

WEEKLY BULLETIN

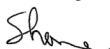
2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906

What is gratitude and how do we find it? I've wrestled with this question for some time because I like a step-by-step approach to things. If I do A and B, then I get C. However, where gratitude is concerned, it may have more to do with vision than strategy- a vision where one begins with the end in mind. Spiritually, the gospel "end" is Christlikeness.

Gratitude, then, is not the destination after things work out; it is the posture that keeps us aligned with the one who knows the end from the beginning. Paul's words to the Thessalonians remind us that giving thanks in all circumstances is not a technique for better living, but an act of trust in God. To "begin with the end in mind" means to fix our eyes on Jesus, "the founder and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2), and to let that vision shape how we walk, wait, and worship.

Our gratitude falters when we assume we must understand how it works. We think, "I'll be thankful when...when the prayer is answered, when the plan succeeds, or when the path makes sense." However, Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart...In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths." This calls us to release our grip on the details of direction. The spiritual life is not a project to manage, but a life based in trust. Gratitude, then, is not a step-by-step program, but a worldview shift—a reorientation from self-reliance to surrender. When we insist on understanding before we thank, we delay joy. But when we choose thanksgiving before clarity, we open ourselves to grace that transforms confusion into communion. Thomas à Kempis wrote, "Be thankful in everything, for this is the way to increase grace." Gratitude grows not by planning our blessings, as if we could actually do so, but by perceiving God's hand already at work in things.

Instead of strategizing to get to a place of gratitude, look for the ways God is already blessing. Look for the people and places that are already incarnations of God's redemption in the world. Begin with the end in mind and let go of how you get there.



Traditional Worship

8:30 A.M.

Illges Chapel (M250)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

Grateful When It's Messy

Luke 7:36-50

Contemporary Worship

9:00 A.M.

Fellowship Hall (M220)

Rev. Dr. Shane Green

Seeing the Giver in Every Gift

Psalm 103:1-5; James 1:16-18

Traditional Worship

11:00 A.M.

Sanctuary (M260)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

Grateful When It's Messy

Luke 7:36-50

Broadcast Live at 11:00

at stpaulcolumbus.live

On November 16, the church is in Ordinary Time, marked by the color green. After All Saints' Day, Ordinary Time reminds us that God is at work not only in the big moments but also in the ordinary days. The green of this season encourages us to grow in faith, love, and service.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Join Rev. Dr. Shane Green tonight at 6:00 p.m. at **Shearith Israel for a special Unity Service!** All faith communities involved in the **Wynnton Neighborhood Network** mission are invited for worship and celebration of the ways our congregations work together to serve.

The Altar Guild helps to enhance the beauty of our worship services during Advent. Stay tuned for information about ways you can support our year-round work. If you are interested in helping decorate this season, please call Liz Lampton: 646-236-1442.

There will be a **Ministries Committee Meeting tomorrow** on Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. We invite all committee members to join us as we reflect on our current ministries and explore new ways to serve and bless our congregation.

Be a **“Messenger of Love!”** On Sunday, December 7, help deliver poinsettias to church members who are homebound or grieving. Let's share God's love and hope this Advent. To participate, contact Grace Bailey at grace@stpaulcolumbus.com.

The next **American Red Cross Blood Drive** will be Dec. 7 in the Youth Building. You may register for the event with Ken Chung at kchung@graddyconstruction.com. Walk-ins are also welcome! Please give the gift of life this Advent season!

Wayne Martz's Retirement Lunch will be after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, Dec. 14, in the Fellowship Hall. Please mark the date on your calendar. Wayne retires at the end of 2025 and we would love to have you help celebrate 21 years!

Travel with St. Paul to Italy June 2–11 to explore Christian history and follow the steps of Peter and Paul. Reserve your spot by contacting the church office at 706-327-7419 or you may email shane@stpaulcolumbus.com.

Stellarum will return to St. Paul to treat us for the holidays! They will sing on December 20 in the Sanctuary. Stellarum's mission is to share choral art with as many audiences as possible. “Eight voices, one heart.” Mark your calendar!

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER ON NOVEMBER 19

6:00 p.m - 7:00 p.m.
Traditional Thanksgiving
Meal, Soup & Salad Bar.
Same for kids.
stpaulcolumbus.com/supper

PASTORS & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Dr. Shane Green
Senior Minister

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.
Associate Minister

Philip Badcock
Church Administrator

Grace Bailey
Director of Christian
Education

Lauren Coleman
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Bruce Getz
Broadcast Operations
Manager

Donna Hightower
Director of Children's
Ministry

Roy Hightower
Assistant to Director of
Children's Ministry

Theresa Holzknecht
Communications Director

Catherine Hutchings
Receptionist

Shannon Land
Executive Assistant

Wayne Martz
Director of Music Ministry

Laura Marvets
Director of Youth Ministry

Cindy Shavers
Financial Records &
Administration

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Our children are singing today during the 11:00 a.m. worship service! Also, mark your calendars for the Christmas Musical which will be held on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the old CWC!



KIDMIN MOMENT

While wandering in the wilderness for forty years, the Israelites built the Tabernacle as a portable place of worship and a reminder of God's presence. Following God's detailed instructions, the community worked together, offering materials, skills, and labor so generously that Moses eventually had to ask them to stop giving. The Israelites built the Tabernacle as a portable sanctuary of God's presence, created through detailed instructions and the generous, united efforts of the entire community.



Shown: Confirmands Visit Shearith Israel



SPY MINISTRY

SNY Tonight! – November 16th
Join us for a combined Middle & High School SNY from 5:30–7:30 p.m., led by our awesome Young Adult Leaders! (Laura will be away with our 6th graders at Shocco Springs, along with a few of our youth helpers.) Bring \$1 for snack supper. It's Spaghetti! Note: There will be no SNY the following two Sundays as Nov. 23rd is the SPY Fall Retreat and Nov. 30th is Thanksgiving Break. Looking for service hours? Let Laura know ASAP if you'd like to help pack and transport grocery items to people's cars at Wynnton Neighborhood Network on Tuesday, Nov. 25th, 8:00 a.m.--12:00 p.m.



Sunday, November 16
8:30 AM Traditional Worship (M250)
9:00 AM Contemporary Worship (M220)
9:30 AM Weekly Communion (M250)
10:00 AM Bridges SS Class (M235)
10:00 AM Disciple 1 Bible Study (Library)
10:00 AM Foundry Class (Y101)
10:00 AM High School Youth SS Class (Y104)
10:00 AM Middle School Youth SS Class (Y106)
10:00 AM New Life SS Class (Y102)
10:00 AM Seekers Class (M234)
10:00 AM Wesley/Miller-Wilson Class (M232)
10:00 AM Wildwood Class (M150)
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (M260)
2:00 PM Spring Harbor Worship (Off Campus)
3:00 PM Confirmands Return from Shocco Springs
5:30 PM SNY Middle & High School Combined (Y210)
5:30 PM SNY Snack Supper (M220)
5:30 PM Children's Choirs (M235)
6:00 PM WNN Unity Service (Shearith Israel)

Monday, November 17
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (M203)
5:30 PM Finance Meeting (M234)
6:30 PM Ministries Committee Meeting (M203)

Tuesday, November 18
9:30 AM Yoga Redeemed (M235)
10:00 AM TMBS (M232)
11:00 AM God's Grace Bible Study (M234)
4:00 PM Spring Harbor Bible Study (Off Campus)

Wednesday, November 19
4:15 PM CHS Alumni Meeting (M232)
5:00 PM Handbell Practice (M270)
6:00 PM Family Night Supper (M220)
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (M260)

Thursday, November 20
6:30 AM Men's Bible Study (M232)
9:30 AM Preschool Moms Bible Study (M234)
1:00 PM Pastors Lunch (M203)

Friday, November 21
11:00 AM Preschool Thanksgiving Meal (M220)
Encounter Youth Fall Retreat at Epworth

Saturday, November 22
Encounter Youth Fall Retreat at Epworth

Today's Sunday School Lesson
for Preschool and Elementary
Children

A House for God (Exodus 25-31:15; 35:4-40:38)

Anchor Point – God cares for all people.

Say the Bible verse together:

"I'll take you as my people, and I'll be your God." (Exodus 6:7)

Questions for family discussion:

-The Israelites offered their possessions, their time, and their talents to build the Tabernacle. When the Tabernacle was finished, it reminded the Israelite people God was always with them.

-What reminds you that God is always with you?

- What places do you feel closest to God?

-What is special about these places?

Prayer:

Thank you, God, for a wonderful place to worship you. Help us to invite others to worship. Amen.

Join us January 9–11, 2026, for a **Marriage Retreat** at Pursell Farms in Sylacauga, AL. Reserve your spot today at stpaulcolumbus.com/events!

SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes: Beau Cochran and William Park
- (11:00) Acolytes: Gray Williams and Brucie Getz
- Acolyte Helper: Erin Murphy

ALTAR GUILD

- Chapel: Mimi Copelan and Joyce Johnson
- Delivery: Caroline Laney and Amanda McPherson

USHERS

- (8:30) Ken Crumpler, Stan Copelan
- (11:00) Ron Daniel (Lead Usher), Will Cliatt, Wade Cliatt, Ryan Sheffield, Billy Byrd, Michael Bleke

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of **Michael Broughton** and **Joe Chandler Powell** by Debbie Powell.



The Rosebud in the Chancel is in honor of the November 3, 2025 birth of **Hooper Alexander Turner IV**, son of Susanna and Hooper Turner, III. May the Lord bless this little one with love and fill his life with happiness and peace.

MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM GIFTS

Building Fund

In memory of **Bill Langley**

- by Nancy and Jim Tjoflat

In memory of **Johnny Jackson**

- by Celia Jenkins

Wynnton Neighborhood Network

In memory of **Marilyn Fugh**

- by John Evans

In memory of **Dr. Davis R. Watson, Sr.**

In memory of **John T. Middlebrooks III**

In memory of **Jackie Copelan**

- all by Janice Watson

In honor of **Susan Middlebrooks**

In honor of **Mimi Copelan**

In honor of **Anne and Richard Wilson**

In honor of **William J. Myers**

In honor of **Mary Lou and Charlie Jarrell**

In honor of **Ronald Dixon**

- all by Janice Watson

Please keep our **Music Ministry Search Committee** in your prayers as they discern the next leader to guide and inspire our worship through music. Pray for wisdom, unity, and clarity as they continue to interview candidates and listen for the Spirit's direction. May God prepare both our church and the person(s) God is calling to this vital ministry of praise.

On Nov. 25, there will be a **Safehouse luncheon** and we need volunteers to bring desserts to St. Paul by that day at 10:00 a.m. We also need help serving food at the new Safehouse location. Please call Dr. Joe Morrow at 706-332-9314 if you are interested in volunteering.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 16, 2025

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & AnnouncementsRev. Dr. Shane Green

The Choral Call to Worship.....*Be Joyful*

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Prelude.....*Andante Largo*, by A. Corelli

Flutes: Jeanne Martz and Mason Stokes

The Hymn of Celebration.....*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (#400)

The Affirmation of Faith*The Apostles' Creed* (#881)

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from
the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

The Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Amen.*

The Sacrament of Infant Baptism.....**Stanford Ripley Gilbert (see insert)**

The Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer.....Rev. Dr. Green

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

The Leader: *Let Us Worship God with His Tithes and Our Offerings.*

The Offertory Prayer.....Rev. Dr. Green

The Offertory.....*Allemanda Allegro*, by A. Corelli

Flutes: Jeanne Martz and Mason Stokes

The Doxology

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

The Scripture Lesson.....Luke 7:36-50

Leader: *The Word of God for the People of God.*

Congregational Response: *Thanks be to God.*

The Passing of the Peace

Leader: *The Peace of Christ be with you.*

Congregational Response: *And also with you.*

The Welcome and Registration of Attendance

A Presentation by St. Paul Children’s Choirs.....*God Walks with Me*, by B. Kornelis

*(After the children sing, ages K4-2nd graders are dismissed to
go to Children’s Church; children 3 and younger are taken to
the nursery by parents, Room M235)*

The Anthem.....*The Staff of Faith*, by C. Courtney

Flutes: Jeanne Martz and Mason Stokes

The Sermon.....*Grateful When It’s Messy*, Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

The Hymn of Consecration.....*Depth of Mercy* (#355))

The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World

The Choral Benediction and Amen.....*Go Now in Peace*

The Postlude.....*Rigaudon*, by A. Campra

The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him