joy to the world, the Lord has come!*)

Arise, shine: for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

The sun will no longer be your light by day, nor will the moon give light to you by night; but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and you God will be your glory.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness."

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

This is the message we have heard from Jesus and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name!

Joy to the world the Lord has come!

* **Carol Sing** *What Child Is This* (vs. 1 & 3) UMH 219
We Three Kings (vs. 1 & 5) UMH 254

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Rev. Becky Rokitowski

* **Carol Sing** *He is Born* (vs. 1 & 3) UMH 228
Away in a Manger UMH 217

Children's Chat Blessing of the Toys, Noisy Offering

Scripture Luke 2:21-40 New Testament pg. 59

Sermon **Praise, Proclaim, and Prophecy!**
Rev. Becky Rokitowski

Offering *Gesu Bambino* arr. J. Calkins

* **Doxology**

* **Closing Hymn** *Go Tell It on the Mountain* UMH 251

* **Benediction**

Postlude *Theme & Variations on 'Puer Nobis'* H. Hopson



NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE

Our first sermon series for 2020 is **New Places for New People**. Effectively creating new places for new people comes directly from the great commission Jesus gave his disciples “*go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the three-fold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I’ll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.*” (Matthew 28:19-20, The Message)

What are the new places we can create inside and outside the church to develop relationships with new people? How does scripture guide us in that process? How is God seeking to do a new thing in our midst? The Good News of Jesus Christ is meant to be shared. Our focus in this series is to seek how God is leading us as disciples to be that connective component.

FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2020 - Altar flowers in honor or in memory of someone special are a lovely way to adorn our Sanctuary. After worship, the arrangement is divided into small bouquets, which are then taken to our home-bound or hospitalized members. The 2020 flower calendar is posted in the Narthex. Please note on it the date(s) you would like to place flowers on the altar.

Around Saint Paul's

MUSIC AT SAINT PAUL'S

Toddler and Preschool Music Groups and SPARKS Choir will resume meeting next Wednesday, January 8.

Youth and Handbell Choir resume their regular rehearsal schedules Next Sunday January 5.

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME AND YOUTH RANCH - Thank you Saint Paul's for your faithful support all year and especially through this Christmas season. Today is our 5th Sunday. Love the noisy change. Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

RUTH CIRCLE - Tuesday, January 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor. All women are invited to attend. For more information contact Peggy Harter, 339-1356.

SPARKS WEDNESDAY resumes January 8. January is a GREAT TIME to join the fun on Wednesday afternoons for your Kindergartner through 5th grade friends. We will continue our year of SPARKS BAM with our lessons on Biblical Heroes and begin preparing for our spring musical. To join the fun, contact Jill Merryday or find the registration form on our website.

MANNA ON MERIDIAN - Bagging for Manna Monday, January 13, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Distribution Saturday, January 18, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Both at Faith Presbyterian. Contact Charles Hubbard, chazhub55@gmail.com.

CLIMATE JUSTICE CLASS BEGINS JANUARY 15 - Climate impacts from extreme weather like massive hurricanes and fires are in the news and Greta Thunberg was just named Time's Person of the Year for her climate justice efforts. Join our Creation Care team as we learn how people all over the world are responding to the climate crisis, and how Christians are mobilizing to help those in harms way. You can register for this Wednesday evening class at <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/78bdb7>.

THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH & LEARN - Thursday, January 16, at 11:30 a.m. Our special entertainment will be guest musician Indra Sadguna on the Balinese Gamelan. Please join us. Call the office by Tuesday, January 14, to RSVP. Lunch is \$10.00 at the door for this special music event. All are welcome!

MOPS IN JANUARY - Join us for MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Thursday, January 16 and 30 for our morning programs, 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. Mamas with new-borns through kindergarten ages are invited to join this wonderful Thursday morning fellow-ship group!

YOUTH WINTER RETREAT - January 17- 22 at Blue Lake United Methodist Camp near Andalusia, Alabama. Registration is due by December 29.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Begin Sunday, January 26. If you are in 7th grade or higher and are ready to take the next step in your faith and become a full member of the church, join us during the Sunday School hour in the youth room. We will meet together as one class and then break off and go across the hall for confirmation. We will meet January 26 through March 8.

HELP ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT - The kitchen needs volunteers to collect money and check people in for dinner, and to help serve meals on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to help please contact the church office, 385-5146.

Around Saint Paul's

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Dinner in Sanders Hall - 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Reservations due by midnight Monday by calling 385-5146 or online at saintpaulsumc.org. \$7 adults, \$3 ages 4 - 12. January 1: No Dinner

GATHERING TO PRAY - God is answering prayer as we gather in His name. We invite everyone to join us as we pray together for the concerns you share on the PRAYER REQUESTS cards in the pew, (please place them in the offering plates), or via email, becky@saintpaulsumc.org, Wednesdays, 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. in room 325. God is with us!

CHILI COOK-OFF - Everyone mark your calendars for Sunday, February 2, 2020! There are titles to defend, and chili to be eaten as the youth group hosts our annual chili cook-off! Come support our youth as they raise money for their summer mission trip. Look for sign-ups this month, and come hungry. Our Chili Cook-off will be right after worship in Sanders Hall.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Stronger than the Storm. Sign up now and read the details on the church website under "Quicklinks". February 6-8 on Saint George Island. Registration fee \$150. We enthusiastically welcome women from all generations, especially those who've never attended or haven't attended in a long time. Don't delay in making your reservation!

PMO ~ SAINT PAUL'S PARENTS MORNING OUT - Parent's Morning Out is our weekday ministry to parents of little ones. The program includes free play, a weekly music class, crafts, playground time, and snacks. Our hours are 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and we follow the traditional school calendar. For more information, please go to Children's Ministries on our website. **SPOTS AVAILABLE NOW.**

ALZHEIMER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS - One need we have going into the new year is a member of our congregation who would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Project. We are grateful for Dr. Greg Perry and his work in this role the past two years. It is so important that Saint Paul's have representation on this team, as the Alzheimer's Project began as a ministry of this church, and is a ministry that we still support financially through provision of office space and activity space on our campus. If you are interested in serving in this way, would you please let Rev. Brooks know as soon as possible?

This Week at Saint Paul's

Sunday, December 29

10:30am Church Wide Brunch/SH

Monday, December 30

7:45 am MoLab/300/301

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 115/Scouthouse

Tuesday, December 31

7:45 am MoLab/300/301

Wednesday, January 1

OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, January 2

7:45 am MoLab/300/301

Friday, January 3

Church Office Closed

7:45 am MoLab/300/301

9:00 am Caring & Sharing/SHK



As a Spirit-formed **living expression of the kingdom of God**, the vision of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is to **glorify God** wholeheartedly, **grow** the community of the faithful, **nurture** the faithfulness of that community, **alleviate suffering** wherever it is found and **advocate** for **social justice**.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today. Nurseries for ages infant to five years are located on the 200 level of the children's wing of the educational building. One of our friendly ushers can give directions to restrooms.

AIDS FOR THE VISUALLY AND HEARING IMPAIRED

Are available from our ushers. Kindly return the large-print hymnal at the end of worship. We, also, have hearing loops for hearing aids with t-coil technology.

NAME TAGS

Name tags help us get to know one another better. They are located in the narthexes. If you need a name tag, please indicate so on the attendance pad so we can make one for you. Please wear your name tag each week during worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A wide variety of adult Sunday School classes and age-appropriate classes for children and youth are offered at 9:45. For details, visit the welcome table in Sanders Hall or call our office.

INTERESTED IN JOINING SAINT PAUL'S?

If you are interested in becoming a member of Saint Paul's, please indicate so on the attendance pad. We will set a date for you to be received with joy!

Financial Snapshot					
Expenses to date:	\$896,595.00		Average weekly expenses (2018): \$18,269.00		
Income to date:	\$856,235.00				
Actual	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29
Income:	\$30,401.00	\$14,319.00	\$24,912.00	\$32,507.00	
December 22 attendance: 8:30 - 74 11:00: 232 Sunday School: 111					

We encourage you to give on-line - No wallet required! It's fast, safe, and secure. Use your phone's camera and hover over the image to go directly to the webpage for online giving. Or use this link to access online giving. <https://www.saintpaulsumc.org/give/>



Saint Paul's Staff

Rev. Dr. Kandace Brooks, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Becky Rokitowski, Associate Pastor
 Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs
 Gaye Herndon, Music Performance Associate
 Jill Merryday, Director of Children's Ministries
 Peggy Benton, Ministry Coordinator
 Kambea Chan, Children's Ministry Assistant

Laurie Batten, Church Administrator
 Linda Fletcher, Publishing Specialist
 Raymond Pandley, II, Youth Ministry Assistant
 Simon Webb, Lead Sexton
 Betsy Gingery, Kitchen Coordinator
 Bridget Weisbrod, Nursery Coordinator