

# SAINTE PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, JULY 7, 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 VOLUNTARY

Andante tranquillo, from *Organ Sonata in A Major, Op. 65, No. 3*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

## HYMN



1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!  
3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier-y tri-als thy path-way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je-sus hath fled for re- pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex-cel-lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv-ers of woe shall not thee o-ver-flow;  
4 my grace, all-suf-fi-cient, shall be thy sup-ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de-sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
2 I'll strength-en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
3 for I will be with thee, thy trou-bles to bless,  
4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on-ly de-sign  
5 that soul, though all hell shall en-deav-or to shake,



1 to you that for re-fuge to Je-sus have fled?  
2 up-held by my right-eous, om-ni-po-tent hand.  
3 and sanc-ti-fy to thee thy deep-est dis-tress.  
4 thy dross to con-sume, and thy gold to re-fine.  
5 I'll nev-er, no, nev-er, no, nev-er for-sake."

*Text:* K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt.

*Music:* *Foundation*, melody from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844;  
harm. Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

## 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.*

**A**LMIGHTY 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.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day  
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can - not re - pay;  
for we can on - ly won - der at ev - ery gift you send,  
at bless - ings with - out num - ber and mercies with - out end:  
we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,  
we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

*Text:* Michael A. Perry (1942-1996)

*Music:* *Thaxted*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934)

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

**O** GOD, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

**A**LL THE TRIBES of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRADUAL: PSALM 48 *Magnus Dominus*

*The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse.*

- 1 Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; \*  
in the city of our God is his holy hill.
- 2 **Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, \***  
**the very center of the world and the city of the great King.**
- 3 God is in her citadels; \*  
he is known to be her sure refuge.
- 4 **Behold, the kings of the earth assembled \***  
**and marched forward together.**
- 5 They looked and were astounded; \*  
they retreated and fled in terror.
- 6 **Trembling seized them there; \***  
**they writhed like a woman in childbirth,**  
**like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.**
- 7 As we have heard, so have we seen,  
in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; \*  
God has established her for ever.
- 8 **We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, \***  
**in the midst of your temple.**
- 9 Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; \*  
your right hand is full of justice.
- 10 **Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, \***  
**because of your judgments.**
- 11 Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; \*  
count the number of her towers.
- 12 **Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; \***  
**that you may tell those who come after.**
- 13 This God is our God for ever and ever; \*  
he shall be our guide for evermore.

ON MY OWN behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

*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. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2. Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -  
 3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
 4. Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



1. preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 2. tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
 3. this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
 4. do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
 5. to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



1. and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness to your  
 2. life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new fer - vor,  
 3. dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the world a -  
 4. all that you so free - ly give. May your care and mer - cy  
 5. may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the cares that



1. pur - pose with re - renewed in - teg - ri - ty. With the Spi - rit's  
 2. draw us clos - er in com - mun - i - ty. With the Spi - rit's  
 3. round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty. With the Spi - rit's  
 4. lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty. With the Spi - rit's  
 5. claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty. With the Spi - rit's



1. gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.
2. gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.
3. gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.
4. gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.
5. gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

*Text:* Jeffery Rowthorn (b. 1934)

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

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-13

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

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

**J**ESUS CAME to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

The Rev'd Gwynn Crichton, *Associate Rector for Community Engagement*

## THE NICENE CREED

*The people stand.*

**W**E 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* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

*Intercessor* Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*People* **That we all may be one.**

*Intercessor* Hearing your call to engage in acts of mercy and healing, grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Intercessor* Giving thanks for the ministry of Presiding Bishop Michael, Diocesan Bishop Mark, and our Rector Charlie, we pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*People* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Intercessor* Acknowledging you as the source of true freedom and righteous power, we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Intercessor* Recognizing your blessings as sufficient for all our efforts, give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People* **That our works may accord with your loving purposes.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those in need of healing in body, mind, and spirit, especially *N.*, and those we name now. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble,

*People* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Intercessor* We remember those who have died and those who mourn, especially *N.*, and those we name now. Give to the departed eternal rest;

*People* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Intercessor* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Intercessor* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*Presider* Holy One, as we celebrate the founding of our nation, give us gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy and strengthen our commitment to be a beacon of liberty for all people. Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will and grant us wisdom to share your mercies in the world around us. We offer our prayers in the powerful name of Jesus, through the comfort of your abiding Spirit.

*People* **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

Your hands, O Lord, in days of old were strong to heal and save;  
They triumphed over pain and death, o'er darkness and the grave.  
to you they went, the blind, the mute, the palsied and the lame,  
The leper set apart and shunned, the sick and those in shame.

And then your touch brought life and health, gave speech and strength and sight;  
And youth renewed, with health restored, claimed you, the Lord of light.  
And so, O Lord, be near to bless, almighty now as then,  
In every street, in every home, in every troubled friend.

O be our mighty healer still, O Lord of life and death;  
Restore and strengthen, soothe and bless with your almighty breath,  
On hands that work and eyes that see, your healing wisdom pour,  
That whole and sick and weak and strong may praise you evermore.

*Text:* Edward H. Plumptre (1821-1891)  
*Music:* Carson Cooman (b. 1982)



*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* 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*

*Presider* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*People* **Glorify you for ever and ever.**

*Presider* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space,  
galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Presider* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory,  
reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed  
your trust; and we turned against one another.

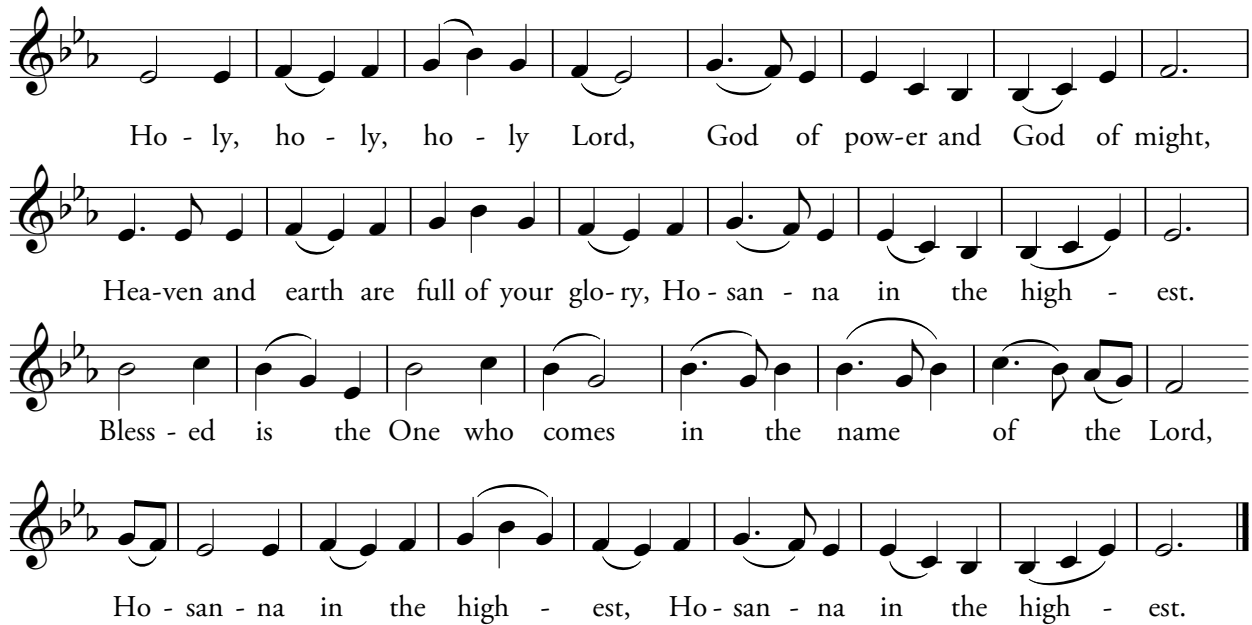
*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Presider* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us.  
By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Presider* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



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

*Text:* Mass Ordinary, Fifth century

*Music:* *Ye Banks and Braes*, arr. Larkin Bryant and Robert Feol

*The people stand or kneel as the Presider continues*

And so, merciful God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*The people and Presider say together*

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

*The Presider continues*

O God of our ancestors; God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah; God of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the

grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*The people and Presider say together*

**Risen One, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*The Presider continues*

Accept these prayers and praises, Holy God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

*The Presider continues*

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

*The people and Presider say together*

**O**UR 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.*

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the people of God.

#### 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.*

HYMN



1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3. This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine;  
 Thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 but oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shale serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
 O hear my song, thou God of all the na - tions,  
 O hear my prayer, thou God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
 my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

*Text:* Lloyd Stone (1912-1993)

*Music:* *Finlandia*, Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

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.*

**L**oving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

## HYMN

1. My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of lib - er - ty,  
2. My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the no - ble free,  
3. Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees  
4. Our fa - ther's God, to thee, au - thor of lib - er - ty,  
of thee I sing; land where my fa - thers died,  
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills,  
sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal tongues a - wake,  
to thee we sing; long may our land be bright  
land of the pil - grim's pride, from ev - ery with  
thy woods and tem - pled hills; my heart with  
let all that breathe par - take, let rocks their  
with free - dom's ho - ly light; pro - tect us  
moun - tain - side let free - dom ring.  
rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.  
si - lence break, the sound pro - long.  
by thy might, great God, our King.

*Text:* Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895)

*Music:* *America*, from *Thesaurus Musicus*, 1745

## THE DISMISSAL

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ!  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Final Variation, from *Concert Variations on 'The Star Spangled Banner'*, Op. 23

Dudley Buck (1839-1909)

*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 Margaret and Bob Hoover and Mary and Roy Roberts.*

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## PARTICIPANTS

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### *Clergy*

The Rev'd Charles Dupree, D.Min., *Rector*  
The Rev'd Gwynn Crichton, *Associate Rector for Community Engagement*  
The Rev'd Rainey G. Dankel, *Associate Rector for Worship and Liturgy*  
The Rev'd Andie Rohrs, *Associate for Pastoral Care*

### *Musicians*

Christopher Reynolds, D.M.A., *Director of Music and Organist*  
Summer Choir

### *Lectors*

David Hoover  
Cynthia Ellis

### *Intercessor*

Sue Davis

### *Acolyte*

Stephen Peple

### *Eucharistic Ministers*

Nancy Burns  
Sally Ray Griffith

### *Altar Guild*

Lynn Blankman, Chris Lowry, Joyce Smith, Sandra Whitfield;  
Louisa Sirles, Deborah Love Yoder, *Co-Chairs*

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