

# *FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*



Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Bishop Jeffrey Leath, Chief Pastor \* Rev. Kenneth Golphin, Presiding Elder

REV. WILLIAM R. T. HALE, PASTOR \*

Pastor's Email: [pastorwilliamhale@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwilliamhale@gmail.com)

Sis. Gayle Lang, Evangelist

Sis. Tanya S. Clark, Exhorter

**DECEMBER 22, 2019**

# HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING



Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconcile.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail, the incarnate deity,  
pleased as Man with to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!  
Hail the Son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the newborn King.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - LOVE

ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:30 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL....."WALK IN THE LIGHT"

PRAYER OF CONCENTRATION

DOXOLOGY.....**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above each heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP.....**The Magnificat**

L: My soul glorifies the Lord.

**P: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

L: For he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed.

**P: For the Mighty One has done great things for me – Holy is His Name!**

L: His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

**P: He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.**

L: He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

**P: He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.**

WORSHIP HYMN #115.....**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

WORSHIP PRAYER.....PASTOR HALE

THE PRAYER RESPONSE....."HE IS LORD"

*He is Lord, He is Lord. He has risen from the dead and He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord.*

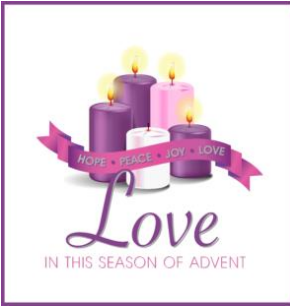
CHOIR SELECTION

WORSHIP IN GIVING.....**Finance Committee**

ADVENT MOMENT.....**Pastor Hale**

PRELUDE.....PIANIST/CHOIR

# HOPE • PEACE • JOY



## Fourth Sunday of Advent – SUNDAY OF LOVE

By Carlene L. Douglas

**Leader:** This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and today we celebrate LOVE. Over the last three Sundays we lit the candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy. Today we light the candle of Love. God is love. God created love, and in love, God gifted us God's Son, Jesus Christ.

**Response:** The last Sunday of Advent reminds us of Jesus' undying love for us. Let us love each other. Jesus our Savior who has been born to die and return to receive us.

**Leader:** We should love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength and also love each other. We light these candles today representing God's light and God's love within us.

*(Light three purple candles (Hope, Peace and Love) and the pink candle (Joy))*

**ALL:** Let us pray together. O God of Love, as we prepare to celebrate the Christmas season, awaken us to our responsibility to love, even those who seem unlovable. Help us to share Your love with those who hunger and thirst for fullness of life. Thank you for Jesus, Your gift to us who saved us from our sins. May we be prepared to receive Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords when Jesus comes again. AMEN.

### INTRODUCTION TO PLAY.....'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

*Scene 1: "A Busy Mouse"  
Poem: "Don't Let Christmas Be"*

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*Scene 2: "Twas the Night Before Christ Birth"  
Poem: "Born in a Manger"  
Song: "Away in a Manger"*

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*Scene 3: "A Message From on High  
Poem: "Star of the East"  
Song: "Angels We Have Heard on High"*

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*Dance: "What A Wonderful Child"*

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*Scene 4: "In Search of God's Greatest Gift"  
Poem: "God's Greatest Gift"  
Song: "Silent Night"*

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*Dance: "Mary Did You Know"*

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*Scene 5: "Real Reason for the Season  
Poem: "The Christ in Christmas"  
Song: "Joy to the World"*

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHP.....**Pastor Hale**  
INVITATIONAL SELECTION.....MASS CHOIR  
ALTAR CALL.....**Pastor Hale**  
WELCOME  
REMARKS  
DOXOLOGY.....BENEDICTION

**HOPE • PEACE • JOY • LOVE**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & HAPPENINGS —

## TEACHING MOMENTS

### Next Week's Scripture Lessons:

*First Sunday After Christmas: Isaiah 63: 7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2: 10-18; Matthew 2: 13-23*

Church School for ALL Ages – 8:00 am *Every Sunday*

Pastor's Bible Study – Every Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. (resuming January 8, 2020)

## MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

- Choir Rehearsal – EVERY Thursday at 6:30 PM (resuming January 9, 2020)

## CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

- Today, December 22, Our Christmas Celebration under the leadership of the Sunday School, Christian Education and the YPD.!
- Sunday, December 29, Love Feast
- Sunday, December 31, **6:00 p.m., Dinner and Watch Night Service begins at 7:30 p.m.**, at First Baptist Church. Pastor Hale will bring the New Year's Message and the Mass Choir will sing. To ensure there is sufficient food, please sign up in the vestibule if you will be attending the dinner fellowship
- Sunday, January 6, Covenant Renewal Service.

## REMINDERS

- Please be reminded that the taxation for Church Anniversary of \$171.00 is payable throughout the year and should be earmarked on your offering envelope as CA171.
- Conference Claims per member per month is \$15.00/\$180.00 per year. Please pay monthly to help meet our Conference assessments.
- The Seed Sowers Project is an ongoing project for the building fund of the church. Sow a seed and watch it grow. Mark on your envelope as "Seed". For more information contact Sis. Geraldine Brown.
- Mass and Men's Choir: Please be reminded of your monthly choir dues of \$10.00 per member per month. Also be reminded that Mass Choir rehearsal is every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. unless notified otherwise.
- St. Paul's CD/DVD Ministry to the Sick and Shut-in: If you desire a CD or a DVD of the worship services, please see Bro. Ellis Collins.
- Need a ride to Church School or Church, please call Sis. Tanya Clark by Saturday at (859) 361-1426.
- Anyone interested in working with and learning about the DVD ministry, please see Bro. Ellis Collins.

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.

- **Calling Post**  
If you're not part of our Calling Post, then please text or email the Pastor using his contact information on the front of the bulletin. Give him your name, phone number and email address, and we'll make sure you are kept in the loop! Thank you!!!
- Visit our Saint Paul website to "worship in giving" digitally (visit [spvame.com](http://spvame.com) and you'll see the link for "Offerings"), get a copy of our Sunday bulletin, or see our church calendar!
- Sunday School, Sunday Worship & Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study Call-In - 218-339-7800  
Access Code - 2913187#. Please mute your phone so others can't hear you or what's going on around you :) Thank you!!!

For Sunday School: Call in about 7:55am, start promptly at 8:00am

For Sunday Worship: Call in about 9:25am, start promptly at 9:30am

For Pastor's Wednesday Bible Study: Call in about 6:55pm, start promptly at 7:00pm

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lorie Dale	December 5
Harold Ikard, Jr.	December 8
James Harris	December 15
Randy Harris	December 18
Jonathan Higgins	December 18
Susan Johnson	December 28

## OUR PRAYER LIST

The Families of Charles E. Brown, Jr.  
and Charles E. Brown, III  
Armenta Chase  
Christine Collins  
Lorie Dale  
Phyllis Dockies  
Lewis Givens  
Damon Greene  
Jacqueline Greenlee  
Rev. Frederick E. Hale  
Mary Marcella Higgins  
Pearl C. Higgins  
Kenneth Howard  
Mildred Jones  
Richard Kirtley, Jr.  
Norman Morton  
Betty Moseley  
Odes Nash  
Mona Amburgey Romine  
Rev. James E. Smith  
Renee Scott Smith  
Russell Thornton  
Frances Walker  
Anna Williams

*Please remember the sick and shut-ins in your prayers. Send them a card, call and visit to let them know you care.*

*'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE JESUS CAME'*

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'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house  
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.  
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care  
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.  
The children were dressing to crawl into bed.  
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.  
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap  
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.  
↑  
When out of the East there arose such a clatter.  
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!  
↑  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear  
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.  
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray  
I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!  
↑  
The light of His face made me cover my head  
It was Jesus! returning just like He had said.  
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,  
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.  
↑  
In the Book of Life which He held in His hand  
Was written the name of every saved man.  
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;  
When He said "it's not here" my head hung in shame.  
↑  
The people whose names had been written with love  
He gathered to take to His Father above.  
With those who were ready He rose without a sound.  
While all the rest were left standing around.  
↑  
I fell to my knees, but it was too late;  
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.  
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;  
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.  
↑  
In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;  
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.  
There's only one life and when comes the last call  
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!



