

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023
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?

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 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.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located in the Parish House.

NURSERY

Nursery is open from 8:50 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

COVID SAFETY

St. Paul's is committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment for everyone who enters our building and grounds. You can read more about our safety protocol, including for children and our response if there is a COVID exposure at St. Paul's, on our website at www.stpaulsrva.org/covidsafety.

CONTACT THE CLERGY

The St. Paul's clergy are eager to hear from you if you have questions, concerns, or a pastoral emergency. Contact can be made by phoning the church at 804.643.3589. The church office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

FAMILY SPACE IN THE SANCTUARY

Young ones need to be able to see and experience worship. Our ushers will be 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.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Fugue in e minor, BWV 533

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

HYMN



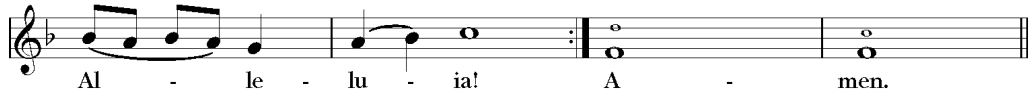
1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine, _____
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought; _____
3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee, _____
4 Where - fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, thou _____
5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord _____



1 didst yield the glo - ry that of right was thine, _____
2 by thee the out - cast and the poor were sought; _____
3 who wast a ser - vant that we might be free, _____
4 art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now, _____
5 in heaven and earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord; _____



1 that in our dark - ened hearts thy grace might shine, _____
2 and by thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought. _____
3 hum - bling thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry. _____
4 and given the Name to which all knees shall bow. _____
5 and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored. _____



Text: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on
us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord. You a-lone are the
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

Text: Mass Ordinary, Fourth century

Music: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O GOD, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

—————THE LITURGY OF THE WORD—————

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

FROM THE WILDERNESS of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GRADUAL: PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16 *Attendite, popule*

chant: Iain Quinn (b. 1973)

The Psalm is sung by the choir.

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

IF THEN THERE is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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.



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



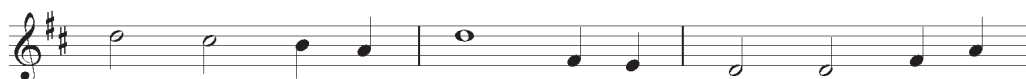
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



Text: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

Music: Nettleton, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

WHEN JESUS entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev'd Charles Dupree, D.Min., *Rector*

THE NICENE CREED

The people stand.

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. 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 As we celebrate with joy the presence of the Spirit in all peoples and all of creation, let us offer prayers to God who cares for us to the end of time.

Intercessor With all our heart and all our mind, we pray to you, O Lord;

People **Make us instruments of your peace.**

Intercessor For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord:

People **Where there is hatred, let us sow love.**

Intercessor For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord:

People **Where there is injury, let us sow pardon.**

Intercessor For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord;

People **Where there is discord, let us sow union.**

Intercessor For those who do not yet believe, for those who have lost their faith, and those in despair and darkness that they may receive the light of faith, we pray to you, O Lord:

People **Where there is doubt, let us sow faith.**

Intercessor We pray for the poor, the persecuted, the sick, especially those who have asked for our prayers (*add your petitions at this time*). We pray for all who suffer and those in danger (*add your petitions at this time*). We pray for those who are far away from family and friends (*add your petitions at this time*). We pray for their comfort and protection, O Lord:

People **Where there is despair, let us sow hope.**

Intercessor For the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church; for Michael our Presiding Bishop; for Mark, Gayle, and Dabney, our Bishops; and for this parish family, that in faithful witness we may spread God's love near and far, we pray to you, O Lord:

People **Where there is darkness, let us sow light.**

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially those we name now (*add your petitions at this time*). We also remember those who have died as a result of addiction, conflict, war, or any manifestation of violence and hatred. For all the departed and those who are grieving, may they find comfort and be at peace, we pray to you, O Lord:

People **Where there is sadness, let us sow joy.**

Intercessor Your own intercessions and thanksgivings are now invited silently or aloud.

Silence follows, then the Presider begins.

People **Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us confess our sins against God, self, planet, and neighbor.

The People stand or kneel.

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Presider gives the absolution.

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

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, thee,
who in thy sacrament dost deign to be;
both flesh and spirit at thy presence fail,
yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.

Fountain of goodness, Jesu, Lord and God,
cleans us, unclean, with thy most cleansing blood;
increase our faith and love, that we may know
the hope and peace which from thy presence flow.

Text: arr. T. Frederick H. Candlyn (1892–1964)

Music: attrib. Thomas Aquinas (ca. 1224-1274); trans. James Russell Woodford (1820-1885)

O blest memorial of our dying Lord,
who living bread to men doth here afford!
O may our souls for ever feed on thee,
and thou, O Christ, for ever precious be.

O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
may what we thirst for soon our portion be,
to gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face,
the vision of thy glory and thy grace.



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

The people stand.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

Text: Mass Ordinary, Fifth century

Music: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

The people stand or kneel as the Presider continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The people and Presider say together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Paul, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

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.

Now the sil-ence, now the peace, now the em - pty hands up - lift - ed;
now the kneel - ing, now the plea, now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come; Now the hear - ing,
now the pow - er, now the vess - el brimmed for pour - ing; now the bo - dy,
now the blood, now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion now. Now. Now.

Text: Jaroslav Vajda (1919-2008) © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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Music: Charles T. Dupree (b. 1969); commissioned by the 2022 Richmond Conference of the
Association of Anglican Musicians

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

*Ave, verum corpus natum
de Maria Virgine:
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine:
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum,
in mortis examine.
O Jesu dulcis, O Jesu pie,
O Jesu Fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen.*

Hail the true body, born
of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
on the cross for the sake of man.
From whose pierced flank
flowed water and blood:
Be a foretaste for us
in the trial of death.
O sweet, O merciful,
O Jesus, Son of Mary.
Have mercy on me. Amen.

Text: 14th century, Eucharistic hymn

Music: Stephanie Martin (b. 1962)

HYMN

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
word of grace, in strength of which we
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Text: James Montgomery (1771-1845), alt.

Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876);

harm. Richard Proulx (1937-2010), after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

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.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN



1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's cap - tives free,
2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our great high priest,
3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing - ness of space,
4. Tri - une, God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing, un - be - gun,



hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed, peace to share love's li - ber - ty.
tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture to re - deem the last and least:
kin - dling life where all was emp - ty, turn - ing cha - os in - to grace:
bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice, right - eous and for - giv - ing One:



Through us bring your balm of glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed;
let your cour - age and com - pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries;
when we feel con - fused and fruit less, dawn up - on our rest - less night;
so en - fold us in your mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite;



help us claim and show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
as our Sav - ior and our Shep - herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
give us faith's im - ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
through us may the world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Michael, from *Archangel Suite*

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

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 to the glory of God in memory of Nell Poole Wall, Wyatt W. Wall, Wyatt W. Wall, Jr.

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.

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.

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.

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 Gwynn Crichton, *Associate Rector for Pastoral Care*

Musicians

Christopher Reynolds, D.M.A., *Director of Music and Organist*
Crystal Jonkman, *Music Associate*
The Saint Paul's Choir

Lectors

Sue Davis
Celia Luxmoore

Intercessor

Cynthia Ellis

Acolytes

Isabelle Cresswell
Colin Matthews
Maura Matthews
Phyllis James, *Mentor*

Eucharistic Ministers

Janet Edmundson
Michelle Walker

Eucharistic Visitors

Miriam Farris
Sally Ray Griffith

Altar Guild

Carolyn Bottger, Iralin Peple, Howard Wells;
Yvonne Harris, Scott Carr, *Co-Chairs*



ST. PAUL'S
CELEBRATING **175** YEARS