

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

A parish of the Reformed Episcopal Church (ACNA)

103 Davidson Street, Lexington, VA 24550

(Mailing: P. O. Box 1273)

Office Phone: 540-461-8057

saintpaulslexington.com

Vicar: The Rev. Damien C. Grout

Email: frdamiengrout@gmail.com

Cell: (432) 244-6822

Wardens: Jeff Grossman, Steve Lane

Treasurer: Jeff Grossman (StPaulTreasurer1@outlook.com)

Clerk: Sharon Hansen

Organist: Dick Jones

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Holy Communion – Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Christian Education – Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer – Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

Evening Prayer – Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m.

Worship Etiquette: Children are warmly encouraged to worship with us. Please remember to turn your cellphone and/or wristwatch to silent.

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for you are in the House of the Lord. Speak to God before the service; let God speak to you during the service; and speak to each other after the service.

Invitation to Holy Communion: Our fellow baptized Christians of other branches of Christ's Church, and who love our Divine Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in sincerity, are affectionately invited to the Lord's Table.



St. Paul's Anglican Church

The Second Sunday In Advent

Advent Season



The Wise Virgins by James Tissot

The Order for Holy Communion Dec. 7, 2025

Celebrant: The Rev. Damien C. Grout

A house of prayer. Faithful to the word of Christ.

A place of hope for Rockbridge County.



*A parish of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Diocese of the Central States
The Province of the Anglican Church of North America (ACNA)*



THE ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

<u>Hymnal</u>		<u>Prayer Book</u>
	Psalm 25	369
3	Processional: <i>Wake, Awake For Night is Flying</i>	
	The Order for Holy Communion	67
	The Collect for Purity	67
	The Decalogue	68
709	<i>Kyrie Eleison</i>	70
	The Collect for the Day	92
	The Old Testament: Isaiah 52:1-10	
	The Epistle: Romans 15:4-13	92
6-2	Gradual: <i>Creator of the Stars of Night</i> (vv. 1-3; 4-6)	
	The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 21:25-33	93
	The Nicene Creed	71
	Welcome & Announcements	
8-2	Sermon Hymn: <i>O Word That Goeth Forth On High</i>	
	The Sermon	Fr. Damien Grout
	The Offertory	
139	Doxology: <i>Old Hundredth</i>	
	Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church	74
	Invitation & General Confession	75
	Absolution & Comfortable Words	76
797	<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	
	The Prayers of Consecration, Oblation & Invocation	80-81
	The Lord's Prayer & Prayer of Humble Access	82
706	<i>Agnus Dei</i>	
	Communion of the People	82-83
204	Communion Hymn: <i>Humbly I Adore Thee</i> (sung softly, kneeling/seated*)	
	The Prayer of Thanksgiving	83
	The Blessing	84
5-2	Recessional: <i>Lo! He Comes, With Clouds Descending</i>	

WELCOME!

If you are visiting St. Paul's today, please fill out a Visitor Card and place it in the alms basin and sign the guest book in the narthex to let us know you were here. Join us after the service for coffee hour in the undercroft below the sanctuary.

PRAYER LIST

Parish: Joan H., Melissa, Brady, Reggie, Diane, Mickey, Steve, Mary F., Ryan, Jonathan G., Tom M. Mary Y.

Departed:

Clergy: Fr. Christopher Beckham, St. Luke's Anglican Church, Maysville, KY; For all professors who preach, teach, and study the Holy Scriptures at REC Seminaries around the world, for the Synod of the REC in Cuba.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Sunday, Dec. 14 at 11:00 am we will celebrate Holy Communion for the Third Sunday in Advent. We will also meet for Christian Ed. at 10:00 am in the undercroft.

The Daily Office: We will meet for Evening Prayer this Wed., Dec. 10 at 4:00 pm. There will also be Morning Prayer on Fri., Dec. 12 at 8:30 am.

Looking Ahead:

Please come help **Clean & Green** the Narthex, Nave, and Chancel for Christmas next Sat. Dec. 13 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm. Rags and a Hand Vac would come in handy for the pews!

You are warmly invited to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ with us on Christmas Eve, Wed. Dec. 24 at 3:00 pm in the service of Holy Communion. Please invite your friends and family to welcome the birth of our Savior with traditional Christmas carols and beautiful reverent worship.

Christmas Potluck: Sunday, Dec. 28 immediately after worship we will enjoy food and fellowship together downstairs in the undercroft. Please plan to join us and bring your favorite Christmas dish or two to share with your church family!

Advent



is more than the beginning of another Church year, it's the season that God has given to His Church to remember His first coming, but also to prepare us for His second advent, that Great Day when Christ will come in the fullness of His glory to judge the world in righteousness. For some, there will be great joy at Christ's appearing, for others, great shame.

In our secular culture, Advent and Christmas are often confused, many skip the spiritual preparation and go

straight to the frenzy of shopping, eating, and parties. But before the celebration, Advent instructs us to slow down and soberly consider God's promises...and His warnings. It deliberately takes us back into a world of Old Testament Prophets, John the Baptist, and powerful angels announcing future events. A subdued tone fills the music, minor keys abound and until later in the season, decorations are absent.

Like Lent, which leads us into the mysterious wonder and joy of the Cross and the Resurrection of Christ, Advent is a re-orienting journey of the heart into the wonder and joy of Christ's Incarnation. In Advent, we are called to a spiritual pilgrimage toward that Salvation first promised to Adam(Gen 3:15). The Seed of the Woman who will crush the head of the Serpent is found in Him to whom the Star in the East leads.

But are we really amazed at the Nativity? We buy gifts and plan parties, catching a glimpse of joy, but without a heart immersed and transformed in its wonder. When Christmas Day arrives, we find ourselves celebrating a triumphal release from bondage, but we don't understand what that bondage means. We sing songs of deliverance, but little do we comprehend how we ourselves are enslaved.

Repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in Advent are blessed tools that bring us closer to self-awareness regarding our own bondage to earthly loves and idols: money, food, sex, stuff, work, even people, anything that we desire more than God himself or that hinders us from serving Him. Then and only then, with spiritual eyes opening, the life-giving light of Christmas floods in again. We become awe-struck as we gaze at the unspeakable and immeasurable treasure lying in the Bethlehem manger and we discern our continual need for what Christ alone can provide.

We will never fully comprehend the mystery of the Incarnation. But by God's grace, we may come to understand, most of us only to the slightest degree, how this mystery becomes our own mystery, how His life becomes our life, and how the Salvation of Christmas Day becomes our Salvation. And with this revelation, true unending joy: a joy far greater than any fading earthly love or decaying gift could ever bring us. This is the eternal joy of the age-old longing and journey of man to be reconciled with God, come to its fulfilment in the awe-inspiring mystery of when God Himself became a man.

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1. Consider giving to the REC Board of Foreign Missions toward several projects in Europe and Cuba. Pick up a brochure on the console table in the Narthex for more details on the projects or go online to rec-bfm.org.

You can give online or mail a check to:

**Board of Foreign Missions Reformed Episcopal Church
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. Suite H120 #642
Katy, TX 77494**

2. St. Paul's is also raising funds to purchase a new fair linen for our altar, the approximate cost is \$600-800 for a custom made linen to fit the altar. **Please designate "fair linen" in your giving.**

3. The REC Retired Clergy Fund: Let us remember those wonderful ministers of the Gospel who served our church so faithfully for many years without a pension plan that we might bless them in their retirement.

Contributions should be sent to:

**Board of Pensions and Relief
c/o Annual Fund
200 Glen Gary Drive
Havertown, PA 19083**



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