



St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

Sunday, November 26, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Inspiring people to live and love like Jesus!

Welcome to St. Paul's United Methodist Church.
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

11 a.m. Worship Service

Prelude	Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimmie (Bach) (Awake, The Voice is Calling Us)	
Chimes		
*Processional Hymn	Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus	#196
Word of Welcome & Announcements		
Mission Moment		John Kelly
Lighting of the Advent Wreath		Maxine McClure & Family
Children's Moment	Tell Me the Stories of Jesus (as children come forward) (Children will remain with their adult during worship)	#277 vs.1
*Canticle of Zechariah		#208
*Affirmation of Faith	The Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version	#881
*Gloria Response	Gloria	#238
Hymn	Blessed Be the God of Israel	#209
Pastoral Prayer		
	The Lord's Prayer	#895
	Response: This is our prayer, O Lord!	#487
Offering Invitation		
	Offertory Keep You Lamps (Thomas)	St. Paul's Choir
	*Doxology	#95
	*Offering Prayer	
*Scripture Lesson	Luke 1:5-25	
Sermon	An Unlikely Advent: Waiting on a Dream	Rev. Elbert Dulworth
*Recessional Hymn	People, Look East	#202
*Benediction		
	Choral Response Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing	#671 vs. 1
*Postlude	Choral in A minor (Franck)	

*Please stand as you are able

†All hymns are found in the red hymnal, unless otherwise stated.

Altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God in celebration of Dr. Cho and the entire Music Department.



What's Happening at St. Paul's



A Study of the Nativity Stories in Matthew & Luke - Christmas in the Bible

November 27 and December 4; 6:30 - 8 p.m. in Room 132

Only two books in the Bible mention the birth of Jesus. Rev. Rick Kress leads an interactive Bible study that will help us encounter those accounts, found in Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2, two similar but also different versions of the story. Bring your Bible and be ready to consider Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, wise men, and more as they are described in the biblical text.

Advent Study An Unlike Advent

Tuesdays, November 28 - December 19; 6 p.m. in the Parlor

This Advent, our sermon series will be accompanied by a study in several of our small groups throughout the church. An Unlike Advent, by Rachel Billups, explores the stories of some of the extraordinary people of the Christmas story. We'll reflect on people like Zechariah, Elizabeth, Herod, the magi, and even the shepherds. Some of their stories might be a little bit more messy, but God still accomplishes great things through them or even in the face of the adversity that one of them brings. Join Pastor Elbert or one of our many others who are sharing this study in this holy season as we journey towards Christmas.



United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Saturday, December 2; 8 a.m. in the Parlor

All men are invited to join us for a delicious breakfast, brotherhood and interesting program. No RSVP necessary. Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416.

Christmas and Candlelight

Tuesday, December 5 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

St. Paul's United Women in Faith invite you, your friends, spouses and neighbors to an evening of music and fellowship. It is UWF's holiday gift to you. Begin the holiday season with a program featuring Eun Park Lee on violin with Dr. Seung Hee Cho on piano/organ. Dessert and coffee will be served in the Narthex following the program. Free will offering collected for RANH.



✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ *Tear off this form and return to the church with your check* ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂



If you wish to order a Poinsettia for Sunday, December 17, fill out this form and send it with your check for \$15.00 each to St. Paul's UMC, 620 Romeo Rd, Rochester, MI 48307, Attn: Poinsettias order.

The deadline to order is December 4. Sleeved flowers may be: (please CHECK ONE)

___ picked up after the 11 a.m. Sunday Morning Service on December 17

___ may be given to a person who is homebound

___ or may be picked up after Christmas Eve service on December 24

_____ Phone: _____

Given by (PRINT)

_____ In Loving Memory of

_____ or In Honor of

_____ will pick up my plant.

_____ Name on tag

Advent Concert Series

Fridays, December 1, 8 & 15; Noon in the Sanctuary

Add something special to your Advent Fridays by attending these 30-minute concerts. Free Admission.

December 1 Bret Hoag, guitar & Townes Miller, flute
December 8 Dr. Glenn Burdett, organ
December 15 Jason Branham, organ

HARMONY
IN THE HILLS



Baby's First Christmas

Sunday, December 3; 9:30 a.m. service in Hickey Hall

If your child or grandchild will be celebrating their first Christmas this season, we invite you to join us on Sunday, December 3 at the Open Door to be recognized. All new babies will be celebrated with a hand-crafted ornament. Please email Amy Heitman at Amy@stpaulsrochester.org.

A Merry Little Christmas Party with Live Nativity

Saturday, December 9; 7 - 8:30 p.m., Parlor, Rickard Chapel & North Lawn

Everyone, young and old, is invited to join us as we celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. NEW! This year we will have a live nativity on the north lawn featuring real animals. Walk by and listen to the narrated Christmas story with shows every 15 minutes. In the Parlor, join us for crafts, and in Rickard Chapel visit with Santa and have cocoa and cookies. Invite your friends and share some Christmas cheer. If you wish to donate, new and gently used toys will be collected for Grace Centers of Hope.



Christmas Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 10; 9:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the Narthex

Purchase an excellent variety of homemade cookies and holiday treats pre-boxed to take home or give as gifts. All proceeds go entirely to local missions supported by our United Women in Faith.

Bakers needed!

Deliver cookies to the Parlor on Saturday, December 9 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in DISPOSABLE CONTAINERS. Share your favorite cookies!

Christmas Baskets

St. Paul's and our partners at Neighborhood House will help over 100 families in need giving them Hollywood Market gift certificates to make their Christmas a little brighter.

We need volunteers to make calls (contact Amy Reno at reno224@gmail.com) and distribute gift cards (contact John Kelly at jpkelly1909@gmail.com).

Gift card distribution will be:

December 14; 12 - 2 p.m.
December 15; 12 - 2 p.m. & 5 - 6 p.m.
December 16; 10 a.m. - noon.

You are invited to participate - no reservations required - just a friendly attitude and a warm smile.

To make a financial donation, please write "Christmas Baskets" on the envelope and on the memo line of your check made out to St. Paul's UMC or donate online at stpaulsrochester.org and click on Give tab.



Contact Us

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

620 Romeo Street
Rochester, MI 48307

Rev. Elbert Dulworth, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. April Gutierrez, Associate Pastor
Rev. Judith May, Associate Pastor
Rev. Rick Kress, Associate Pastor

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
248.651.9361

stpaulsrochester.org

Dr. Seung Hee Cho, Director of Music Ministries & Organist
Amy Heitman, Director of Children's Ministry
Jodi Stuermer, Director of Youth Ministry
Rachel Henry, Adult Ministry

Please note St. Paul's worship services are livestreamed and recorded. They can be viewed through the website. Livestreaming is available in Room 118 for nursing mothers.



Be You. Be Loved. Be Change.

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you are welcome here.

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Advent Opening		Rev. Elbert Dulworth
O Praise Him		Open Door Band
Statement of Values/Who We Are		Leslie Bennett
Lighting of the Advent Wreath		Bauer Family
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel		Open Door Band
Offertory Invitation/Prayer		Rev. Judy May
The Reign of Mercy		Open Door Band
Offertory Prayer/Scripture	Luke 1:5-25	Rev. Elbert Dulworth
Sermon	Waiting on A Dream	Rev. Elbert Dulworth
Prayer After Sermon		Rev. Elbert Dulworth
Advent Song		Open Door Band
Get Connected		Leslie Bennett
Mission Moment		John Kelly
Benediction/Blessing		Rev. Elbert Dulworth