

NOVEMBER 2022



ST. PAUL'S NEW BEGINNINGS

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame, CA



From our Rector

The Grace of Lemonade: Reflections on October 15

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:1-2

"When life hands you lemons, make lemonade." I doubt this was St. John's mantra during his years in exile, living on the Isle of Patmos. Yet John's spiritual visions during that season, recorded in the Book of Revelation, certainly have inspired people of faith through the centuries with sacred imagery to refresh and to transform, not unlike a tangy-sweet sip of lemonade blesses the tongue on a blistering day.

That generative river John perceived with the eyes of his heart nurtured the tree of life in the middle of the celestial city. Its waters were as precious as any communal resource we might discover. And his imagery harkens back to ancient stories of human beginnings, when God's underground stream sustained creation, including the sacred tree central to the Garden of Eden. These stories sprang to mind for me as an unexpected potted lemon tree featured in the procession of symbolic gifts during St. Paul's recent Celebration of a New Ministry worship service.

What a wondrous outpouring of love marked this fresh start to our shared ministry in Burlingame, supported by our Bishop, Diocesan colleagues, family and friends! I pray all who were awash in the joy of that day and all who might yet view the recording of the service will drink deeply from the refreshment that moment can continue to offer us. Thank you to all who energetically shared "lemonade grace" through their generosity in serving, especially our Wardens, Vestry, Altar Guild, Welcome Team, our Tongan Choir and the Choir of St. Paul's, as well as St. Paul's tireless staff members and volunteers who sponsored and hosted festivities in Foote Hall!

Getting back to that particular tree, with its green fruit, gearing up to grow once planted in the ground... it seems to me a vivid picture of God's life growing within us, steadily evolving since the day of our Baptism.

We each have different moments where we celebrate those graced beginnings, inducted by communal waters into the risen life God imagined for us from the very beginning. As we approach that feast day in our church calendar when we mark what it means to be a saint, swimming in this baptismal life we share in the Body of Christ, we remember not only those canonized in the Church but also our own everyday call to holy living. This sanctification unfolds through the Holy Spirit's work in our lives, strengthening us to be like that thriving tree, producing spiritual fruit in all seasons.

But what do lemons have to do with Baptism? Baptism shows us that it is never our own recipe that makes something special of the gifts God entrusts to us. The magic of childhood lemonade stands opens our eyes to this reality.

Remember how that perfect blend can prove tricky? Turns out that elusive ratio of sour to sweet isn't merely a matter of personal taste. It's a shared practice of discerning the body's needs, so that what we create truly can sustain and satisfy all. Too much of the potent stuff makes you wince but just the right amount of tart balances the sugar. Without taking a fruitful metaphor too far, lemons help that grace of baptismal joy reinvigorate body wisdom, as we grow together, watching Christ's risen life takes root in us.

John's years on Patmos in Greece might have featured lemons to renew his imagination. But even if citrus fruit remained in short supply, John saw how the waters of life shape our longings and aspirations. When grace flows in ways God designs, it transforms us and the world. John's Book of Revelation offers us a glimpse of the grace of fresh beginnings, especially the new start symbolized in the ancient sacrament of incorporation in the Church, where we discover God intends for none to miss out on the sweetness of grace.

The recent celebration of our shared ministry sparkled with that very sweetness as we soaked in the grace of this beginning for St. Paul's. I, too, basked in the joy of being incorporated into this faith community, through the tidal wave of your generous love. It felt like being baptized all over again in the stream of God's never-ending life—that abundant river of goodness and mercy that embraces each of us. Swept into its renewing flow, we offer ourselves and our gifts in loving service to Christ, to one another, and to the world, with gratitude for the love that make our life together possible!

The healing of nations always begins with the healing of our own hearts. Every time we welcome another person to the waters of Baptism, we are restored to the dignity bestowed upon us by God's perfect love. This love is both the river of life that inducts us into the communion we share through Christ and the tree of life that produces fruit we are grateful to share. Love is the grace that transforms us. Rejoicing in the gratitude and generosity I see bearing fruit at St. Paul's, I give thanks for this gracious life the Holy Spirit is growing in us!

Sarah +

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart
Rector



Notes from St. Paul's Wardens

Greetings St. Paul's Community,

October 15. . .What an inspiring and joyful Celebration of Sarah's New Ministry at St. Paul's it was on October 15th. It was a day filled with enthusiasm, spontaneous greetings, uplifting prayers and music, and a few happy tears as the Bishop of California, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Andrus, inducted Rev. Sarah as St. Paul's seventh Rector. It was wonderful to have so many in St. Paul's community able to join the celebration along with clergy throughout the Diocese, Sarah's friends and her mother, brother and sister-in-law. We'd like to thank everyone who made October 15th happen—please see the listing of all who helped in this [Newsletter](#). It indeed took a village!

October continued to be an [introduction for Sarah](#) to some of St. Paul's traditions as well as her opportunity to begin [some new initiatives](#) in our community. The [traditions](#) included the blessing of our animals on St. Francis Day, The Circle's Rummage Sale, All Saints' Day and the kick-off of our annual Stewardship effort that included Fall Fellowship Gatherings and culminated in Pledge Sunday on October 30. [Sarah launched](#) an adult formation series on several Sundays in October as well as "Come Explore with Sarah" which included a walk along Sawyer Camp Trail for all who joined her. In between, Sarah continued to get to know individuals and families that comprise St. Paul's community including, very importantly, those who either no longer can be present on Sundays or who desire a pastoral visit.

Sarah also began talking with the Vestry about the [reintroduction of the Common Cup](#) during communion which the Diocese's Pandemic Task Force has now said is an option for churches in the Diocese. You'll be hearing more about this in the future as Sarah and the Vestry discern the desires of members of St. Paul's community while still upholding its commitment to protecting the health and safety of all who participate in St. Paul's services.

As we reported in October's [Newsletter](#), the Vestry has begun its focus on [planning for 2023](#)—specifically nominations for the Vestry and Diocesan delegates and St. Paul's 2023 Budget. We have six Vestry seats to fill beginning in February 2023—2 one year terms and 4 three year terms. The Nominating Committee is starting its work now including receiving suggestions for consideration for the Vestry slate that will be presented for a vote at St. Paul's Annual Meeting on February 5, 2023. Think of the Vestry as the lay leadership for our community. Its primary functions are to advise the Rector, assist with short and long-term planning and communications across our community, and to be responsible for the budget and property of the Church.

Current and past Vestry members have noted that being a Vestry member is an opportunity to learn more about the inner-workings of St. Paul's community, provide leadership in many important areas, partner directly with the Rector, and to grow spiritually. If you are interested in being considered for Vestry and have the time to make this commitment to St. Paul's or want to recommend someone for consideration to the Nominating Committee, please let Tish or Sarah know **within the next week.**

We will also vote on February 6 on a slate of Diocesan delegates. The primary responsibility of delegates is to represent our congregation in preparation for and at the annual Diocesan Convention held each October. 2023 will be a very interesting and important year to be a delegate as the delegates to the Convention in fall 2023 will elect the Diocese's next Bishop following Bishop Andrus' retirement in 2024. To learn more, we encourage you to talk to one or more of St. Paul's current delegates—Wade Aubry, Candace Martin, James Martin and Anne Casscells (alternate). Again, please let Tish or Sarah know if you're interested in being considered or want to recommend someone.

St. Paul's Budget for 2023 will be an important part of Vestry deliberations over the next few months. Key to the budget is projected revenues. We are fortunate that we have a variety of sources of revenue including rental income primarily from St. Paul's Nursery School with some from other groups who use St. Paul's facilities, earnings from our Endowment and Memorial Funds from legacy gifts provided by former members of St. Paul's who wanted to ensure that St. Paul's continued to be a spiritual home for the generations who followed them, gifts each year from The Circle's Rummage Sale proceeds and others, and other offerings. Yet, the major source of income for St. Paul's staffing, programs, services and operations is PLEDGES from all of us. We rely on pledges as the basic building block of our annual budgets. St. Paul's as we know it would not exist without annual pledges. We are grateful for all who have pledged already for 2023 and all who will pledge over the next few weeks so that we can determine St. Paul's budget and, like those who preceded us, ensure the continued vitality of St. Paul's.

In this season of thanksgivings, we thank each of you for being part of St. Paul's community. We wish everyone a joyful Thanksgiving with loved ones and friends as we look toward Advent.

Tish Busselle
Sr. Warden

Lisa Borgeson
Co-Jr. Warden

Jay Janton
Co-Jr. Warden

All the Saints, All the Souls, All the People of St. Paul's, All in God's Family

The southern phrase y'all is my favorite. You All. As if All isn't inclusive enough, we had to add the direct You just in case the directed recipient thought, for a moment, that the message was not intended for them.

You all.

Makes me think of the social psychological theory, bystander effect, that states that individuals are less likely to offer help to a victim when there are other people present. When we say all, there can be a release of responsibility or at least, the expansion from the specific gives us space. Sometimes this space results in more distance than initially intended. All can seem callous or even disrespectful when there are specific people and occasions that require a naming, a singling out, a seeing and noticing.

In the case of St. Paul's, I think of how generous and kind everyone is. We are all trying to get back to church; we are all doing our best to show up. Or are we?

Perhaps in this transitional time, we have hyper-contributed or, on the other extreme, we have watched others get involved and doubled-down on sitting back to watch.

Have you heard the You in Y'all? If not, I am happy to ask you, (fill in your name here): in what ways is God and this community inviting you to contribute your gifts of time, curiosity, involvement and commitment?

As we move forward, emerging into our new future together, let us move from a moment of transition to a phase of resetting. In addition to naming a permanent Rector, our community has named our priorities and our values as we desire to place families at the center of our life together. Let our value of intergenerational ministry guide how we are able to imagine and invite who is at the table to support others, how we approach the use of our community's time and space, and how we re-awaken and re-ignite God's call to be in community for each and every one of us. Here are the beginning words of a poem by Stephen Lewis:

*Emergence.
From below,
Within,
A world unbeknownst to me
Awakened a profound awareness
That lay dormant,
Within me.*

Let us continue to go inward so we can emerge better for community, better for one another, better for "You All."

I ask for your prayers

Please keep my family in your prayers as my wife will be recovering from brain surgery beginning this November. We are grateful for routine eye exams that uncovered fixable problems. We are grateful for a network of family and friends who can offer the gift of presence and care for us and our children.

Although my Sunday involvement will be minimally impacted, I will not be available during the week as our family shifts our attention to Jessica's care and recovery. Thank you for your kindness and understanding. For all your pastoral concerns during the week, please reach out to Rev. Sarah.

Jocelyn A. Sideco
Pastoral Associate

Media Ministry

Heartfelt THANK YOU to Vic Carboni, Charles Hess, David Long, and Bill Phillips for supporting the placement, mounting, testing of a new recording device in the back of the church. Hours of sketching, experimenting, re-wiring, drilling will eventually get us to the place where our livestream view will be centered onto the Sanctuary. Specifically, Vic, for your care for our church aesthetic and precise craftsmanship to ensure that the mounts, brackets, and wires all appear secondary in our beautiful space; Charles, for your software connections and ethernet enabling power; David, for your audio expertise, encouragement, and experimentation; Bill, for your spontaneous experiments with operating the new device while recording and then producing our New Path Stewardship Conversation Video series.

Big thank you to you all,
Jocelyn A. Sideco

We are looking for volunteers to contribute to the editing, the recording, the broadcasting, and the development of other media pieces. If you are interested in participating with audio/visual work or with technology and website work, please contact Rev. Sarah at sstewart@stpaulsburlingame.org.

Walking the Walk on the St. Paul's Stewardship Path!

Stewardship “season” continues to offer a chance to think about generosity and how our own walkway fits into the trails of our Church community. The whole community breaks the trail to answer the question as to why St. Paul's is “our path” as we walk on through to the light. Each St. Paul's household should have received their Stewardship mailing with the pledge card for submission. Please feel free to mail, hand-deliver, or fill in your pledge card online to help our leadership design next year's budget.

Many thanks to hosts and attendees of our Fall Fellowship Events which helped us stroll through our St. Paul's community with fun meals together. 60+ members were able to gather in homes and yards in Burlingame, San Mateo and Hillsborough! Stories were shared about people's routes in coming to St. Paul's and what this community means to them. We heard how people feel accepted and “seen”. We learned how welcoming St. Paul's feels for newcomers. We heard about long-term members who are thrilled to be back in-person. Best of all, we heard how much fun our members have when they get together!

The roadmap for Generosity continues:

- Pledge Sunday was October 30th—thank to all who made a pledge on Sunday. If there's still a pledge card on a hidden path around the house, commit your 2023 support for St. Paul's by mailing your pledge card in (self-addressed envelope was included with the Stewardship materials mailed to you) or putting it in the Sunday collection plate. You can also make a pledge for 2023 online at stpaulsburlingame.org/support.
- The Vestry will gather on November 20th to make follow up phone calls to greet and “check-in” with anyone whose path we haven't yet crossed in this season.
- December, pray for the wisdom of the Vestry as they create our financial walkway for 2023 including funding for staffing, programs and property maintenance.
- February—stroll to the St. Paul's annual meeting and learn about the 2023 budget and plans for the year based on my and fellow parishioners' thoughtful support and Rev. Sarah's vision for where our path leads us in God's love.

Joan Cleary
Chair, St. Paul's Stewardship Team



Want to be an Acolyte?

The word acolyte means a “companion” or “one who helps.” Acolytes serve as a companion or helper to the celebrant, officiant, or presider of a worship service: performing a number of important functions before, during, and at the close of the worship service. At St. Paul’s, acolytes light and extinguish our candles, lead the processions with the Processional cross and torches, receive the gifts of the people and help set up the altar for Eucharist.

Interested in trying this ministry? Please reach out to Rev. Sarah and/or Andrea VanderLugt to learn more and/or be included in the rota and invitation list for seasonal prayer gatherings.

Looking for more lectors/readers!

The lector proclaims the Word of God to the assembled faith community. Anyone who accepts the call to this ministry is presumed to be people of faith and lovers of Scripture, eager to serve the Christian community and willing to engage in ongoing formation and education. Lectors can be any age.

Interested in trying this ministry? Please reach out to Rev. Sarah to learn more and/or be included in the rota and invitation list for seasonal prayer gatherings.

Looking for:

Someone who's experienced doing website postings. Brian and Kathleen Douglas relocated to the east coast during the summer. They were St. Paul's reliable website gurus who posted what was written by others and sent to them a few times a month, and moved postings from one place on the website to another.

If you'd like to find out more about this opportunity to help keep St. Paul's website up-to-date, please contact Rev. Sarah or Tish Busselle, Sr. Warden,

All Souls' Sunday ~ November 6

8am and 10am Eucharists



Services of Remembrance of All Faithful Departed will be offered on Sunday, November 6. All are invited to bring photographs or mementos of loved ones who have died to display on communal tables located near the baptismal font. We also honor our departed by distributing white roses to all households.

At the 10am service, the music will be centered on the setting of the *Requiem Mass* by the Parisian organist and composer Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) sung by the Choir of St. Paul's, and accompanied by string quintet and organ. St. Paul's Director of Music Susan Jane Matthews will be organist, and Kevin Fox guest director. Kevin is currently Director of the Marin Symphony Chorus and was the founding artistic director of Pacific Boychoir Academy, Oakland.

A *Requiem Mass* traditionally includes the *Introit*, *Kyrie*, *Sequence Dies irae*, *Offertory Domine Jesu Christe*, *Sanctus and Benedictus*, *Agnus Dei*, *Communion Lux aeterna*, *Responsory Libera me*, and *Antiphon In paradisum*. The name *Requiem* derives from the first word of the *Introit*: "Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine" ("Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord"). The comforting character which embraces the listener in Duruflé's *Requiem* – like the tone of the *Requiem* of Gabriel Fauré – is grounded in the opening *Requiem æternam* text of the *Introit*, with quiet endings to all movements, and a tender *Pie Jesu* for solo soprano voice, organ and cello included at the middle of the work. Other settings (such as those by Hector Berlioz and Giuseppe Verdi) are quite bombastic, vividly drawing upon the fiery language of the *Dies irae* (Day of wrath) sequence, a movement Duruflé omits in his *Requiem*. Premiered in France on All Souls' Day on November 2, 1947, Duruflé's *Requiem* was largely received as a response to the end of World War II.

Like the setting by the Spanish Renaissance composer Tomás Luis de Victoria, Duruflé's *Requiem* is based on Gregorian chant. Duruflé's passion for chant began at the age of ten when he sang these ancient melodies daily as a boy chorister at Rouen Cathedral and continued throughout his lifetime as he improvised on chant for nearly fifty years as organist at St. Étienne-du-Mont, Paris.

Duruflé's compositional style creates a work that connects the traditional Latin text of the *Requiem* to a mystical world, and, to the very mysteries and doubts of facing death, with a response of faith in the final *In paradisum*. Duruflé's setting of the chant is as a Claude Monet painting of Rouen Cathedral brought from the canvas to a musical score.

Duruflé's setting of the *Requiem* is particularly beloved by musicians and listeners alike. It was last sung at St. Paul's in 2015 and has been offered six times in the past two decades at St. Paul's.

Other settings in the St. Paul's repertoire which you might enjoy listening to recordings of include the *Requiems* of: Tomás Luis de Victoria, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Johannes Brahms (*Ein deutsches Requiem*), Gabriel Fauré, Morten Lauridsen (*Lux aeterna*), John Rutter, and Eleanor Daley.

May you find solace and strength in this music that ascends to God in prayer this All Souls' Sunday.

Dr. Susan Jane Matthews
Director of Music

Mid-Week Morning Prayer on Zoom with Rev. Sarah: Wednesdays @ 9:30am

As we lean into gratitude for this new season of life together, you are warmly welcome to join friends in faith for Mid-Week Morning Prayer (on Zoom), led by Rev. Sarah on Wednesdays during the month of November at 9:30am. Please contact the church office to receive participant details, including the meeting link. Online morning prayer will be hosted at 9:30am on the following Wednesdays: Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86268732925?pwd=Z1lQZmFEQWN1N3pBTitiTUFHN1hldz09>

Save the date: Sunday, February 5, 2023

St. Paul's Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 5 at 11:15am. It will be an opportunity to celebrate what's happened at St. Paul's in 2022, hear about some of Rev. Sarah's plans for 2023, vote on Vestry members and delegates to the Diocesan Convention who will participate in the selection of a new Bishop for the Diocese of California, and see an overview of St. Paul's finances.

Families, Children & Teens Corner

JUSTDinner HAS MOVED TO Sunday, November 13th! 4-5:30pm

A new program for high schoolers! Come to cook, eat, and talk with one another. We are combining efforts and will prepare dinner while we prepare care packages for our neighbors at The Vendome shelter, a permanent supportive housing program of Life Moves. Email Jocelyn at jsideco@stpaulsburlingame.org to RSVP. Be sure to let us know if you have any dietary restrictions!

- Come create snack bags for The Vendome in San Mateo. Life Moves provides housing and supports the social workers who serve our community's chronically homeless.
- The Vendome: <https://www.lifemoves.org/directory/vendome/>
- When: Sunday, November 13th at 4 p.m.
- Where: Higbie Library
- RSVP to Charlotte or Paige Austin to sign up to bring a food item and assemble bags. charlottehaustin@gmail.com or paigewaustin@gmail.com
- If you are not free to assemble the snack bags but want to drop off a food snack item, that is great too!
- If this date doesn't work for you but you're interested in future dates, we would love to hear from you!

Children's Chapel | St. Paul's Nursery Playground and Parish Hall Kitchen | 11:15-11:45am

A space to pray together through song, activity, and friendship with others between the ages of infant to 12. We also bake and/or decorate cookies to deliver to St. Paul's friends!

Upcoming dates:

- November 6
- November 20 (in Foote Hall in conjunction with the Advent Festival)
- December 4

For parents....Spiritual Parenting

- Wednesday, December 7 | 7pm
- Thursday, December 8 | 12:30pm

Spiritual monthly gathering of parents to share where their practices of faith and parenting inform one another. It's a transformational communal experience for people willing to share their experiences and perspectives. In person and virtual options are available. Sign up with Rev. Sarah to confirm location.

It's barely November but St. Paul's Giving Tree to Help Less Fortunate Families for Christmas Begins Sunday, November 20

St. Paul's Giving
Tree returns to help
local families provide a merrier
Christmas for their children.

You are invited to join St. Paul's Giving Tree by
choosing a food or gift item from the tree beginning on November 20 during
the Advent Festival
and turning your food/gift items in by December
11th so they can be delivered to the families we're helping on December 18
for
Christmas

This is a wonderful St. Paul's tradition involving all generations. This year we will be helping 4-5 local families who are struggling to work, live and raise their children in our local communities.

Elves to sort food, wrap presents, and help with the deliveries on Sunday, December 18 are also needed. See the sign up sheet in Foote Hall next to the Giving Tree beginning on Sunday, November 20 or contact Tish Busselle (tnbusselle@gmail.com or 650.504.0919). If you don't want to shop, simply send St. Paul's a check made out to St. Paul's Church or make a donation online at www.stpaulsburlingame/support and St. Paul's shopping elves will take care of the shopping. St. Paul's Giving Tree is part of Samaritan House's Family to Family Holiday Sharing Program for families in need.

Advent Festival | November 20, 2022 | 11am-12:30pm

Feel free to stop by as St. Paul's Foote Hall turns into a Makers' Space! We can make fresh wreaths, Filipino lanterns (parols), decorate cookies, dress in costume, & get our pictures taken!

St. Paul's Giving Tree will be on display with special ornaments naming the gifts or food that are needed. Advent Prayer Resources will also be available. The Choir of St. Paul's (grade K to adult) will offer a 20-minute program at 11:30am, including music in anticipation of the service of Advent Lessons and Carols and the Christmas Concert.

Advent Lessons & Carols

4pm Sunday ~ December 4



All are invited to a procession from darkness into light with the Choir of St. Paul's as candles are gradually lit. Beginning with a reading by a young chorister, lessons alternate with Advent carols for choir and congregation.

A free-will offering will benefit the Choir School.
A reception follows hosted by Jo Ann Hartley.

Melissa Dunphy | O Oriens
Elizabeth Poston | Jesus Christ the apple tree
Herbert Howells | A spotless Rose
Ēriks Ešenvalds | O Emmanuel
Ēriks Ešenvalds | Stars *with tuned water glasses*
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange | Magnificat (King's College)
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina | Tomorrow go ye forth

Below follows a spotlight on music of Melissa Dunphy and Ēriks Ešenvalds included in the 2022 Advent Lessons and Carols service:

Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980). Born in Australia, to a Chinese mother and a Greek father, Melissa Dunphy moved to the United States in 2003, and specializes in vocal, political, and theatrical music. She holds a Ph.D. in music composition from the University of Pennsylvania and teaches composition at Rutgers University.



The Advent Lessons and Carols service opens with the choir singing Dunphy's setting of *O Oriens* (*O Morning Star*) from the font.

This anthem is based on one of the seven chants of the *O Antiphons*, eighth-century chants sung daily at the monastic office of Vespers between December 17 and 23 to frame the Magnificat, the song of Mary. The medieval Advent carol *Veni, veni, Emmanuel* - "O come, O come, Emmanuel" - draws on the text of all seven of the *O Antiphons*. In the Hymnal 1982, the final antiphon (*O come Emmanuel*) appears as both the first and final stanza. The stanza "O come, thou Dayspring" from the carol is based on the text of *O Oriens*.

Melissa Dunphy writes: “When I was asked to set one of the O Antiphons, I knew the one I wanted to choose was O *Oriens* because of its universality. While my setting uses the traditional plainsong setting as its backbone, I hear the text as relevant far beyond its liturgical purpose; it becomes a plaintive call for light in the form of love, knowledge, and peace both in the world and within each of us personally, particularly for those of us who have suffered from depression or grief.”

Melissa was present for the English premiere of her *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis* at the Evensong on Friday, July 22 at Wells Cathedral sung by the Choir of St. Paul’s. These evening canticles were commissioned for the Wells Residency and in celebration of the life of Marcia McCowin. The choir’s repertoire also includes her anthems *A new heart*; *The Day of Resurrection*; and *Work*.



Ēriks Ešenvalds (b. 1977). Two choral works by Latvian composer Ēriks Ešenvalds will be offered in the 2022 Advent Lessons and Carols: *O Emmanuel*, based on the text of the last of the O Antiphons; and *Stars*, setting text of American poet Sara Teasdale (1884-1933). Teasdale often wrote of searching in the stars of God’s creation for a promise of peace.

Ešenvalds *Stars* is accompanied by six water-tuned glasses and is a track on the choir’s 2019 CD *Searching for Stars*. The Choir of St. Paul’s repertoire also includes his a cappella setting of the Eucharistic text *O salutaris hostia* for two sopranos and choir and his *Magnificat and Nunc dimittis*, evening canticles commissioned by Merton College, Oxford for the 750th anniversary of the college in 2014.

Seventh Annual Christmas Concert
4pm Sunday ~ December 18
Choir of St. Paul's; String Quintet, Harp, Organ, & Piano
Tickets on sale in November

Program

Ralph Vaughan Williams |
Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Kassia | Augustus, the Monarch
Tomás Luis de Victoria | O magnum mysterium
Robert Lucas de Pearsall | In dulci jubilo
Harold Darke | In the bleak midwinter
Jessica French | Love came down at Christmas

Benjamin Britten | This little Babe
Nadia Boulanger | Cantique
John Rutter | Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

Fanny Hensel | Piano Trio in d minor
3. Lied. *Allegretto* 4. Finale

Carol | What child is this?

Healey Willan | Three Kings
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange | Thee Three Wise Women
Margaret Bonds | The Ballad of the Brown King
3. Sing Alleluia!
7. O sing of the king who was tall and brown
8. That was a Christmas long ago 9. Alleluia

Malcolm Archer: The Twelve Days of Christmas

Program notes

The 2022 Christmas Concert opens with a celebratory nod to the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams (October 12, 1872 – 1958) with a performance of his choral fantasia on English Christmas carols for choir, baritone soloist, string quintet and organ. A set of five works then follow in a journey of music for Christmas through the ages, from the chant of tenth-century Byzantine abbess Kassia to the lush choral writing of contemporary Canadian composer Jessica French setting words of Christina Rossetti. The young trebles of the choir sing three works accompanied by harp, followed by two movements from Fanny Hensel's mesmerizing piano trio for piano, violin and cello. All are invited to sing the carol "What child is this?" as the program turns to focus on the arrival of the three magi from three varied lens as the three kings, the three wise women, and Margaret Bonds' narration on the one king of color, Balthazar. All ages in the Choir join to close the program with The Twelve Days of Christmas, a very fun arrangement created for the Choir of Wells Cathedral.



Christmas Pageant Team

Meet a few of the folks making this year's experience fun and meaningful

They each answered these 3 questions:

1. What was your favorite Christmas Pageant memory?
2. What do you hope the children get from participating in the Christmas Pageant?
3. How does your leadership with the Pageant feed your faith?

Jane, Director
Senior, Aragon High School, San Mateo



1. My favorite memory was watching this little girl play an angel, then looked out to her mom and dad, and they gave her a thumbs up. Then, she kept going.
2. I hope they develop an understanding of the Christmas story and have fun while they do it. Christmas is my favorite time of year, and I hope it can be theirs too!
3. My leadership influences my faith because it helps me reflect on why I am doing what I am doing; To help children develop their faith, as I had mentors who helped develop mine.

Grace, Costumes and Props
Senior, Sacred Heart Prep, Atherton



Something I want people to know about my family: We have been coming to St. Pauls since I was a baby and have found great rewards in doing so!

1. My favorite Christmas Pageant memory was my first year helping out backstage instead of being in the cast. It was so amazing to watch the kids excitement and pride as they performed this show, which they had worked so hard on, for their families and friends.
2. I hope that they get to experience the joy of the Baby Jesus in a new way that is exciting and special for them.
3. My leadership in the pageant has allowed me to connect with my faith in a different way. It allows me to expand my faith by seeing how all the children engage with their faith.

Read more of St. Paul's youth answers to these 3 questions:

1. What was your favorite Christmas Pageant memory?
2. What do you hope the children get from participating in the Christmas Pageant?
3. How does your leadership with the Pageant feed your faith?

Charlotte, Director's Assistant
8th grader, Girls Middle School, Palo Alto

1. The Christmas pageant has been a memorable experience for me for many reasons. The pageant allowed me to connect with God at a young age and embrace the story of how Jesus was born. It also helped me become closer to the people in the St. Paul's community. I got to know many different adults, younger kids, and older teenagers.
2. I hope that the children participating in this year's Christmas pageant get to feel closer to the Holy Spirit as I did, and become closer to the people around them.
3. I love being a leader because I love sharing my faith with younger children in church. It helps them see how they can grow up in the church.

Lincoln, Director's Assistant
8th grader, Synapse School, Menlo Park

Something I want people to know about my family: my dad had recently got confirmed at the Grace Cathedral in San Francisco! I'm so proud of him.

1. My favorite memories from the Christmas Pageants are working and rehearsing with friends from church to put on the pageant.
2. I hope that the people in the upcoming performances get to enjoy their experience in the pageant and want to come back to do these again. I also hope they can learn some skills from working with a team, like social skills or friendship skills.
3. I want to be able to be someone to look up to for the younger kids performing in this pageant. I definitely remember being in awe of the leaders of the pageants when I played in them, in their dictatorship and responsibilities.

The Circle's Whale of a Sale!

Once again, The Circle is extremely proud to announce a success story.

The Circle of St. Paul's one day Whale of a Sale, Saturday, October 8, demonstrated that with the support of multiple church groups, family, neighbors, and friends, we pooled together many talents and showed that where there is a will there is a way.

On Saturday, September 24th, The Circle hosted a first time Donation Drive-Thru for parishioners and Circle members. This was a multi-day effort. On Friday, a group of volunteers together set up the Occidental parking lot and brought large tables to the outside and to Foote Hall.

Bright and early on Saturday morning, September 24th, volunteers came to set out labeled boxes to receive items. As donations arrived, donors were greeted with friendly smiles and helping hands. We appreciated donors pre-sorting their boxed and bagged items ahead of the event and the many volunteers on hand to handle the steady flow of cars, take donations, and provide receipts. We also appreciated the volunteers who shuffled bags and boxes from the tables to the various sale departments.

From the following Tuesday until the day before the actual sale on October 8, members and volunteers came together to set up their respective departments.

And what a sale it was! The new and already on-hand donations were on sale Saturday, October 8th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Last but not least, volunteers and "heavy lifters" came out at the end of the sale to help us bag up the remaining items for onward donations to numerous local no-profits.

Three cheers to all our donors and to all the shoppers for helping make this a successful sale. A huge thank you to ALL who contributed their time, muscles, and decorative talents to set up and make this a financially successful sale. Thank you to Rosalva Gomez, St. Paul's Sexton, who supported the clean-up efforts.

If you are interested in more information about The Circle, please contact Cisca Hansen at ciscahansen@sbcglobal.net.



The Rector and Vestry Thank All Who Helped Make the Celebration of a New Ministry Such a Wonderful Day at St. Paul's

Those who participated in the Service

Umu Mila, Sa'ane Mila, Paula Fifita, 'Apisai Fifita, Jill Lighty, Joan Cleary, Fusi Pahulu, Charles Warden, Georgina and Charlie Sennett, William Mila, Bev Hock, Jenny Lau, Dmitri Nezvin, Denora Smith, Tish Busselle, Lisa Borgeson, Jay Janton, Michele Bosschart, Bill Phillips, James and Betty Hurrell, Kathy Martin, The Choir of St. Paul's, Sa'Paula Tongan Choir, Wade Aubry, Vic Carboni, Lena Cheya and Cisca Hansen.

Those who supported the Service

The Altar Guild, Edith Foothorap, Lynn Bruce, Susan Group, Linda McLaughlin, Denora Smith, Kathy Martin, Beth Beisecker, Lisa Borgeson, Tish Busselle, Joan Cleary, Jay Janton, Charles Warden, Nick Akers, Vic Carboni, Bill Phillips, Charles Hess and David Long.

Those who helped with the Clergy Gathering before the Service and/or the Luncheon after the Service

Donna McCartney, Candice-Lee James, Karen McCormick, Jean Marcus, Suzanne Aubry, Pat Ko, Paige Austin, Suzanne Abold, Susan Group, Alexandra Subramanian, Betsy Holquist, Elizabeth Sennett, Bev Hock, Cyndy Bodenlos, Kim Koivisto, Margi and Tom Power, Fusi Pahulu, Bonnie Adams, Jim and Tish Busselle, Jay Janton, Lisa Borgeson, Jack and Kathy Martin, Denora Smith, Virginia Pegley, Candace Martin, Leslie Smith, Joan Cleary, Cisca Hansen, Michele Bosschart, Judy George and Jenny Lau.

The households who provided financial support

Phil and Jill Lighty, Lisa and John Borgeson, John and Katie Storey, Mark and Sandy Moore, Jay Janton and Gayle Miller-Janton, Susan Ketcham and Anne Casscells, Tom and Margi Power, and Tish and Jim Busselle.

And all of St. Paul's Staff under the leadership of The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart

Dr. Susan Jane Matthews, Jocelyn A. Sideco, Marisol Tria, Rosalva Gomez and Petra Gilmore.

Please accept the Wardens' apologies if anyone was missed in this listing. Please let us know so that we can acknowledge you in the December Newsletter.

St. Paul's Celebration of New Ministry

On Saturday, October 15th, St. Paul's was brimming with God's people, all filled with a celebratory spirit. This was a momentous event, one that St. Paul's has not experienced in two decades - The Celebration of a New Ministry and the induction of a new Rector, The Reverend Sarah Catherine Stewart as St. Paul's seventh Rector.

The service began with thoughtful words of inspiration from the Bishop of California, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Andrus. He then proceeded with the formal institution of Sarah as our Rector. Wardens Tish Busselle, Lisa Borgeson and Jay Janton presented Sarah to the Bishop who, in turn, read aloud the official Letter of Institution.

The service continued with Litany prayers, read in English by Joan Cleary and Charles Warden, and in Tongan and English by Fusi Pahulu and Sa'ane Mila, respectively. Following a reading and the Gospel, the Sermon was given by The Rev. Martha Sterne (retired) from All Saints Episcopal Church, Atlanta (Sarah's previous parish). With wit and a charming southern accent, The Rev. Sterne spoke eloquently of God's unexpected callings - her words were aptly punctuated by a humorous and unexpected cell phone ring from the pews!

The Induction of our new Rector continued with the presentation of various symbolic gifts from the Bishop, visiting clergy and parishioners. Among the many gifts Sarah received was a hymnal, a stole, holy water brought back by Cyndy Bodenlos from the River Jordan, three chalices symbolizing St. Paul's three Sunday services and a lemon tree!

Sarah completed her induction with a prayer, devoting herself body, soul and spirit to God's loving work here at St. Paul's. It was a wonderful moment. Hearing Sarah's heartfelt commitment to her calling was a poignant reminder of how fortunate we are that Sarah agreed to lead St. Paul's on our spiritual journey.

From beginning to end, the service was supported by music from St. Paul's exceptional choirs who sang in glorious form. The Choir of St. Paul's is directed by Dr. Susan J. Matthews, who also played the organ masterfully. St. Paul's Tongan choir, directed by Paula Moa, blessed us all with a spirited Tongan hymn during communion.

Following the service, St. Paul's zeal for hospitality was on full display in Foote Hall, as a bounty of food and drink was served to a full house. St. Paul's parishioners welcomed and mixed with members of Sarah's family, clergy from across the Diocese, friends, and even some of Sarah's previous parishioners who travelled cross country to be a part of the celebration. Saturday, October 15, 2022, was a day truly deserving to be a highlight of St. Paul's history.

Whether one was able to attend or not, please take time to watch the wonderful service on St. Paul's Youtube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCtv1POBuSc&t=12s>

Bill Phillips
Welcoming Ministry

**Celebration of Sarah's New Ministry,
October 15, 2022**





Photo credits to Nick Akers

13th Annual North Peninsula Interfaith Choral Concert

I will trust in the Lord

St. Paul's was delighted to host the 13th Annual North Peninsula Interfaith Choral Concert, a benefit for homeless ministry on Sunday, October 16. Over one-hundred singers from five central peninsula church choirs participated from: Congregational Church of San Mateo, UCC; The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; First Presbyterian Church, Burlingame; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame; and St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Burlingame. The choirs sat in the transepts (North transept and Chapel), choir stalls and high altar area. An enthusiastic audience filled the nave seating. A reception followed in the Skillings Garden.

At the opening of the concert program, the joint choirs performed Carol Barnett's *Come, we who love the Lord* (from An American Thanksgiving) based on a shape note tune and setting words of Isaac Watts. Each choir offered a ten-minute program. The audience and choirs joined in singing the hymn "Lift every voice and sing." The joint choirs closed with two spiritual arrangements by Undine Smith Moore: *We shall walk in the valley of peace* and *I will trust in the Lord*.

St. Paul's rector, The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, offered a welcome and closing benediction, and The Right Rev. William E. Swing, St. Paul's parishioner and retired Bishop of California, offered an opening invocation. The concert raised over \$3000 in benefit of the homeless ministry of LifeMoves, with whom Home & Hope has recently merged.

A video of the concert may be viewed on St. Paul's YouTube channel:
www.YouTube.com/StPaulsBurlingame

A Resource for Moving through Grief: A Note from the Healing Team

Death is always with us. The numbers of us dealing with the loss of loved ones, however, has climbed to new heights in the past few years. We have lost beloved family members and friends as well known figures in world affairs and the arts. An entire country lost their queen of seventy years.

Dealing with this glut of loss is sometimes overwhelming. Words of comfort and sympathy help. Reading books and articles on coping with grief can help. Trying to move forward with hope and gratitude is possible, but can be an enormous challenge.

CNN commentator and son of Gloria Vanderbilt (the “Poor Little Rich Girl,” whose glamorous life as an heiress, the center of a famous custody battle, a socialite, fashion icon, and artist made headlines for years) has jumped into the discussion on the ache of grief. He has a new podcast series *All There Is*, which delves into the emotional impact of loss. Anderson suffered the death of his father as a child and the suicide of his brother as a young adult. He talks to his friends about these experiences. In the opening episodes, he speaks with Stephen Colbert, the comedian, *Late Night* talk show host, and man of faith. Stephen lost his father and two brothers when he was ten years old.

The friends speak openly and emotionally. They tell stories about their loved ones. Their willingness to share deep feelings, including those of despair and hope, are riveting. The following episodes feature filmmaker Kirsten Johnson, comedian Molly Shannon, and Dr. B.J. Miller, a hospice and palliative care physician, with more to come.

The focus is on “how to live on - with loss, laughter, and with love.” And in the words of Matthew, Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

If you would like to listen to Anderson Cooper's podcast it can be found on CNN, Apple, Spotify, YouTube - "All There Is."

Bev Hock, member of the Healing Team

All Souls' Sunday, November 6

Please join us on All Souls' Sunday at 9:15am for a time of prayer and remembrance in the Columbarium, led by Rev. Sarah, followed by an opportunity to walk the labyrinth in the Skillings Memorial Garden. Members of St. Paul's Healing Team will be available to pray with any who wish.

News about Choir School Alumni

As the St. Paul's Choir School enters a 16th season in 2022-23, it is a tremendous blessing to be sending more and more alumni into the world, and deeply treasured times when they return to sing with the Choir of St. Paul's. Below is a spotlight on five of St. Paul's Choir School alumni, each of whom hold the gold award of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM):

Joey Blundell '16 has been living in Seattle working as a software engineer for Amazon since fall 2020. He remains active chorally, singing weekly in both the Cathedral and Compline Choirs at St. Mark's Cathedral. Joey writes that "It was a pleasure to return to the Choir of St. Paul's for the Wells Cathedral residency over the summer, and I always look forward to singing at St. Paul's when I'm home for the holidays."

Watch the weekly livestream of Joey singing in the Compline Choir at the Sunday 9:30pm Service of Compline at St. Mark's Seattle:
<https://saintmarks.org/worship/live-stream/>

We so look forward to Joey singing countertenor with the choir at St. Paul's for the 10pm Christmas Eve service!

Lauren Bodenlos '16 has spent the past two years working at a social services agency in San Francisco that specializes in geriatric mental healthcare. Lauren lives in San Francisco with their partner and spends their free time hiking, baking, and nerding out about harm reduction.

We so look forward to Lauren singing soprano with the choir for the 10pm Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services!

Gabriel Lim '20 is a Junior at UC Santa Barbara pursuing a major in Economics. Gabriel writes: "I was glad to be part of the Wells Residency. Singing with the St. Paul's choir members with whom I used to be with since I was in preschool made me feel 'at home again.' I look forward to singing with them when I come home for Christmas."

And, we as well so look forward to Gabriel singing tenor this Christmas at St. Paul's!

Hayden Pegley '17 graduated from Vanderbilt University in May 2021 and moved to London the following September, where he is living in Pimlico and working for the real estate investment firm Eastdil Secured. The hours are long but the work is interesting, and he is greatly enjoying life in one of the world's most international cities. He looks forward to being home for the holidays and celebrating Christmas at St. Paul's.

We look forward to have you singing bass in the choir, Hayden!

Michael Caraher was in the Choir School through grade 8,



...serving also as Organ Scholar. He then attended Interlochen Arts Academy, Michigan in grades 9-12 as an organ major. After finishing his second bachelor's degree at St. Olaf College in May of 2021, he returned to the SF Bay Area. He served as tenor section leader at St. Paul's from September 2021 through October 2022, and as a student chaperone on the Wells



Residency in July 2022. After a farewell party with the choir on All Saints' Sunday, October 30, he began a journey to move back to the Midwest to make Chicago his new home. Michael writes: "It's been such a blessing for me to make music with a choir that has meant and given so much to me. Earlier this month, I made the tough decision to move back out east to Chicago where I will continue working in high tech public relations and be living closer to family. I look forward to visiting St. Paul's hopefully soon, as it will always be home to me."



Our heartfelt gratitude for Michael's dedicated and inspiring work as a section leader this past year at St. Paul's. It has been a blessing in every way for the director ~ from his choral leadership and gorgeous solos; organization and training in choir processions; to quietly working with individual singers to develop their musicianship to the highest level possible for the

choir ministry at St. Paul's; to being a cherished colleague. We so look forward to your visits back to St. Paul's!

Choir School picture from August 2010.

Back row: Susan Jane Matthews, director; Joey Blundell '16, Hayden Pegley '17, Michael Caraher, Lauren Bodenlos '16; Front row: Séraphée de Labaca '21, Sophia Turek, Elliot Skillings '20, Gabriel Lim '20



Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am - In Person, Chapel

10:00 am - In Person, Choir, Sanctuary

Tongan Worship 12:30 p.m. - 1st, 2nd, & 4th Sundays In Person, Sanctuary

Live Stream Services: 10:00am service, <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBurlingame>

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, Rector, sstewart@stpaulsburlingame.org

Jocelyn A. Sideco, Pastoral Associate, jsideco@stpaulsburlingame.org

Dr. Susan Jane Matthews, Director of Music, smatthews@stpaulsburlingame.org

Marisol Tria, Office Manager, mtria@stpaulsburlingame.org

Petra Gilmore, Bookkeeper, finance@stpaulsburlingame.org

Rosalva Gomez, Sexton, rgomez@stpaulsburlingame.org

St. Paul's Vestry (St. Paul's lay leadership):

Senior Warden: Tish Busselle

Co-Junior Wardens: Lisa Borgeson and Jay Janton

Vestry Members: Paige Austin, Michele Bosschart, Kathy Martin, Fusi Pahulu, Denora Smith, Alexandra Subramanian, Bryan VanderLugt, Charles Warden and The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart

Clerk: Cyndy Bodenlos



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