



# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## December 2025

### SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M.

**DECEMBER 7**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST**  
**The Rev. Mark Maguire**  
**POT LUCK &**  
**BISHOP'S COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING**  
**Lay Reader - Don Kiefer**

**DECEMBER 14**  
**MORNING PRAYER**  
**Lay Reader - Sandy Meier**

**DECEMBER 21**  
**LESSONS IN CAROLS**  
**Lay Reader - Kate French**

**DECEMBER 24**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST**  
**The Rev. Stephen Beatty**  
**Lay Reader - Don Kiefer**

**DECEMBER 28**  
**MORNING PRAYER**  
**Lay Reader - Ruana Gladfelter**



### ***A Message from the Bishop's Warden***

Dear friends in Christ,



Happy New Year! The Episcopal Church calendar is starting again with Advent, with the First Sunday of Advent on November 30th. Once again, our vestments will be purple (or blue in some churches) as a sign of preparation and anticipation, and we will be lighting candles on the Advent wreath made by Bob Crossley, hearing readings on hope, peace, joy, and love.

We join many other faith traditions in celebrating Advent, a time set apart for special reflections on the coming celebration of the birth of Christ. Our Advent hymns reflect expectation and hope for the birth of the Messiah. We remember the words, **“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him”** (John 3:16,17). We prepare, and we celebrate the birth of this most precious gift to us all.

Last week Sandy shared a sermon by the Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer on the topic of Christ the King. The Rev. Schaefer began with comparing Jesus to a Shepherd who cares for the flock and gathers them rather than scatters them. A Shepherd who will attend to the people, not exploit them. A Shepherd who « will bring them back

### CHURCH INFORMATION

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 453 Clinton, MO 64735

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Bishop; The Rt. Rev. Amy Dafleur Meaux, Diocese of West Missouri [diowestmo.org](http://diowestmo.org)

Bishop's Warden: Kate French, [kfrench357@gmail.com](mailto:kfrench357@gmail.com)

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... and lead them beside still waters." A Shepherd whose grace enables the people to "realize the intention God had for humanity from the beginning: to be fruitful and multiply, to flourish." How wonderful to have a Shepherd who loves us with such great love! As we prepare for our celebration of the birth of Jesus the Good Shepherd, we also remember Jesus the King. We know his Kingship is "not of this world," not like what we so often see here on earth. We know this King always greets us "with forgiveness, acceptance, and love." He is a King who prefers "the company of the lost, the lonely, the least, and the last," not the best and the perfect. God's love is grace freely given, not something we have to earn. We can never lose God's love.

As we prepare our hearts for Christ the Good Shepherd, Christ the King, may we share in the love of Jesus, and remember the words of his teachings. May we work to live our lives reflecting that love so freely given to us back out into the world around us.

In Christ,

*Kate*

#### **UP-COMING DATES:**

December 7th: Mark Maquire, 10:00 AM  
Eucharist Pot Luck Lunch and Bishop's Committee Meeting

December 21st: Lessons and Carols, 10:00 AM service

December 24th: Christmas Eve, 5:00 PM  
Eucharist



#### **READING BUDDIES:**

Sandy, Sam, and Kate are ready to begin listening to students read. If anyone else is available or interested, ask Kate about the process. You can register directly through the state and no one will have access to your private information.

#### **PRAYER LIST: (Please let me know if this list needs updating. Thank you!)**

**Healing:** Fr. Mike, Augustus Hockaday, Kitty, Tina, Don, Kathy, Steve Sheline, Kirsten, Tom, Rauna, Sam, Elsie, Wes Skaggs, Dinah

**Cancer:** Christy, Pat, Micheal, Cindy McAvoy, Rev. Jenny Ketner, Debbie M., Suzanne, Ruana, Diane, Sylvia, Don, Sam, Connie, Joe Trogden

**For Comfort, Strength, and Peace:** Gail Cloutte, Pat Decker, Doug Johnson, Christy and Diane, Becky and John, Kathy and Mike, Zaha, Steve Sheline, Marie Hopkins, Linda C., Laurisa, Rick, Christopher, Craig (father) and Cam (son) Dobereiner, the Rose family, Connie

**The Departed:** Kerry Dobereiner, Therese Hopkins, Sharon Rose

**Others:** The divisions in our nation, peace in the world, those devastated by natural disasters, those facing job loss and personal challenges

**Thanksgiving:** Family and friends, God's many blessings, and His constant presence in our daily lives, conclusion of formal treatments for Ruana and Sam

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

1-Christy Tumberger. 28-Kurt & Linn

15-Don Kiefer

Gretzinger

25-Alara Hinkle

26-Tom Carpenter

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**