SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Sunday after Ascension Day

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024 TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

Whatever brings you here, and whoever you are, we are glad you are here!

First Time Worshipping at St. Paul's?

St. Paul's is an Episcopal Church and uses liturgy or language for worship from *The Book of Common Prayer*. While we use a variety of other resources, all the words and music needed for today's service are found in this bulletin. There are helpful tips on when to stand and sit; however, do what feels most comfortable for you throughout the service.

Are you new to St. Paul's or the surrounding area?

Let us know by filling out a Welcome Card located in the pew rack and on the website, and we will connect with you. We also have a Welcome Table you can visit following the service in the Gathering Space of the Parish House. A host will be at the table throughout coffee hour, which is an opportunity immediately following the service to share refreshments with our members and visitors here today.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the Parish House. You are welcome to use the bathroom that best aligns with your gender identity.

Nursery

The nursery is open from 8:50 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There is a child-size restroom and a changing table available as well as the ability to hear service.

Contact the Clergy

The St. Paul's clergy are eager to hear from you and to support you. On most Sundays a member of the clergy is available to pray with you during Communion at the station to the left of the altar railing. If you are going through a life transition, have an emergency, or are in need of pastoral care for any other reason, please call the church at 804.643.3589.

For Families and Children During Worship

Young ones need to be able to see and experience worship. Our ushers are happy to direct you to our **Family Space** at the front of the church where you will find picture books, paper and crayons, and small hand-held toys. We also have **Worship Bags** as you enter the church that contain **Children's Bulletins**, paper and crayons. During the **Gospel Procession**, children and families are encouraged to participate, and Children's Chapel follows. Kids will leave with our staff to participate in their own time of prayer and fellowship. They will return after the sermon during the Peace.

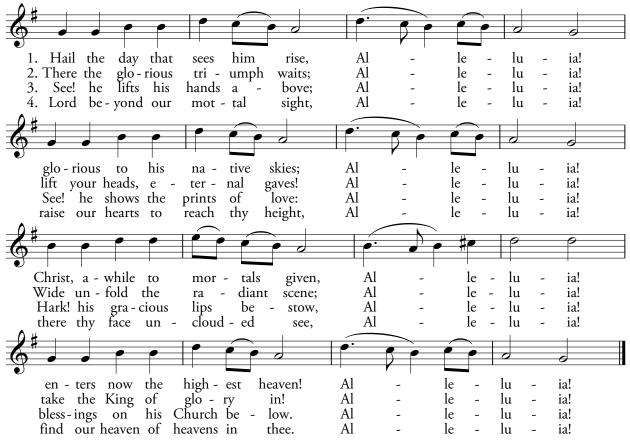
———The Entrance Rite———

ORGAN **V**OLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on Llanfair

McNeil Robinson (1943-2015)

HYMN



Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Llanfair, Robert Williams (1781-1821)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

All say together the Collect for Purity.

ALMIGHTY GOD, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



Text: Mass Ordinary, Fourth century Music: William Mathias (1934-1992)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people are seated.



THE FIRST READING Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL: PSALM 1 Beatus vir qui non abiit

chant: Jerome Webster Meachen (1930-2015)

The Psalm is sung by all.



- Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the <u>wicked</u>, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the <u>scornful!</u>
- Their delight is in the law of the <u>Lord</u>, * and they meditate on his law day and <u>night</u>.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not <u>wither</u>; * everything they do shall <u>prosper</u>.
- 4 It is not so with the <u>wicked</u>; * they are like chaff which the wind blows a-<u>way</u>.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the <u>righteous</u>.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the <u>righteous</u>, * but the way of the wicked is <u>doomed</u>.

THE EPISTLE READING

1 John 5:9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN

All are invited to participate in the Gospel procession, especially children. Simply follow the Gospel book around the church and stay in place for the Gospel reading. After the reading, the children are invited to attend Children's Chapel. They will return to the church at the Peace.



Text: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936)

Music: St. Botolph, Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 17:6-19

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

ESUS PRAYED for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev'd Gwynn Crichton, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care and Community Engagement

THE NICENE CREED

The people stand.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider Brothers and sisters and siblings, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and our

planet, saying, Holy God, be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for the church, that we may confront the evils of gun violence with patience and resolve

to end the suffering. Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for our earth, that we may use its resources with regard for those who come after us.

Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for the St. Paul's community, especially for all who nurture our children as mothers and

caregivers. Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for the nations of the world, that God's righteous rule of justice may bring peace among

all God's beloved people. Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for comfort for all who are suffering, especially families torn by gun violence, and those

who have asked for our prayers, including N., and those we name now. Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We pray for the dying and the dead, commending them to God's peace, especially N., and those

we name now. Holy God,

People be our protector.

Intercessor We offer our petitions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.

Presider Merciful God, as your Son returns to the heavenly home, do not leave us comfortless. Continue

your loving presence among us, that we may find unity of purpose as we seek to follow your way of love. Give us wisdom and patience in our journeys and bring us at last to your peaceful arms. We pray, as we live, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

——The Holy Communion———

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

O God, the King of glory, who hast exalted thy only son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; we beseech thee, leave us not comfortless, but send to us thine Holy Ghost, to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before us. Amen.

Text: Collect for the Sunday after the Ascension

Music: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)



The vibrant ministries, creative worship, and faithful witness of St. Paul's are made possible by the generous commitment of our congregation. Our community extends beyond our city through our expansive mission programming and inclusive online presence. As our community has grown, we have developed innovative engagement opportunities to extend fellowship and hospitality to meet the needs of our congregation. Regardless of how you join us this morning, all are invited to use the QR to offer a gift to support our vital ministries.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider
People
Presider
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

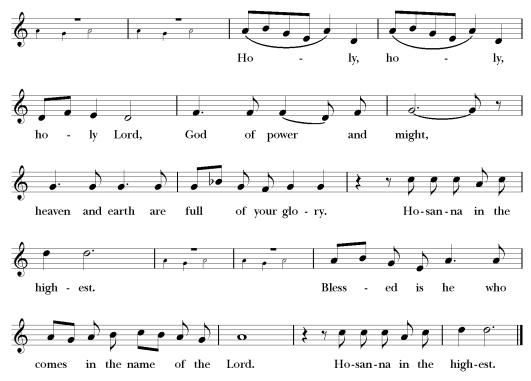
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey. And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Text: Mass Ordinary, Fifth century Music: William Mathias (1934-1992)

The people stand or kneel as the Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

The people and Presider say together

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Paul, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

The people and Presider say together

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

The Presider continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The people and Presider say together

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.

Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.

No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread followed by silence. Then all sing the Fraction Anthem Antiphon, the choir sings the verses.



The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Antiphon*

One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. *Antiphon*

Text: Refrain: Luke 24:35, Verses: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 *Music:* Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at God's table. An usher will signal when you may go forward. If you are unable to come forward, but desire Communion, please notify an usher and Communion will be brought to you in your pew. If, for whatever reason, you do not wish to receive, you are invited to come forward for a blessing; please indicate your desire for this by crossing your arms across your chest. If you would like prayers for healing for yourself and/or others, please come to the station to the left of the pulpit where clergy will be offering prayers.

ANTHEM AT COMMUNION

The Lord ascendeth upon high, the Lord hath triumphed gloriously, in power and might excelling; the grave and hell are captive led. Lo! he returns, our glorious Head, to his eternal dwelling.

The heavn's with joy receive their Lord, by saints, by angel hosts adored; O day of exultation! O earth, adore thy glorious King! His rising, his ascension sing with grateful adoration.

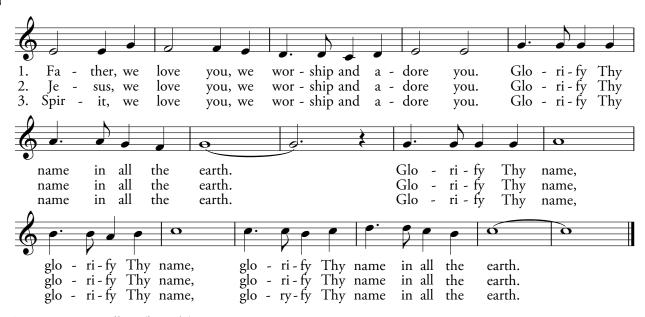
Our great High Priest hath gone before, upon his Church his grace to pour; and still his love he giveth.

O may our hearts to him ascend; may within us upward tend to him who ever liveth!

Text: Arthur T. Russell (1806-1874)

Music: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621), ed. Timothy Morris

HYMN



Text: Donna Adkins (b. 1940)

Music: Glorify Thy Name, Donna Adkins (b. 1940)

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

The people stand.

Presider In the name of God and of this congregation, we send you forth to share communion with N.,

who cannot be present at this table.

People We who are many are one because we all share one bread and one cup.

Our prayers are with you. Go in peace.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The people say together.

TERNAL GOD, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN



Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt.

In Babilone, melody from Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradanseu, 1710; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Organ Voluntary

Prelude on Bryn Calfaria

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Those interested in the St. Paul's History Tour are invited to gather at the baptismal font immediately following the service.

The altar flowers are given in memory of Sallie Deane, Judith Deane Arrington, R. Turner Arrington, Mr. and Mrs. W. Forbes Hotchkiss.

EXPANSIVE LANGUAGE AND CREATIVITY A Few Notes about Worship at St. Paul's

St. Paul's seeks to be a welcoming, open, and inclusive community that values creativity, beauty, and mystery. We try to reflect this mission in our worship so that those from various backgrounds and perspectives will feel at home. We also hope that our worship reflects both a respect and honoring of the traditions of the Anglican church, while also seeking to give voice to how God is speaking in our current contexts. We know that the words we say in worship have a profound effect on our imagination and our experiences of God. Here's a bit of background.

Expansive Language: The Episcopal Church has developed many liturgies that use inclusive and expansive language. Expansive language is a way of incorporating multiple ways of imagining and speaking about God. It refers to the expanded use of metaphorical language for God and humans in new or unexpected and fresh ways. While we continue to value the beauty of our traditions and the importance of language, we recognize that all human language is limited. Expansive language seeks to incorporate as much of the diversity of language as possible to include all persons in the liturgical expressions.

Our Music: Every effort is made at St. Paul's to include music that speaks to the relevance and diversity of the world today. We draw from a variety of resources that include hymns ranging from the traditional, to spirituals, to those written specifically by female composers and poets. In choosing our music, we try to create a balance of music from our sacred traditions with music that reflects the diversity of the church today. In addition to Bach and Howells, we also intentionally seek out music that centers on composers who are writing music today, particularly composers of color and female artists.

A place for prayer, candle-lighting, and contemplation, St. Paul's is a holy space in which we encounter God's presence in many ways.

Our bulletin and recycling: Since we pull from as many as twenty-five sources, as well as write our own liturgical pieces (prayers, choral works, hymns, etc.), the bulletin serves as a way of capturing those elements and putting them into one place: your hands. Without a bulletin that is printed each week, we would not be able to be as creative. Plus, it would be confusing to those who are new to St. Paul's. This bulletin is an instrument of hospitality that allows us, Sunday by Sunday, to welcome and embrace all who are searching for a church home and an authentic encounter with our awakened and active Lord. In an effort to conserve paper usage, we try to print only enough bulletins as are needed for each individual service. If you'd like to help us be good stewards, you can choose to share a bulletin or download a PDF. Each week, our bulletins are responsibly recycled.

Candle-lighting: Lighting candles is an ancient practice of the church. The flame has always been considered a sign of God's presence. On the lectern side of the altar rail is a place set aside for you to light candles. Perhaps you'll light a candle in memory of a loved one, or for a particular thanksgiving or hardship in your own life. Your prayers combine with the prayers of the community as we put our trust and hope in God.

Being in the presence of Jesus: On the pulpit side of the altar rail is a small chapel set aside for quiet contemplation and prayer. An item called a "Tabernacle" is present. It reminds us of the portable tent in which the Hebrews worshiped during their time in the wilderness. This small, wooden cabinet contains the consecrated bread from holy communion, a sign of Christ's presence in our midst. A candle is lit whenever the bread is in place. Even when the church is dark, the light remains, reminding us of the church's role to be a light in the midst of darkness. Here, in Christ's presence, you may spend time in stillness and quiet prayer. On most Sundays during communion, a priest is present to offer prayers for healing for yourself or for someone else.

If you have questions about our worship experience, or to find out how you can be involved in worship, please consult our Ministry Directory or reach out to one of the clergy. To learn more about the guiding beliefs of the Episcopal Church, visit https://www.episcopalchurch.org/what-we-believe/

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———Participants-

Clergy

The Rev'd Charles Dupree, D.Min., Rector
The Rev'd Rainey G. Dankel, Associate Rector for Parish Life
The Rev'd Gwynn Crichton, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care
and Community Engagement

Musicians

Crystal Jonkman, *Music Associate*The Saint Paul's Choir

Lectors

Edie Patterson Mary Fran Lowe

Intercessor

Suzanne Spooner-Munch

Acolytes

Luke Cresswell Will Stehle Phyllis James, *Mentor*

Eucharistic Ministers

Nancy Burns Christopher West

Altar Guild

Phyllis James, Iralin Peple, Stephen Peple, Joanne Simpson; Yvonne Harris, Scott Carr, *Co-Chairs*

