



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024, at Eight o'clock in the Morning

WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

No matter who you are, no matter where you come from, and no matter where you are on the journey of life — you are welcome in this church.

We hope you will find Saint Paul's to be a place of refreshment and renewal, where you experience the presence of the risen Christ. We have been serving Christ in this location for over two hundred seventy years. The monuments in our church and the graves in our churchyard reflect the conflicts and complexities of our nation's and our city's history. While our building is old and beautiful, our mission is contemporary and forward moving. Here you will find a people very much connected with the questions and struggles of modern life and faith and of following the way of Jesus.

TO ALL OUR VISITORS & GUESTS

About Worship

If the liturgy (worship) of the Episcopal Church is unfamiliar, then we hope you will find this information helpful.

You are welcome in the Episcopal Church, and so the first and best resource we offer are your neighbors in the pews. Just say, "I'm visiting," and they will gladly help.

The worship of the Episcopal Church is rooted in the practices of ancient Christianity. The structure of our services, the architecture of our building, the music, our physical postures, and participatory responses ALL hold rich meaning about our beliefs and are intentional expressions of our relationship with God.

- In this bulletin you will find:

Responses spoken by the people are printed in bold italics.

Directions for the people are printed in italics.

- We encourage families with children to sit at the front of the Nave so that children can easily see and hear the liturgy.
- Episcopalians customarily pray either standing or kneeling, so please do what you find most comfortable.
- Notify an usher if you require an assisted listening device or any other assistance.
- Restrooms are located in the parish hall. An usher will direct you.

About Receiving The Holy Communion

ALL who come in faith are invited to receive Holy Communion at Saint Paul's.

- During communion, the people form two short lines in the center aisle. The priest will provide more detailed instructions prior to communion. After receiving the bread and wine or a blessing at the altar rail, please exit through the door to the left of the altar and return to your pew via the side aisles.
- For those who may prefer not to receive communion at the main altar, a communion station is provided on the main floor to the right of the center aisle. If you are unable to receive at either station, the clergy will bring the bread and wine to your pew. Please notify an usher before the service begins.
- To receive a blessing without receiving Communion, cross both arms over your chest, palms on your collar. To receive the consecrated bread only, cross one arm over your chest, palm on your collar.
- If your children are in the nursery, you are invited to bring them to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

Connect with Us

We invite you to share your contact information on a connect card, located in each pew. Hand it to one of our clergy, an usher, or place it in the offering plate. Please feel free to fill out as much or as little information as you'd like so we can connect with you.

Holy Eucharist: Rite One

The Word of God

Our Service Begins in the Book of Common Prayer

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Collect for Purity

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Gloria

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant 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 First Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 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

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People ***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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***

The Sermon

The Reverend Eric Biddy

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

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We will omit the Confession of Sin during the Great Fifty Days as part of our Easter Celebration.

The Peace

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The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Parish Greetings & Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Presentation of the Offering

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People ***And of Thine own have we given Thee.***

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer I

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

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We will omit the Agnus Dei and the Prayer of Humble Access during the Great Fifty Days as part of our Easter Celebration.

The Communion

All who come in faith are welcome at the Lord's table.

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mickey Goodwin by Tori, Braye, Hollis & Camden and arranged by the Flower Guild.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially, LaRue Downing, Joni Vanover, Karen, Jeanne Lindsey, Melanie Ellen, Tommy Fickling, Katie Delaigle, Lois Hand, Ann Kilpatrick, Bobby Strozier, Ricie Eubanks, Lynn and Sam Hunter, George Sheftall, Margaret Lodi, Reba Mealing, Kisha Seals, Brenda Richards, Joy Somers, Connie Duke, Jan-Blaise MacEachern, Heather Siddall, Bob Crosby, Martha, Jennifer Browning Kohl, Peggy Green, Dana Bidy, Maggie Herrmann, Mary Ann Fruge, Mary Croft, Langdon Tollett, Laura Felton, Kaitlyn Kulesus, Tre Chance, Jennifer Sumerel, McKinzie Minolofo, Richard Slaby, David Kozak, Norman Allan, Jerry Allan, Sharon Medved, Carson Brown, George Grant, Peter Saputo, Brett Nelson, Mary Black, Ed Moore, Miranda Owens, Bill Benson, Charlie Benson, Catherine, Tom Sumerel, Linda Parker, Wanda Bell, George Landowne, Frank Cranford, Sevealyn Smith, John Lindsey.

For those serving our country at home and abroad; especially, Julian James, Sam and Lara Powell, Joe Way, Jonathan Flanagan, Jim Ring, Zachary Gatheral, Bennett Ivey, Zach Nevard.

For all those who have died; especially, James Sink, Lee Cheesborough, Caden Steenveldt.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service—McDonalds biscuits for breakfast. 9:30 AM —Mother Kimberly leads "Being Salt and Light." at the Sunday Forum in the Berlin Room.

4 PM, The River Room —The Creation Care Committee presents, An Afternoon with Mark Albertin: "Along the Fall Line." Mark will share photos from his book and a discussion. A reception follows. Mark will sign copies of his book, and we'll let out in time for the Celtic service.

5-7 PM—EYC (Episcopal Youth Community, grades 6-12) meets tonight at St. Bart's for food, formation, and fun. Contact Elizabeth Lindroth at elizabethlindroth@gmail.com for information. Friends are always welcome!

It's Taco night at Saint Paul's for our next Mmm... (Men's Monthly Meal), Wednesday, May 1, 6 PM. The Men of Saint Paul's will gather at 4 PM in the River Room to prepare this meal for the parish. Men, please sign up for cooking and clean up teams and everyone PLEASE RSVP for dinner on our website (a direct link is available in Friday's Weekly Postings). Donations welcomed.

The Parish Life and Hospitality Committee invites you to a Sunday Breakfast on Mother's Day May 12, 9 AM in Tyler Hall. Bill Ford is leading a team of four and welcomes help on this team. Please RSVP to serve. Sunday's menu: personal frittata (egg cupcakes) bacon, sausage links, grits, fruit, and buttered toast. Please RSVP on for breakfast on our website (a direct link is available in Friday's Weekly Postings).

Pentecost is 3 weeks away! Save the date for our Parish Picnic (comfortably scheduled in the River Room) May 19, following the 11 AM service. Wear red and bring a dish to share. We'll spill out onto the terrace with music and games. More details to follow.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 19. All who wish to be baptized are invited to contact Fr. Eric (ebiddy@saintpauls.org) or Mtr Kimberly (kdunn@saintpauls.org).

Save the date for our Saint Paul's Parish Day Sunday June 9: "Eat, Pray, Swim." We have a full day of fun and fellowship for all ages at Elijah Clark State Park. More details are forthcoming. Mark your calendars.

Send a gift with our mission team to Ecuador. We're collecting over the counter first aid items needed in Quito. A "wish list" of medical supplies is available in the *Weekly Postings*. We've placed a box in the parish office for collection by June 2. For more information, contact Gene Helmich at ehelmich21@comcast.net.

Support Augusta Women and Girls Personal Clothing Drive. The DoK is expanding our connections with local shelters to provide personal apparel and hygiene items. Through the end of April, we will have our turquoise and white flowered collection boxes in Tyler Hall and the Narthex. More details available in the *Weekly Postings* and on the postcard by the box.

Saint Paul's now owns two cemetery plots in Hillcrest Memorial Gardens available to members of Saint Paul's at no cost, and they are offered on a first come-first serve basis. Any costs associated with the cemetery or with a service would be the responsibility of the new owner of the cemetery plot. More information available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. Questions or Interest, contact Elisabeth Price (mailbox@saintpauls.org).

The new Day by Day issue for May, June, and July has arrived and is available in the Narthex. Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily, "page-a-day," inspirational meditations each reflecting on a specific Bible passage from the daily lectionary readings of the Episcopal Church.

Need a name tag? Name tags allow us to get to know each other and be a welcoming community to all. If you need a name tag or have just misplaced yours, email the parish office (mailbox@saintpauls.org) or ask an usher for the yellow form to request a name tag.

More information about these announcements and other events is available in Friday's Weekly Postings, including registration and contact information. A copy is available in the Narthex and on our website; or join our email list by signing up on the website or contacting the parish administrator, at mailbox@saintpauls.org.

Make a gift—Everything we do at Saint Paul's Church is made possible because of people like you. If this service has been meaningful for you, we encourage you to give as you are able to help Saint Paul's continue our mission of welcoming, serving, and sharing the Good News of God in Jesus Christ in greater Augusta and beyond. Gifts can be made using the QR Code to the right, on-line at saintpauls.org/giving, or by mail to Saint Paul's Church, 605 Reynolds St., Augusta, GA 30901. Thank you for your generosity.



SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy
Jason Massie
Becky Wright, Kathleen Fickling
Stacy Nuessle

Celebrant and Preacher
Eucharistic Ministers
Altar Guild
Vestry Person of the Day

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - TYLER HALL
9:25 - 10:00 AM	CHILDREN/YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSALS
9:30 - 10:30 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS
10:00 - 10:45 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	HOLY EUCHARIST Rite II
Following the 11:00 AM Service	LEMONADE ON THE LAWN
5:00 - 7:00 PM	EYC (EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY)
5:30 - 6:15 PM	CELTIC EVENING PRAYER & COMMUNION WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Nursery care offered in the Children's Ministry Center (CMC) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

The 11 AM service is broadcast on Facebook and YouTube at Saint Paul's Church-Augusta and by radio at WGAC 580 AM Radio and 95.1 FM Radio. Listen live on-line at <http://wgac.com>

VESTRY

Kitty Gordon, Sr. Warden	Erick Montgomery, Jr. Warden	Will Rice, Treasurer
Bryan Hawkins, Chancellor	Julie Badger, Clerk of the Vestry	

Vestry Term Expires 2025

Bryan Hawkins
Ian McQueen
Rex Teeslink

Vestry Term Expires 2026

Stacy Nuessle
Charlie Tudor
Mary Porter Vann

Vestry Term Expires 2027

Kathleen Chandler
Patsy Davis
Melissa Friedman

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Altar Guild – Catherine Stuckey	Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton
Buildings and Grounds – Cameron Nixon	Creation Care – Jennifer McKee
Daughters of the King – Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau	Endowment & Finance – Monty Osteen
Eucharistic Visitors – Ellen Nesbitt	Evangelism & Marketing – Barbara Coleman
Facebook – Stacy Nuessle	Flower Guild – Barbara Register & Laurie Montgomery
Flower Delivery – Barbara Register & Margaret Scott Penix	History – in transition
Hospitality and Parish Life – Eric Friedman	Interior Design – Julie Badger
Linen Guild – Minta Nixon	Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers – Carolyn Dolen
Newcomers and Greeters – Summer Bell	Nursery Guild – Laura Robertson
Outreach – Marilyn Grau	Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt
Stewardship – Bill Ford	Ushers – Nick Uros & Rex Teeslink

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Eric Bidy, Rector	ext. 205	ebiddy@saintpauls.org
The Rev. Kimberly E. Dunn, Asso. Rector	ext. 204	kdunn@saintpauls.org
The Rev. Dr. Bill Dolen, Assisting Priest		
The Rev. Erwin Veale, Assisting Priest		
Keith Shafer, Director of Music	ext. 215	kshafer@saintpauls.org
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator	ext. 225	mailbox@saintpauls.org
Hannah Purvis, River Room Coordinator	ext. 203	hpurvis@saintpauls.org
Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant	ext. 206	nnieminen@saintpauls.org
Victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir		songbird95@hotmail.com
Sarah Pritchard, Music Associate Emerita		
Hillary Bryant, Greg Maxie, James Wheeler, Sextons		
Mark Albertin, Wright Montgomery, Audio Visual		



Saint Paul's Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia.
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