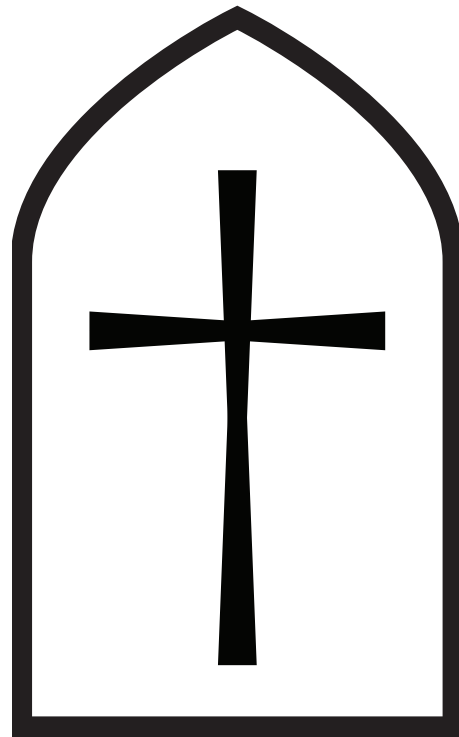


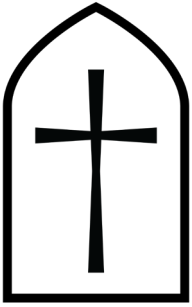
SAINT ♦ PAUL'S  
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H



THE SECOND SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

APRIL 7, 2024  
8:00 AM, RITE I

LIVE FAITHFULLY.



# The Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 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 Tod and Laura Swann to the glory of God and in memory of Thomas Rowland Swann and Frances Dossett Swann, and in thanksgiving for Dossett Troberman, Evans Troberman, and Leni Rose Troberman.*

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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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and 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 4:32-35

*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.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSE • Psalm 133

*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.*

- 1 **Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \***  
**when brethren live together in unity!**
- 2 **It is like fine oil upon the head \***  
**that runs down upon the beard,**
- 3 **Upon the beard of Aaron, \***  
**and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**
- 4 **It is like the dew of Hermon \***  
**that falls upon the hills of Zion.**
- 5 **For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \***  
**life for evermore.**

## THE SECOND LESSON • 1 John 1:1-2:2

*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.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

## THE GOSPEL • John 20:19-31

*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.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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. Preston Yancey, College Missioner

*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. Preston Yancey, College Missioner   |
| Vestry Host          | Kyle Deaver  |
| Lector & Intercessor | Tricia Braswell  |
| Altar Guild          | Team II: Cindie Lehr, Trisha Brindley, Ann Campbell, Lisa Clevenger, Judy Cofer, Pam Compton, Betty Flowers, Gina Ford, Pat Gilliam, Mandy Kuehl, Sara Richie, Carl Ballew |

## THE PRAYER LIST • April 7-13

*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

Richard Nettles, Sandra Callan, Kevin Wells, Cooper Allen, Susan Dossett, Katherine Allison, Dolores Haferkamp, J. J. Wentworth, Katie Larson, Alexander Dietz, David Haferkamp, Chuck Reeves, Susan Vick

**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

Susan & Markham Dossett, Becky & Spencer Brown

**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

James & Suzie Wright; Richard, Laurie, Clementine, & Mabel Wright; Preston, Hilary, Jackson, Junia, & Joanna Yancey; Renee Yawn; Betty Young; Douglas & Pat Young; Roger, Dianna, Christopher, & Elizabeth Yount; Vickie Zimmerman; Jesse, Christie, Avery, & Ally Acosta; Laramie, Catherine, Louisa, & Thomas Adams

## 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, Jack Burgess, 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, Laurette 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

O God of Darkness and Light, who sets the stars and planets in their courses, thank you for this chance to stand in awe of your creation. Hallow our time of joy, study, and reflection. As we look to the heavens, remind us that your love never fades from our sight; and train our eyes and ears to notice the unexpected gifts within the midday shadows. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who gives light to the world. Amen.

A collect from St. Michael's in Little Rock, Arkansas

## OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed Monday, April 7 for the eclipse. We will reopen for regular hours on Tuesday, April 8.

## Adult New Members Class

Learn more about The Episcopal Church and Saint Paul's. This class fulfills the preparation requirement for Confirmation in August.

Sunday, April 14 • 11:30 AM

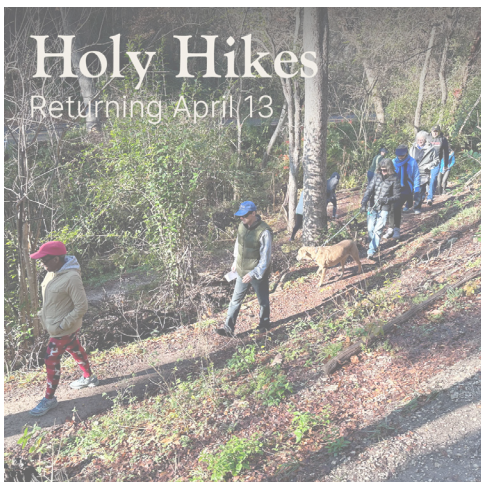


## ADULT NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Join Rev. Sam and others new to Saint Paul's on Sunday, April 14 at 11:30 AM to learn more about The Episcopal Church and Saint Paul's. If you're interested in becoming an official Episcopalian from another denomination, the bishop will be visiting August 25 for Confirmations and Receptions into the church, and this class will fulfill your preparation requirement! Please register by April 10 so we can have enough lunch ordered for everyone. If you cannot make this class but are interested in confirmation, keep a look out for another class in June!

## Holy Hikes

Returning April 13



## HOLY HIKES

Mark your calendars! Holy Hikes is returning Saturday, April 13! Join us at 9 AM for an easy-to-moderate hike with a service of Holy Eucharist celebrated in stations along the trail. Location to be announced soon.



## THE REV. BRANDON S. MCGINNIS'S INSTALLATION

We are pleased to announce that the Rev. Brandon S. McGinnis's installation as Rector of St. Stephen's, Liberty will be April 15 at 6 PM.

## MARCH VESTRY UPDATE

Reverend Sam will be interviewing two curates in the coming weeks. She has been elected to represent our diocese at the 81st General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Reverends Ray Bagby and Preston Yancey are doing a great job supporting the work of the Rector and serving as an on call presence. Financial expenses are as expected and the HVAC in the Narthex has been repaired. Further good news, the facilities committee has been authorized to establish a Emergency Action Plan for the parish that will seek to ensure that the church is prepared for any emergency, whether natural disaster, medical emergency or active disruption.

## FAITH & FAMILIES

Save the Date! Join us for a Faith & Families event to gather parents for fellowship and fun on Friday, May 3! More details to come, but mark you calendars for an evening together!

## SPIRITUS GLADIUS SPRING 2024



The Spring Edition of Saint Paul's magazine, Spiritus Gladius, is here! Spiritus Gladius is an online publication with a limited print run. Scan the QR code to read about Holy Week, our Lenten Soup & Spirituality series, and church-wide formation opportunities! This edition also includes updates on our Sunday attendance and financials on page 11. If you would like a print copy of the magazine, please email [sarahm@saintpaulswaco.org](mailto:sarahm@saintpaulswaco.org) or pick one up in the narthex.

## GRANDE TEXAS FAMILY REUNION

You're invited to the first Grande Texas Family Reunion. Join the Diocese of Texas at Camp Allen May 3-5 for archery, nature hikes, live music, a petting zoo, an outdoor movie, and many more fun activities! Learn more and register at [campallen.org](http://campallen.org).

# 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

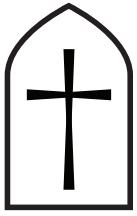
Centering Prayer is offered in the Chapel at noon every Thursday. If you are considering a new Lenten discipline, please come. For more information contact [ebssmith@yahoo.com](mailto:ebssmith@yahoo.com).

### 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 Sergent  
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