

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Sharpsburg, Maryland

Rite II 4 January 2026

**Holy Eucharist: Second Sunday after Christmas**

**Liturgy of the Word**

Prelude: *Once In Royal David's City* by Charles Callahan

Processional Hymn	H 102
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Gloria	H S280

Collect of the Day (*Remain Standing*)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson ( <i>sit</i> )	Insert
Psalm	Insert
Second Lesson	Insert
Sequence Hymn ( <i>stand</i> )	H 440
The Gospel Lesson	Insert
The Sermon ( <i>sit</i> )	
The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
The Prayers of the People, Form II ( <i>Kneel or Stand</i> )	BCP 385
The Confession	BCP 360
The Peace ( <i>Stand</i> )	
Announcements	

The flowers are given to the glory of God

**The Holy Communion**

Offertory: *The Only Son Of Heaven* by J.S. Bach  
Doxology: H 380 st. 3

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B	BCP 367
Sanctus	H S129
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	H S155

Communion of the People of God

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive holy communion in this church.*

Hymn during Communion	H 101
The Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 365

Benediction and Dismissal

Closing Hymn	H 89
The Blessing ( <i>Stand</i> )	
Dismissal ( <i>Remain Standing</i> )	BCP 366
Postlude: <i>Allegro maestro</i> by D. Canestrari	

Service Participants

Rector	The Rev. Connor Newlun
Organist	Meya Collings
Chalicer/Acolyte	Dante Willis/Haley Gray
Greeter	Michael Arant/Donna Miner
Lector/Intercessor	Robbie Shaw/Scott Turner
Camera Operator	Sandy Miner
Altar Guild	Dee Snyder/Anne-Marie McCullough

**Vestry**

2023 – 2025: Michael Arant and Anne-Marie McCullough  
2024 – 2026: Heidi Tennant and Tom Wibberley  
2025 – 2027: Elyssa Doub, Robbie Shaw and Dante Willis

**Leadership**

*Senior Warden:* Sandy Miner *Junior Warden:* Randy Short  
*Treasurer:* George Ashbaugh *Registrar:* Anne-Marie McCullough  
*ECW President:* Rebecca Bright-Willis *Altar Flowers:* Tim Valerio  
*Altar Guild:* Tim Valerio and Donna Miner

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

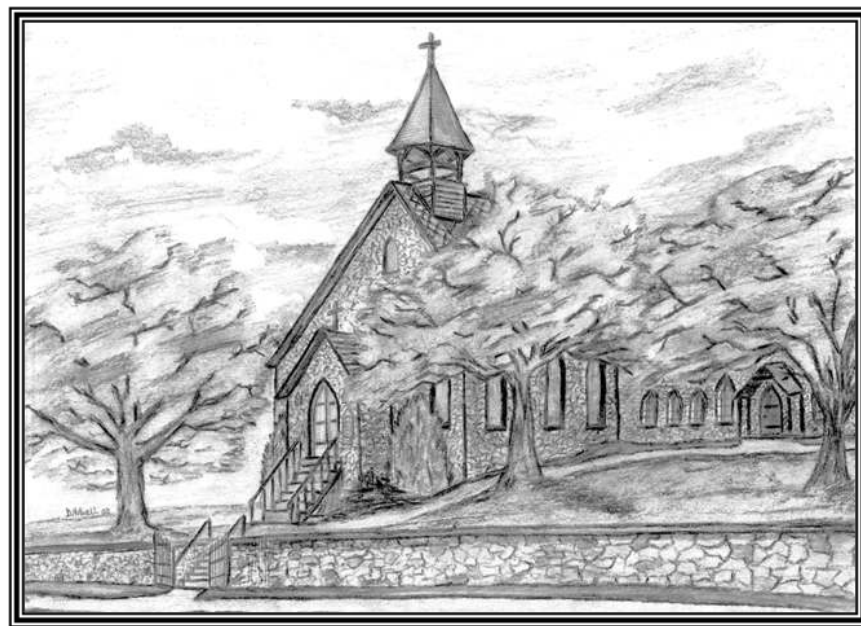
- The ECW meets today after worship
- **Annual Congregational Meeting is planned for January 18, 2026.** The backup date in case of inclement weather is January 25. If you typically submit a report to the congregational meeting please send it Jacob Miner at [admin@stpaulssharpburg.com](mailto:admin@stpaulssharpburg.com) no later than January 11. Please bring a dish to share.
- **St. Paul's will be open for prayer Wednesdays 5:30-6:30.** Stop for quiet devotions or pray with a member of the church, starts October 8.
- **Make a New Year's Resolution to study God's word with us.** St. Paul's Bible Study will be reading the Gospel according to John in the new year. Tuesdays at 7pm on [meet.google.com/fgh-hbir-jpx](https://meet.google.com/fgh-hbir-jpx) starting January 6.

Our priest is available for pastoral care, visitation to sick and shut-ins, and emergencies. Fr. Connor can be reached by phone at 703-470-9638 or email: [priest@stpaulssharpburg.com](mailto:priest@stpaulssharpburg.com). The Church is open Thursdays 10:00am – 12:00pm.

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church



*Now faith, hope and love abide these three  
and the greatest of these is love. 1Cor. 13.13*



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[www.stpaulssharpburg.com](http://www.stpaulssharpburg.com)

[www.facebook.com/stpaulssharpburg](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulssharpburg)

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn  
their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them  
gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of  
fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the Lord.

### **Psalm 84:1-8**

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a  
place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

### **Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in  
the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the  
foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before  
him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children  
through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his  
will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely  
bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in  
the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for  
this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I  
remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our  
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit  
of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so  
that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may  
know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are  
the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and  
what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who  
believe.

### **Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:41-52**

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for  
the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve  
years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When  
the festival was ended and they started to return, the  
boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents  
did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of  
travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started  
to look for him among their relatives and friends.  
When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem  
to search for him. After three days they found him in

the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

## 2Christmas

### **First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.