

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024**

Prelude: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” (Wesley, arr. Leonard)

Hymn: “Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place” #328

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angel’s wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome of All & Call to Worship

WE PRAISE GOD

***Opening Hymn: “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”. #213**

Opening Prayer

Holy and Loving God, as we enter this season of Advent, we come with hearts longing for Your light and hope. You call us to stay awake, to prepare for Your coming with love and faith. Fill us with a spirit of readiness and gratitude, that we may abound in love for one another and reflect Your grace to the world. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: “Gloria, Gloria” #72

Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo!
Gloria! Gloria! Alleluia! Alleluia! (sung twice)

***Greeting One Another with the Sign of Peace**

Leader: Peace be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us share the Peace of Christ with great joy.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 & Matthew 24:36-44

Hymn: “Wait for the Lord” See insert

Today’s Message

WE CELEBRATE COMMUNITY

Communion

You are welcome to take communion regardless of whether you belong to St. Paul’s or the UMC. Please share this sacrament with us.

Joys and Concerns

You may end your prayer with “This is my prayer.”
We all respond with “This is our prayer.”

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Our Father-Mother, 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.

WE CELEBRATE TITHING & OFFERING

Offertory Hymn: “Maybe This Christmas” (Ron Sexsmith)

Performed by Chuck C. & Toni C.

Doxology: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”#95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, ye creatures here below,
Praise God, ye hosts in heaven above,
Praise God, the Trinity of Love. Amen.

***Offertory Prayer**

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts this first Sunday of Advent, we commit our lives to Your purpose. Awaken our hearts to the hope we share in Christ, and guide us to use these offerings to reflect Your love in the world. Strengthen our faith and prepare us to be vessels of Your grace, building Your kingdom here and now. Amen.

Closing Hymn: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” .. #206

***Benediction**

The asterisk () indicates “standing” if you are able to do so.*

*Our monthly **potluck brunch** follows the service. Please join us downstairs in Barber Hall to share food & fellowship.*

ST PAUL'S METHODIST FAITH COMMUNITY

Ministers: Each & every one of you
Greeter: Louise C.
Musicians: David M., Chuck C. & Toni C.
Sunday School Team: Melissa B. & Joe R.

Bell Ringer: Dave B.
Liturgist: Anne M.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jaegil Lee
Custodian: Melissa B.
Office Team: Louise C., Joe R., & Veronique R.

Lay Leader: Linda S.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the Announcements insert.

Have an announcement? Or an update? Or a correction?

Email us at stpaulnpt@gmail.com. Please include complete information: what, where, when, who, and how.

DONATING TO ST. PAUL'S ONLINE WITH TITHELY

Thank you for donating to St. Paul's! To donate online:

- Visit stpaulsnewport.net/donate and select the **Donate** button.
- Or scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone's camera and tap the **tithely** button that appears on your screen.



Please contact Melissa if you have questions about or issues with Tithely.

Hope sprouts Healing grows Love blooms

St. Paul's Methodist Faith Community

1st
Sunday
of
Advent



How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?

1 Thessalonians 3:9

December 1, 2024

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

12 Marlborough Street

Newport, RI 02840-2858

Phone: 401-846-0966

Email: stpaulnpt@gmail.com

Web: stpaulsnewport.net

Rev. Dr. Jaegil Lee's Email: jaegil.lee@gmail.com

Welcome to St. Paul's

We hope worship is fulfilling for you today.

Please join us for refreshments in Barber Hall after the service. Barber Hall is on the first floor directly beneath the sanctuary.

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – DECEMBER 1, 2024

- **Christmas decorations:** They look great! Thank you to everyone who helped decorate Barber Hall & the sanctuary yesterday.
- **December's mission collection:** Salvation Army Angel Tree for local family in need of Christmas gifts. The family is made up of the parents & three daughters (6, 7, and 12 years old). To give, take a tag from the tree in Barber Hall, get the gift on the tag, & place it unwrapped with tag under the tree by December 13th.
- **Christmas poinsettias:** Order forms will be available from Dec. 1 to Dec. 15. (See bulletin insert.) Poinsettias are \$15 each. Flowers will be on the altar from Dec. 22 through Christmas. The donation option this year is for God's Community Garden, located on Calvary UMC grounds in Middletown. You can read about the garden on its website: godscommunitygarden.com
- **Winter coat collection:** We are collecting gently used winter coats for those in need. Please leave your donations in the designated box in Barber Hall.
- **This month's Soup's On community meal:** Tue., Dec. 10th, meal served at 5 pm. Speak with Joe if you'd like to volunteer to set up, prepare food, serve, clean up, or bring a dessert.
- **Meditation group:** Meets Wed. 5:30 to 6:20 pm in Barber Hall.
- **Drumming circle:** Meets Wed. 6:30 to 7:30 pm in Barber Hall. No experience necessary. We provide the drums.
- **Spiritual transformation group:** Meets Thurs. 6:15 to 7:45 pm in the Thompson Rm. (2nd fl) and remotely on Zoom.* Led by Jaegil.
- ***Zoom link for Jaegil's small groups:** The link is the same for all his groups and is on the Events page of our website.
- **Safe Sanctuary Policies:** Copies of our policies are located in Barber Hall and the church office.

90

Wait for the Lord
(Psalm 27)

Refrain

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

See next page for poinsettia order form

Christmas Poinsettia

Last day to order is December 15th 2024

\$15.00 each

Name _____

Phone# _____

Email _____

Poinsettias

_____ In Memory of:
(# of plants) _____

_____ In Honor of:
(# of plants) _____

This year's giving charity is Gods
Community Garden.

I pledge \$ _____