

St. Paul United Methodist Church

A Good Neighbor

501 Grant Street, SE • Atlanta GA 30312

404-688-7501 • fax 404- 688-4421

Susan Allen Grady, Pastor

Doug Hollis, Family Life Minister

Jonathan DeLoach, Organist

Becky Wellman, Golden Age Center Director

Laura Rappold, Deacon in Residence

Kevin Hill, Minister of Music

Ginny Pavey, Office Manager



The Visitation (Vicente Masip,
1475-1550, Valencia)

Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2008

The Worship of God

Service of Lessons and Carols

10:55 am Worship Begins

Prelude *Away In a Manger* Children's Handbell Group

Choir Selection *Baby Jesus is God's Son* Little Angels Preschool Choir

Choir Selection *Christmas Means More to Me* Little Saints Children's Choir
(Children performing in our play this morning are dismissed upstairs to get dressed)

***Processional Hymn** *Once in Royal David's City* #250

***Call to Worship**

Tell the timid to take heart.

The Lord our God will come.

[Traditional Monastic Liturgy]

Welcome and Greeting *(We want to know that you were here worshipping with us today, especially if you are a first time visitor. Please introduce yourself to your neighbors, fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew), and place it in the offering.)*

***Passing of the Peace** *(Please take a couple of minutes to greet one another with God's love. If you're not sure of someone's name, it's a great time to ask. Please speak to someone you don't know that well...it will make a difference for all of us).*

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Sybil, Jim and Fletcher Davidson

[Light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath.]

If Jesus comes to us again at Christmas this year, and if Jesus dwells within each of us, shouldn't that make a difference in who we are and how we live our lives? Hear these words from First Thessalonians:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of the prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil."

"May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this." (1 Thessalonians 5:1 6-24, NRSV)

If we seek Jesus who is born in the manger, shouldn't we:

... be at peace among ourselves?

... help the weak and the poor?

... not repay evil for evil, but always do good to one another?

... in all circumstances, give thanks?

[Light the third candle of the Advent wreath.]

As we light this third candle, let us remember that this is the will of God in Christ Jesus, who comes to us.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

Congregational Response

○ Come, ○ Come Emmanuel (verse 1)

#211

Lesson I	<i>Genesis 3:8-15</i>	Vanessa Jackson
Choir Selection	<i>Adam lay ybounden</i>	Chancel Choir
Lesson II	<i>Genesis 22:15-18</i>	Lindsey Brown
Lesson III	<i>Isaiah 9:2, 6-7</i>	Lindsey Brown
Choir Selection	<i>I Hear the Prophet Callin'</i>	Chancel Choir
Lesson IV	<i>Isaiah 11:1-5</i>	Paige Matthews
Choir Selection	<i>Lo, How a Rose</i>	Chancel Choir
Morning Prayer		Paige Matthews
The Lord's Prayer		
Lesson V	<i>Luke 1:26-35</i>	Brenda Brown
Choir Selection	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	Chancel Choir
Lesson VI	<i>Luke 2:1, 3-7</i>	David Carlock
Children's Drama	<i>The Road to Bethlehem (Act 1)</i>	Leslie Truman, Narrator
Lesson VII	<i>Luke 2:8-12</i>	Leslie Truman
Hymn	<i>Away In a Manger</i>	#217
Children's Drama	<i>The Road to Bethlehem (Act 2)</i>	
Hymn	<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>	#251
Lesson VIII	<i>Matthew 2:1-11</i>	Amber Reed
Offering Prayer		Becky Boyette
The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings		
Musical Offering	<i>Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day</i>	Chancel Choir
*Lesson IX	<i>John 1:1-14</i>	Bryan Russell
*Hymn	<i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>	#234
*Benediction		
*The Congregational Blessing	<i>Go Now in Peace</i>	
	Go now in peace. Never be afraid.	
	God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.	
	Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.	
	Know God will guide you in all you do.	
	Go now in love, and show you believe,	
	Reach out to others so all the world can see.	
	God will be there watching from above.	
	Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.	
*The Light Goes Forth		
Postlude		
	*Stand as you are able.	

MINISTERS OF WORSHIP AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Liturgist: Becky Boyette

Children's Time: Talley Wells

Altar Guild: Allen Graham

Acolytes: Donna Mayer Todd and Colin Seymour

Sound Team: Lindsey Brown and Colin Seymour

Ushers: Bryan Russell (Head Usher); Jim Mason; Susan Johnson; Bill Ericson

Nursery: Melissa Mason, Richard Quartarone, Angela Russell

WE REJOICE TO WELCOME YOU to this service of worship at St. Paul United Methodist Church. We are pleased you chose to worship with us today, and we hope you will return often. We pray God's blessing upon you this morning. There are large-print materials and audio listening devices available for your use. Please stop by the Accessibility Table at the side entrance or speak to one of the ushers or greeters. If this community can assist you in any way, please let us know. If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with our Deacon or our Family Life Minister after the service. **Welcome.**

Email – Want to know what's happening at St. Paul? We generally send out emails once or twice weekly, and we circulate the *Epistle*, our church newsletter, once a month. If you'd like to be on our email list, contact the church office at office@stpaulgrantpark.org or 404-688-7501.

Activities. Members, visitors, friends, all are invited to participate in the various ministries at St. Paul. If you need more information please call the church office 404-688-7501.

Every Sunday:

- 8:30am. **Worship First** (casual, contemporary service)
- 9:30 **Fellowship Breakfast** (Huiet Hall, this week sponsored by the Back Yard Bible Class)
- 10am **Sunday School** (all ages)
- 10:55am **Morning Worship** (traditional service)
- 5pm **Disciple I** (Bible Study) [shelly.hart@emory.edu or 678-362-5893 (cell) or 404-727-4431 (work)]

Every Wednesday:

- 5:30-6pm **Children's Handbell Group (does not meet 2nd Wednesday)** [Sherri.Scott@ihg.com] and **Little Angels Preschool Choir** [(404) 627-6756 or lauraandtalley@mindspring.com]
- 6-6:45pm **Fellowship Supper** [\$6/adults, \$3/children 4-10, under 4 free. Reservations before Tuesday morning to stpaulgrantpark@earthlink.net or 404-688-7501. Menu for December 17th: Sloppy Joes, Green Salad, Chocolate Cake, Spaghetti for wee ones.
- 6:30-8pm **Disciples of the Trinity Youth Group** [seedoug@hotmail.com]
- 6:45-7:15pm **Little Saints Elementary School Choir** [lauraandtalley@mindspring.com or (404) 627-6756]
- 6:45-7:30pm **Adult/Youth Handbell Group** [Sherri.Scott@ihg.com] and **Worship First Praise Team Contemporary Choir**
- 6:45-7:45pm **Book Discussion Group** [susan@stpaulgrantpark.org]
- 7 pm **Companions in Christ: The Way** (spiritual formation study) [tdavis280@aol.com]
- 7:30pm **Chancel Choir**