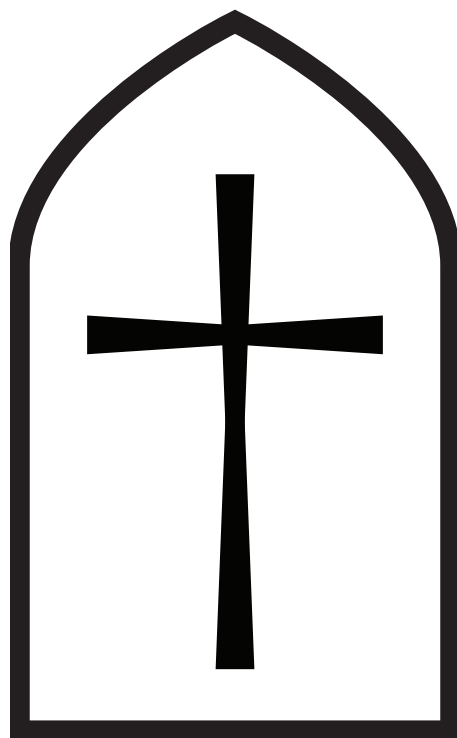


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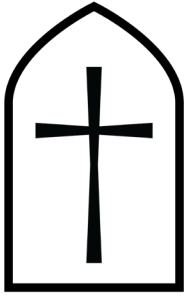
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024
10:00 AM, RITE II

LIVE FAITHFULLY.



The Holy Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 • 10 AM

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Waco, TX

••• Live Faithfully

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold.

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Rusty and Dawn Khoury to the glory of God and in loving memory of Theodore and Julia Khoury.

PRELUDE: *Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

The people stand as able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • *God is Love, let heaven adore him* • 379

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "God is Love, let heaven adore him". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three parts: 1. "1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let", 2. "2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in", and 3. "3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all".

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer is an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

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.**

THE GLORIA • *Glory be to God* • 202

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,



good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,



we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give



thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly



King, God the Fa-ther Al - might - y.



4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;



5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the
right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.
8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. thou
on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most
high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. —
A - - - - - men.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1881-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

This collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The people sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

The propers of the service are the scriptural texts that change with the liturgical calendar. The collect, lessons, psalm, Gospel, and preface to the communion liturgy are propers. Our lessons come from the Revised Common Lectionary, which is a three year cycle of readings shared by many mainline denominations. Each year we retell the Christian story from Advent through Pentecost.

THE FIRST LESSON • Acts 8:26-40

Our first lesson is usually from the Old Testament, also known as the Hebrew Scriptures. The exception to this is in the Easter season, when we read lessons from the life of the early church in the Acts of the Apostles.

A Reading from Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE • Psalm 22:24-30

The psalms are sung or spoken prayers that cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The psalm is a response to hearing the Old Testament lesson and often it relates to the themes read in the lesson.

Read in unison.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *

he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

THE SECOND LESSON • 1 John 4:7-21

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

A Reading from 1 John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

We invite your child to join our Children's Chapel program this morning! Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to follow our Director of Children's & Family Ministry, Lisa St. Romain, to the Children's Chapel. After the exchange of the peace, children are directed back to their seats.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN • *Like the murmur of the dove's song* • 513



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the



chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
 branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and



wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
 wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 sign: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 pare: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

THE GOSPEL • John 15:1-8

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON • The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith, Rector

The sermon directly follows the Gospel and helps illuminate the scriptural readings and relate them to daily life.

The people stand as able at the invitation of the celebrant to recite the Nicene Creed.

The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at services of Holy Eucharist and reflects the Christian belief in the Holy Trinity and the relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.

We pray for ourselves and on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church — the Body of Christ. A brief silence is kept between each bidding.

The people kneel or sit. The intercessor and people pray responsively.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

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

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and materially in the money we give.

All are invited to support Saint Paul's mission to Live Faithfully as the plate is passed, at saintpaulswaco.org/give, or by scanning the QR code on the card titled "Giving" on the back of the pew in front of you.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*I give you a new commandment
Peter Aston (1938-2013)*

The people stand as able.

THE DOXOLOGY • *From all that dwell below the skies (verse 3)* • 380

**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 GREAT THANKSGIVING • Eucharistic Prayer B BCP 367

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum Corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S 114

The Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

THE GREAT AMEN

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "Amen" in all capitals found in The Book of Common Prayer, signifying the greatness of the congregation's response.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 363

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us celebrate the feast. Alleluia.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
 on us. O Lamb of God, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
 world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE PRESENTATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion at the acolyte's direction. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. If you would prefer to receive communion from your pew, you may remain seated during altar rail distribution. A priest will come to the congregation for anyone wishing to remain in the pew. You may raise your hand to get their attention.

COMMUNION HYMN • *Come gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove* • 512

1 Come, gra - cious Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with light and
 2 The light of truth to us dis - play, and make us
 3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing Way, nor let us
 4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share full - ness of

com - fort from a - bove; be thou our guard - ian,
 know and choose thy way; plant ho - ly fear in
 from his pre - cepts stray; lead us to ho - li -
 joy for ev - er there; lead us to God, our

thou our guide; o'er ev - ery thought and step pre - side.
 ev - ery heart, that we from thee may ne'er de - part.
 ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.
 fin - al rest, to be with him for ev - er blest.

Words: Simon Browne (1680-1732), alt. Music: *Mendon*, melody from *Methodist Harmonist*, 1981; adapt. and harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

COMMUNION HYMN • *Christ for the world we sing* • 537

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886). Music: *Moscow*, melody Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1892).

The people kneel or sit.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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 his 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

BOS 13

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The people stand as able.

CLOSING HYMN • *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing* • 3 4 4

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the
 joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

Words: Att. to John Fawcett (1739/40-1817). Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody; first published *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792, alt.

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

The dismissal signals the end of worship but the beginning of our service. Now that we have been renewed at Christ's altar, we are sent into the world to continue spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. In seasons of festive celebration, like the great 50 days of Easter, we add "Alleluia, Alleluia" to our dismissal.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE: *Llanfair*

Robert J. Powell
(b. 1932)

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith, Rector
Choir Director	Dr. Will McLean
Organist	Dr. Jeffrey Peterson
Lector & Intercessors	Carolyn Turner & Lance Harris
Vestry Hosts	John Miller Mayfield & Laura Swann
Ushers	Justin & Nicole Sage
Oblationer	Steve & Kathleen Dow
Altar Guild	Team V: Sandra Callan, Kristi Carlile, Susan Duncan, Amy Grigsby, Carol Horner, Karen Johnson, Jenny Peel, Austin Smith, Carolyn Turner, Carl Ballew

THE PRAYER LIST • April 28 - May 4

At Saint Paul's, prayer is an important part of our vision to Live Faithfully. Every week, we pray for upcoming birthdays and anniversaries, ten of our families, and the ill and infirm. If your birthday or anniversary is in the next week, you are welcome to join us at the front for a prayer following the announcements.

BIRTHDAYS

Shepherd Neville, Ford Taylor, Ally Acosta, Boots Felton, Toni Riley, Kerri Davison, Wiley Newman, Lydia Smith

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNIVERSARIES

Chris & Andy McSwain

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

MEMBERS CYCLE

Mary Bashara; Mary Anne Bashara; Meagan Bashara; David & Margery Bass; Piers & Alethea Bateman; Jamey & Melisa Bennett; Kenny & Debbie Bennett; Carolyn Berry; Keith Bilbrey; Kyle Anne Blount

ILL & INFIRM

Whether you are here for the first time or have been a member your whole life, we would love to pray for you. To send in a prayer request, you may call the church office at 254-753-4501 or email contactus@saintpaulswaco.org. You may also fill out the card titled "Prayer" on the back of the pew in front of you. If you are requesting prayer for someone else, please ensure you have their permission or the permission of an immediate family member before putting them on the public prayer list. We are happy to pray privately for those who do not wish to publish their names.

Do you see someone on this list who is doing better? Please let us know! We would love to celebrate with them.

THIS WEEK

Benita Louvier, Carolyn Berry, Stephen Tanton, Jack Compton, Corrie Long, Cannon Long, Ryker Long, Travis Quast, Parker Quast, Mary Helen George, Mary Greaves, Ellen Thompson, Rob Young, Mark Dizdar, Brad Canon, Kelly, Gail Wade, Glenda Goehrs, Foris Louvier, Paxton Dove, James Rowe, Laura McNutt, Beth Mayfield, Amanda Horner, Warner Barnes, Sue Davis, Dorothy Fisher, Jack Pierce, Shirley Williams, Khalida Javaid, Aidan Castro, Lily Williams, Lorri Khoury, Lisa Moon, Barbara Jensen, Anna Kessler, Suzie Wright, Rollin Khoury, David Janda

ONGOING

Tom Brothers, Laretta Buchanan, Samantha C., Merilyn Carden, Erin Clark, Clayton Felton, Janette Flanary, Tom Haddad, Lezlie Hall, Ben Hambleton, Nancy Hightower, Eva Jackson, Hannah Lessenger, Richard Mills III, Shannon O'Brien, Fred Rader, Dennis Ramsey, Carolyn Scheel, Wes Stafford, Adam Sattler III, Jan Sattler, Eric Stromme, Beverly Terrell, Bud Unell, Neela Vera, West Williams, Erin Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ALL-AGES FORMATION

Our Easter All-Ages Formation will be on Sunday, April 28 at 11 AM in the Parish Hall! Join us for a time of fellowship, food, and learning!



EVENSONG

Join us for an Easter-tide service of Evensong on Sunday, May 5 at 5 PM!



FAITH & FAMILIES

Faith & Families is a new community-building opportunity for young families with or without kids! Join us Friday, May 3 for a come-and-go event from 6 to 9 PM. Food and drinks will be available. Scan the QR code to register and receive the event address. This initial event is an adults-only gathering, and we apologize for any inconvenience! We will work on family-friendly events and additional childcare options going forward.



SPES ONLINE ART AUCTION



Join us for a virtuous cause! On Monday, April 29, Saint Paul's Episcopal School invites you to the online auction, supporting the rejuvenation of our beloved playground. Delight in the artistic endeavors of our students showcased in the auction. Together we can transform our playground with safer, cleaner rubber surfacing. Your generosity will make a difference in creating a secure and joyful space for our children to thrive. Visit the online fundraiser now to contribute.

HOLY HIKES

Mark your calendars for Holy Hikes on Saturday, May 11 at 9 AM! Holy Hikes involves an easy-to-moderate hike with a service of Holy Eucharist celebrated in stations along the trail. Location to be announced.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join us for a weekend of fellowship and fun led by #1 Best Selling Author and Illustrator of 9 books, Roger Hutchison. Roger is Director of Children's and Youth Ministries at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church in Houston, TX. Scan the QR code to register.



DISCIPLE CAMP REGISTRATION

It's time to register for Disciple Camp! Camp runs from June 23 to 27. Scan the QR code to register and to learn more about this year's theme, "Camp Firelight!"

SUNDAY FORMATION

ADULT FORMATION

Our adult formation class, “Reading Genesis Again for the First Time,” meets on Sundays at 9 AM in the Parish Hall. This class uses resources from the BEMA Podcast to create a discussion-based course that will take a close, meditative look at the narrative and poetry of the opening chapters of the Bible. This portion of the course will cover the story of Jacob starting at episode 13.

CHILDREN’S FORMATION

Children are invited to Godly Play at 9:30 AM in the corner classroom on the first floor. This experiential curriculum uses silence, wondering, and personal response to allow children to learn liturgical language with the guidance of a storyteller or teacher who shares the biblical story using hands-on material.

YOUTH FORMATION

Saint Paul’s youth in grades 7 through 12 are welcome to join Sara Allison in the Youth Room for a bible study.

WEEKLY FORMATION

BENEDICTINE STUDY GROUP



Benedictine Study group meets on first and third Tuesdays at 12 PM in the church office library. Scan the QR code to visit their website. The group is currently reading “Benedictine Living” by Kate Ritger. This short book includes questions for reflection and will take the Group through the end of spring. All are welcome to join the noon meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the library of the church office.

CENTERING PRAYER

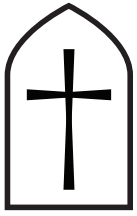
Centering Prayer is offered in the Chapel at noon every Thursday. If you are considering a new Lenten discipline, please come. For more information contact ebssmith@yahoo.com. There will be no Centering Prayer on Thursday, May 2.

MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Men’s Prayer Breakfast meets weekly on Wednesday mornings in the Parish Hall. Breakfast begins at 6:30 AM and study begins at 7 AM.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

The Women’s Bible study group meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM in the office library. Our group is doing a twenty four-week video study from The Great Courses on the Old Testament by Amy-Jill Levine, a professor with the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Please join us.



SAINT • PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10:00 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9 AM-4 PM
Closed Federal Holidays
601 Columbus Ave
Waco, TX 76701
254-753-4501

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

517 Columbus Ave
Waco, TX 76701
office@speswaco.org
254-753-0246

SAINT PAUL'S STAFF

The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith
Rector

The Rev. Preston Yancey
College Missioner

The Rev. Alberto Melis
Deacon

The Rev. John Wells
Retired Priest Associate

The Rev. Dr. D. Ray Bagby
Retired Priest Associate

Lisa St. Romain
Director of Children & Family Ministry

Sara Allison
Director of Youth Ministry

Brandi Goddard
Parish Administrator

Sarah Martin
Director of Communications & Membership

Iona Easterwood
Accountant

Craig Finley
Facilities Director

Paul Hicks
Sexton

Charles Watson
Assisting Sexton

Willie Sargent
Retired Sexton Emeritus

Dr. Will McLean
Choir Director

Dr. Jeffrey Peterson
Organist

Liz Dover
Nursery Attendant

Skyler Skillman
Nursery Attendant

M'Lissa Howen
Head of School