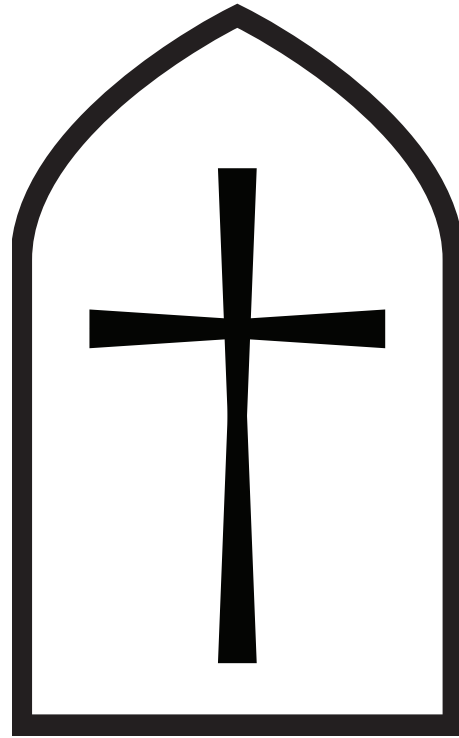


SAINT ♦ PAUL'S  
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H



THE FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024  
8:00 AM, RITE I

LIVE FAITHFULLY.



# The Holy Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 • 8 AM

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Waco, TX

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••• 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.*

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*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.*

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## THE ENTRANCE RITE

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 323

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, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

BCP 324

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen

## 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 with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, 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.**

*The people stand as able for the reading of the Gospel.*

## 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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 be to thee, O 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 service 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.*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; to the whole order of the baptized; our lay pastors, musicians, and all the faculty and staff of Saint Paul's School; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Bless, O Lord, the milestones of our lives, that, in the course of our mortal pilgrimage, we may know that thou art ever walking beside us. We offer particular thanks for the life and occasion we celebrate with our altar flowers.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those persons who have requested our prayers, those we remember in our hearts, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of blessed Paul and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.



Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

*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](http://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 to do good and to distribute, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

*The altar is prepared for Holy Communion. The people stand as able.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING • Eucharistic Prayer II      BCP 340

*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 with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
**It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

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

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand.*

*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.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

## 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 336

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 keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## THE PRESENTATION

*We omit the Prayer of Humble Access for the duration of the Easter Season.*

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.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 339

*The people kneel or sit.*

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. 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 DISMISSAL

*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.**



# TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Samantha R.E. Smith, Rector
Vestry Host	Kyle Deaver
Lector & Intercessor	K. Paul Holt
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](mailto: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 Javid, 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., Marilyn 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

April 28 • 11 AM

## 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

May 5 • 5 PM

## EVENSONG

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



## Faith & Families

Community-building for young families with or without kids.

Friday, May 3 come and go from 6 to 9 PM. Register for address.

## 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](mailto: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