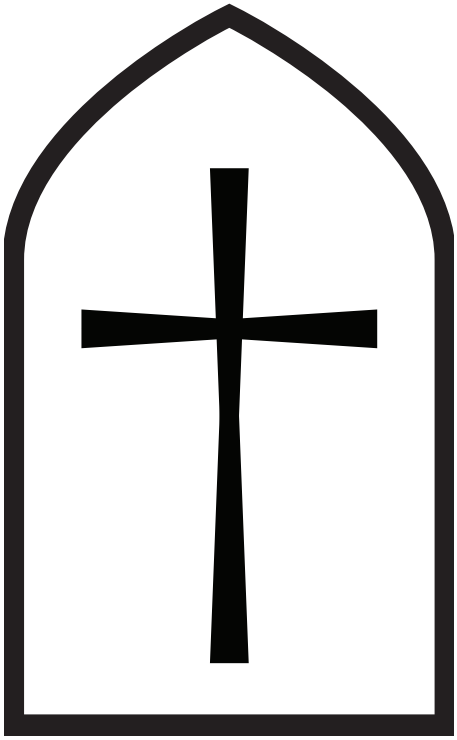
SAINT • PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 15, 2026

10:15 AM, RITE II

LIVE FAITHFULLY.

The Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 • 10:15 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.

In the Christian tradition, there are a few dates in the liturgical calendar that are especially appropriate for baptism. These days are The Baptism of Our Lord, The Easter Vigil, The Day of Pentecost, and All Saints' Day. If you or a member of your family would like to receive the rite of baptism, please contact the church office.

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 Collette and Richard Karr to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Karr, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Karr, III; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Rountree; and Jamie Faith Douglas.

PRELUDE: *Sonata in F* — Giovanni Bassani (1657-1716)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

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

The people stand as able at the introduction of the Processional Hymn.



Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929). By permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited. Music: *Morning song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

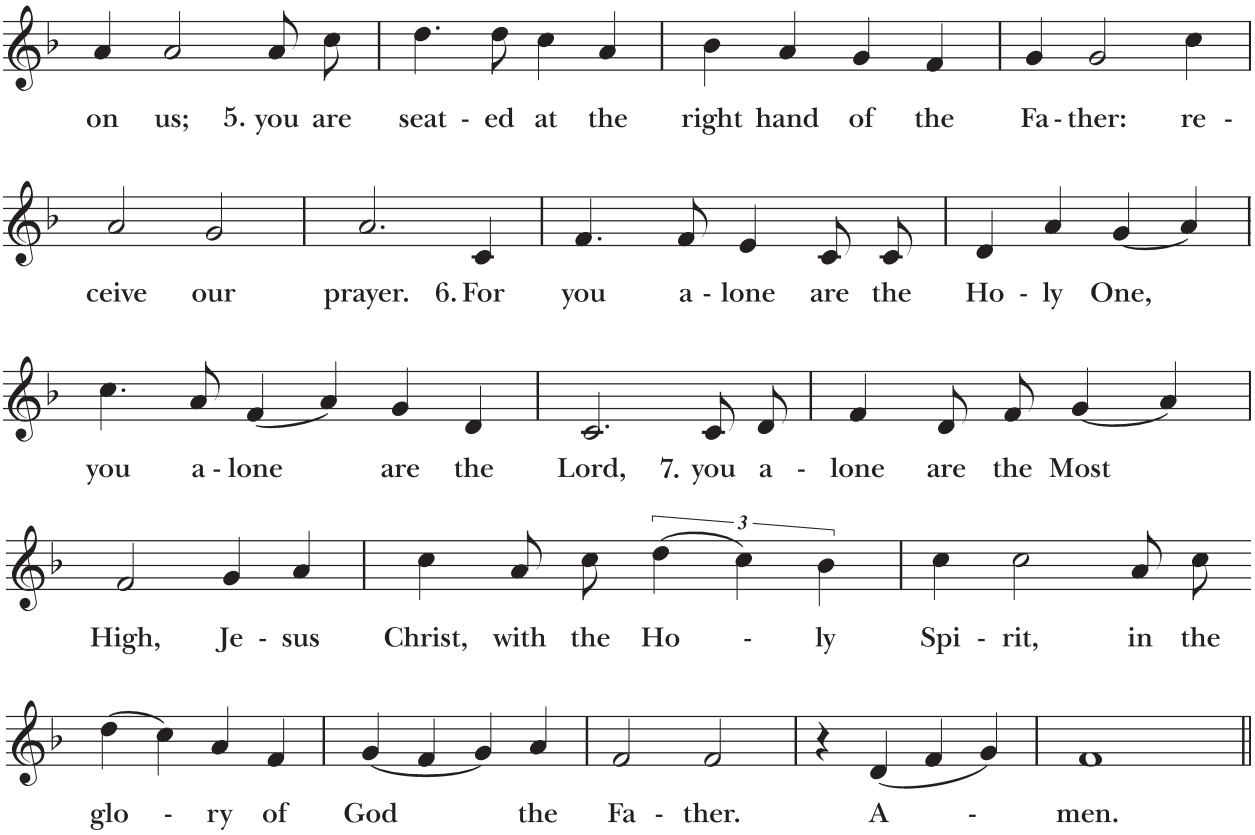
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 • S280





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF 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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The people are seated.

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 • Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

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 the Prophet Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE • Psalm 90:1-8, 12

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 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.**

**2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.**

**3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."**

**4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.**

**5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.**

**6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

**7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.**

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

THE SECOND LESSON • 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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 the First Letter to the Church in Thessalonica.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

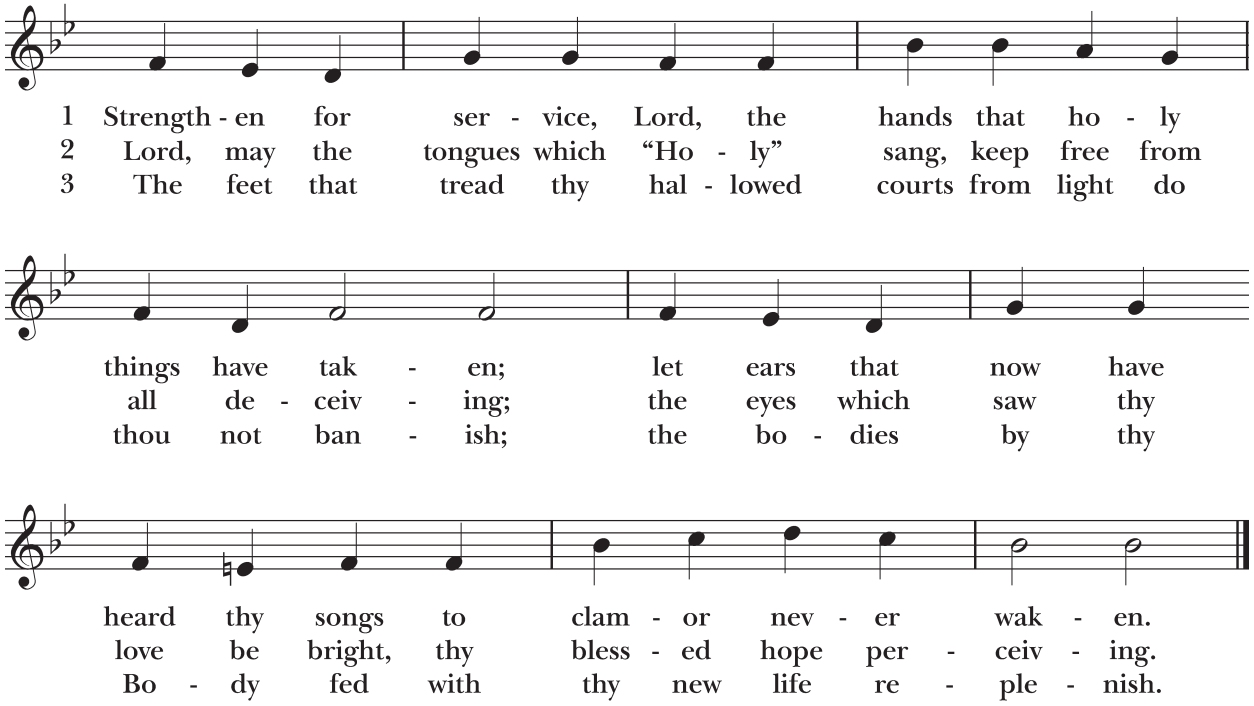
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

We invite your child to join our Children's Chapel program this morning! Children ages pre-k through 6th grade are invited to follow our Director of Children's & Family Ministry, Lisa Terry-Ickles, to the Children's Chapel. Chaperoned children younger than pre-k are welcome to join with a parent. After the exchange of the peace, children are directed back to their seats.

The people stand as able at the introduction of the Sequence Hymn.

SEQUENCE HYMN • *Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands* • 312



Words: Syriac Liturgy of Malabar; tr. Charles William Humphreys (1840-1921); alt. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Malabar*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

THE GOSPEL • Matthew 25:14-30

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 Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON • The Rev. Gavin E. Tomlin, Associate Rector

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

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

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.

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

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE • Form III BCP 387

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 for the prayers. 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, deacons, and our postulant for holy orders;
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 people may offer their prayers silently or aloud.

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN BCP 360

Confessing our sins, receiving absolution, and sharing signs of peace with one another prepares us to receive Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief silence is kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The people stand as able.

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 to the left.

If you give online, mail checks, or use other methods to give but still want to participate when the plate is passed, you are welcome to pick up a giving coin in the narthex and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness
Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!

He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine.
Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low.

Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgments,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children —
praise the Lord, all people, praise!

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

The people stand as able.

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 A BCP 361

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.

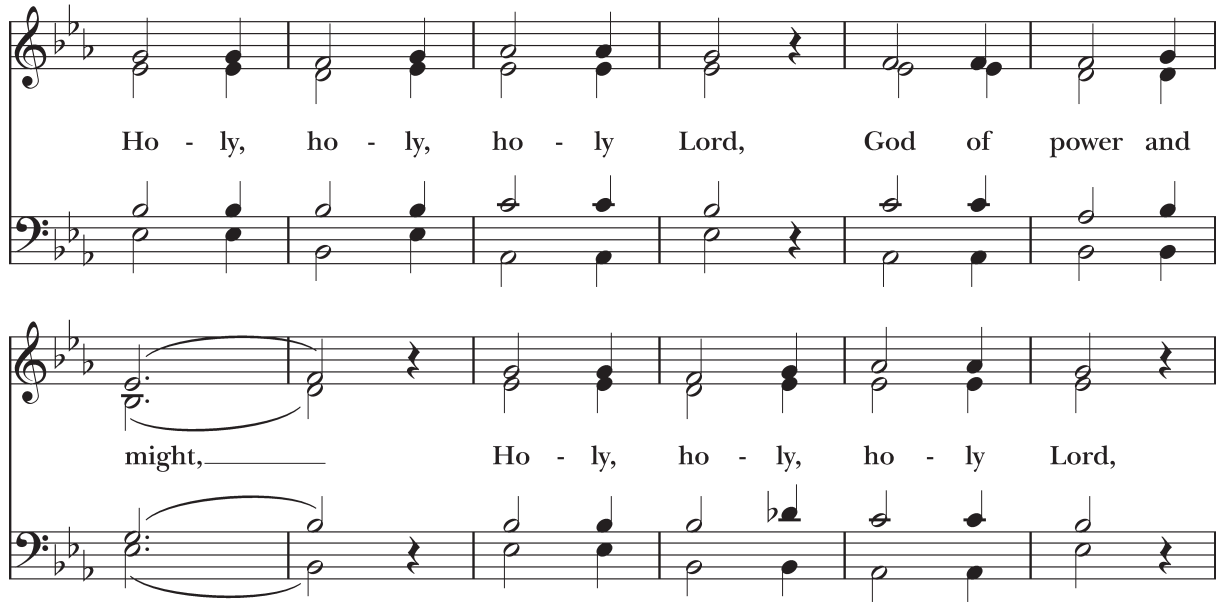
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant adds a proper preface appropriate to the season or day.

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 • S130

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





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people kneel or stand as able.

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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

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 he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.*

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 has taught us, we are bold to say,

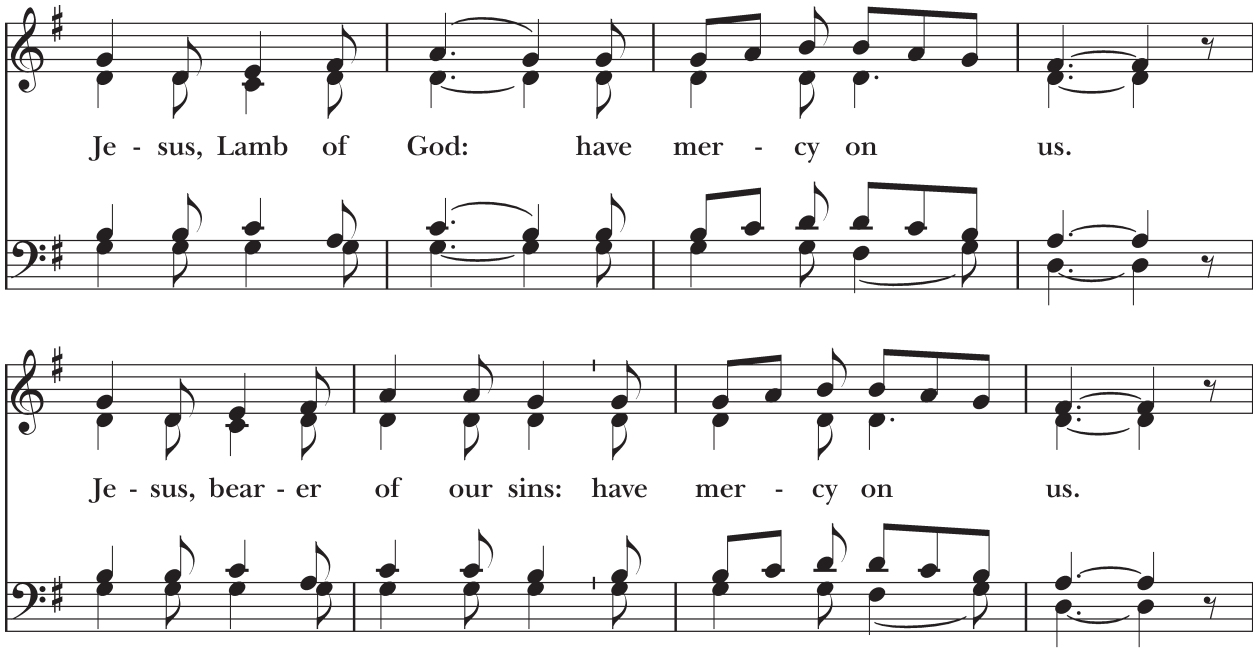
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

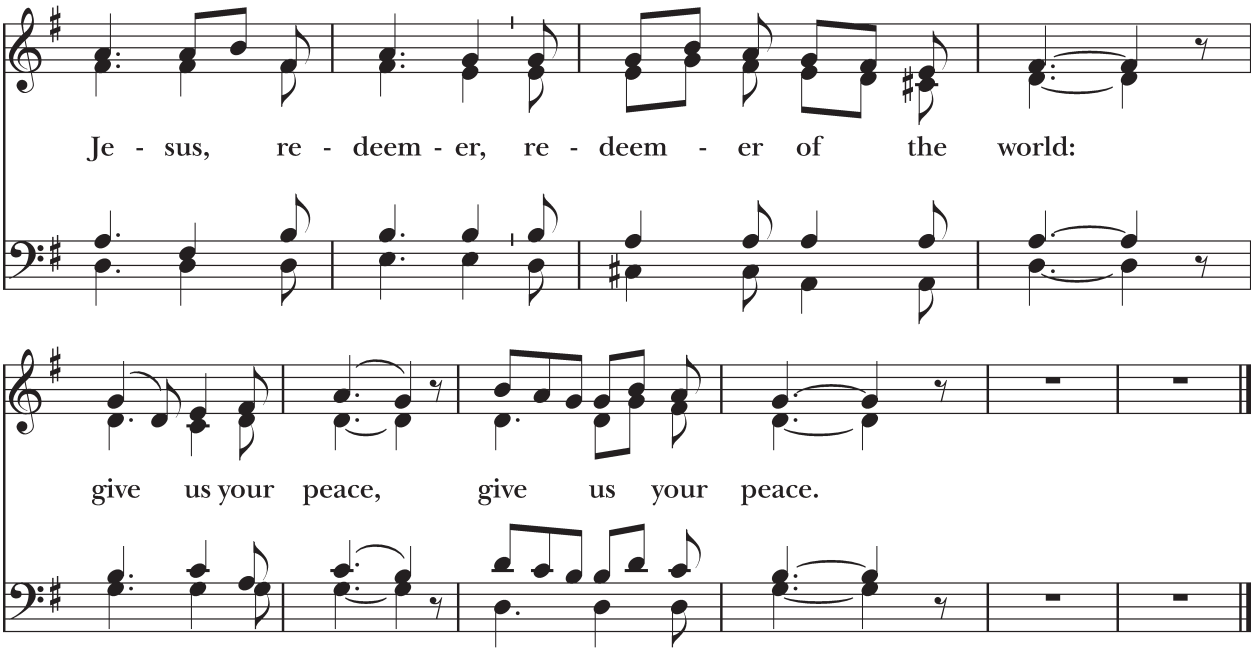
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM • S164





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE PRESENTATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Celebrant may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people are seated until invited forward for Communion.

Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. 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. Please raise your hand to get their attention.

COMMUNION HYMN • *Light's abode, celestial Salem* • 621



Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Rhuddlan*, Welsh melody.

COMMUNION HYMN • *Christ is the world's true Light* • 542



Words: George Wallace Briggs (1892-1955), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *St. Joan*, Percy E. B. Coller (1892-?). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

SENDING OF OUR LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS
(when appointed)

When a lay eucharistic visitor is present at the service, they come to the altar after communion to receive a communion kit in order to be sent out to distribute communion to those who cannot be with us in person.

The people remain seated.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

We who are many are one body,
because we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

The people kneel or stand as able.

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

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 • *Before thy throne, O God, we kneel* • 574



Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918), alt. Music: *St. Petersburg*, Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751-1825).

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.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Allegro* — Henry Heron (18th c.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information on our events, our calendar, and to submit RSVPs, please visit our events page on our website **saintpaulswaco.org/events.**

CLERGY CHANGE NOTICE

After several years of meaningful ministry with us in his retirement, the Rev. Dr. Ray Babgy has embraced a new season of life that calls him away from regular ministry among us. We are so grateful to him and Janet for their many years of membership and connection with us, for all the lives they've impacted, and for the many gifts they've shared with all of us. And, we celebrate with them as this new season unfolds!

FUTURE FUND APPEAL

The Future Fund is a reserve that helps Saint Paul's cover unexpected capital expenses. Replacing the chiller this summer drew the fund down, and we're asking for help to rebuild it toward our $120,000 goal. So far we've raised $74,180. See this week's Tidings email to learn more and to give to the Future Fund. Thank you for helping us keep the church ready for what's ahead.

SAINT PAUL'S T-SHIRTS

Our new Saint Paul's T-shirts are for sale in adult sizes for $20, with children's sizes ($18) available for pre-order through the link in this week's Tidings email.

CUB THANKSGIVING

Saint Paul's will host Church Under the Bridge for our annual Thanksgiving lunch together next Sunday, November 22. Please join us as we share yummy food and great conversations with our neighbors. Use the QR code to sign up to help!

CRAFTERNOONS

Crafternoons meets in the Great Hall from 1 to 2:45 PM on the third Thursday of the month. Our next gathering is this Thursday, November 19. Bring your own project or join the group project we provide. We gather in the Narthex at 12:55 and head upstairs at 1. RSVP or reach out to Sara (**sara@saintpaulswaco.org**) with any questions, and let her know if you'll be running late.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

We hope you'll join us for our annual Advent Workshop on Sunday, November 29! Celebrate the first Sunday of Advent with Advent crafts in the Parish Hall after the 10:15 AM service. All materials will be provided.

HOLLY JOLLY DINNER AND THEOLOGY

Join your Saint Paul's family Wednesdays in Advent, starting December 2. From 5:30 to 7 PM, we'll share a catered dinner and sing a Christmas carol or two, then break into programming for children, youth, and adults, with adults exploring the carols' theology. Nursery available. Please use the QR code to RSVP so we can plan food.

BISHOP'S VISIT

The Rt. Rev. Kathryn M. Ryan will visit Saint Paul's to confirm members to the Episcopal faith during the 10:15 AM service on December 6!

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please join the Saint Paul's Choir for our Advent service of Lessons and Carols at 7 PM on Sunday, December 13.

ESC MEAL SIGN UP

Want to feed our college students at the Episcopal Student Center? Use the QR code to sign up to provide a meal on Sunday or Thursday nights. Contact our Campus Missioner, Stephanie Drum, with questions (**missioner@escwaco.org**).

SCAM REMINDER

Please remember that your clergy and staff will never email or text you with requests for money, gift cards, or “discreet” or “urgent” communication. If you receive such a request, please delete the message.

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Year-to-Date
Pledged: $568,885.15
Received: $595,738.41
Difference: +$296,853.26

This information reflects the period ending November 11, 2026.

SUNDAY FORMATION

A SAMPLING OF SAINTS

Join us for an introduction to the lives and legacies of some of the major saints, and discover what they reveal about God and what it means to live in community. Join us for this adult formation series at 9 AM on Sundays November 1 through November 15.

MARK: A CRASH COURSE

Advent begins a new lectionary year, and with it a new Gospel in most of our Sunday readings. Join us Sundays, November 29 through December 20, at 9 AM for a walk through the Gospel of Mark to prepare for the year ahead.

YOUTH FORMATION: ABIDING IN GRATITUDE

For the month of November, youth formation will focus on the shape gratitude takes in our prayers and worship, as well as how to attune ourselves to God's grace in the world.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd's approach to formation is based on the unique relationship that God has with children. CGS focuses on helping children grow their relationship with God by fostering curiosity and reflection while introducing scripture and liturgy to young minds. This formation opportunity is open to children ages 3-9 on Sundays at 9 AM. Classes meet in the atrium, located behind the Children's Chapel.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children's Chapel meets during the 10:15 AM service on Sunday mornings. Children are released with Ms. Lisa before the Gospel procession and brought back during the Offertory. Look for the little cross as it passes by.

WEEKLY FORMATION

BENEDICTINE STUDY GROUP

The Benedictine Study Group meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at noon in the church office library. Scan the QR code to visit their website. All are welcome to join!

CENTERING PRAYER

Centering Prayer meets on Thursdays at noon in the chapel. All are welcome, and attendance is not limited to Saint Paul's parishioners. For further information, please email **contactus@saintpaulswaco.org**.

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. The group is beginning a study of the book and video series *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, by Amy-Jill Levine. All are welcome, please join!

SAINT • PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:15 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10:15 AM Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
Closed Federal Holidays
contactus@saintpaulswaco.org

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. Gavin E. Tomlin
Associate Rector

The Rev. Courtney M. Greene
Curate

The Rev. Alberto Melis
Deacon

Lisa Terry-Ickles
Director of Children & Family Ministry

Kelsey Maglio
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Sara Allison
Director of Ministry Operations

Iona Easterwood
Accountant

Sarah Martin
Director of Communications & Development

Michelle Shackelford
Office Assistant

Adam Johnson
Facilities Director

Charles Watson
Sexton

Dr. Will McLean
Choir Director

Dr. Jeffrey Peterson
Organist

Liz Dover
Nursery Attendant

Tresa R. Wilson
Head of School