



Celtic Evening Prayer and Communion

**The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 19, 2025, at Half-Past Five o'clock in the Evening**

WELCOME. *We are glad you are here. We are aware that many who attend this service come from other churches and faith traditions, and we are delighted to have many who consider Saint Paul's to be their second church home. The mixture of faith traditions represented at this service makes up a community we especially cherish.*

Prelude

Rob Foster

*In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer,
we ask that silence be observed upon entering and that you turn off cell phones.*

At the sound of the bell, all stand.

Opening

Celebrant Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Savior was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

Leader Your majesty is beyond
imagination,
The eternal King
high and lifted up
whom the angels worship.
Your power is beyond
understanding,
The Creator God
who shakes the heavens
yet holds us in his hands.
Your mercy is beyond
our deserving,
The Savior God
once born for us
now sacrificed in love.

Forgive the smallness
of our faith,
see the magnitude
of our need,
reach the depth
of our sorrow.
Raise us up to new life
and new ways of service
through Jesus Christ
Your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Evening

Celebrant Lord God, we are here today to offer to you our sacrifice of worship. We are here to listen to your Word, to bring to you the concerns of our hearts, and to join together in fellowship. Speak to us through Scripture, music, prayer, and silence. Grant us ears to hear, hearts to listen, and lives prepared to do your will. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Holy Gospel

John 2:1-11

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to John.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Reflection

The Reverend Eric Biddy

A period of silence is observed.

Music for Meditation

Rob Foster

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray for ourselves and the world.

Leader Let us bring before God all of those people and situations that are in any kind of need.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

Leader Let us bring before God the poor, the forgotten, and those who are marginalized, as we renew our commitment to the lonely and the unloved.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

Leader Let us ask God to use our prayerful intentions for the benefit of all who are in this room with us now, people we know and love, as well as people who are strangers to us. May we be blessings to one another.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

Leader Let us call to mind our reasons to be thankful, as we remember our abundance and the life-giving way of gratitude.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

Celebrant May God still our minds, calm our hearts, breathe fresh life into us, and make us instruments of peace, justice, and compassion. **Amen.**

THE HEALING SERVICE

Celebrant Almighty God, who inspired your servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of your Son: Graciously continue in your Church this love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are invited to come forward to receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil
in prayer for healing for yourself, for others, for our world.*

Additional Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Please sit.

*During the instrumental music and anytime hereafter, you may come forward
to light votives as a symbol of your prayers. After lighting a votive,
please fully extinguish the lit taper and return it to the holder.*

Music for Meditation

Rob Foster

Please Stand

The Grace

Celebrant See that ye be at peace among yourselves, and love one another. Follow the example of good men and women of old and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and in the world which is to come. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Eric Biddy

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The alms basin is not passed at this service, but stands in front of the Baptismal Font.

The Offertory Music

Rob Foster

Eucharistic Prayer

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is our joy and delight to give you thanks and praise, Emmanuel, God with us. We give you thanks and praise for your hallowing of human flesh. We rejoice at your light, which shines out of darkness and enlightens all who seek you. We praise you that you brought forth new life in the family of Mary and Joseph, as you do today from all who faithfully await the fulfillment of your word. We praise you that you were known first by poor shepherds and wise seekers, as you are known today by the poor and the outcast. We rejoice with the angels at your promise of peace for those who trust in you. We rejoice that the extraordinary is given birth in the ordinary places of life.

So with the angels who sing "Glory" and with all the saints and ancestors who have known you to be with us, we say together:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We bless you for Jesus, born of the Spirit's love and a woman's body and blood. We bless you for Jesus who shows us how to live the fullness of our humanity and thus become one with you. We remember Jesus who laughed and wept and felt tiredness and fear; who praised Mary when she anointed him for death and blessed a woman of the city who washed his feet with tears. We remember Jesus who touched lepers and the sick and feasted with tax collectors and sinners. We remember Christ who lives on in all who courageously and faithfully bring forth the light of his love in earth's darkest places. We remember Jesus who on the night before he died, shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to them, saying: "Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me." After supper he took the cup of wine, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying: "This is my life-blood given for you. Do this to remember me." So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant O God who is known to us in human flesh, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these material things of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and we may be the body of Christ, food and life for the world. We ask these things through Christ, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be glory now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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

A period of silence is observed when the bread is broken.

Celebrant This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

*You are welcome to stand or sit until you come forward.
To receive the consecrated bread only, cross one arm over your chest, palm on your collar.*

Music during Communion

Rob Foster

After Communion

Please stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant May the stillness of God be yours this night,
that you may sleep in peace.
May the awareness of the angels be yours this night,
that you may be alert to unseen mysteries.
May the life of Christ be yours this night,
that you may be kindled in love.
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Music for Meditation

Rob Foster

Please feel free to sit or depart, as you wish, during the closing music.

SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy
Susan Yarborough, Celeste Ray
Patsy Davis
Nancy Trefz, Ian McQueen, Mary Lynn Ford, Barbara Coleman

Celebrant
Eucharistic Ministers
Vestry Person of the Day
Altar Guild

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Parish Office will be closed, Monday, January 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Tuesday's Music Live continues its 36th season Tuesday, January 21, with a free concert by Joshua Espinoza Jazz Trio. More information at TuesdaysMusicLive.com or by calling the Box Office at (706) 722-3463.

Caring Prayer gathers in the chapel on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3:30 PM (This month January 23.) The group is for caregivers, anyone who is mourning, lives with chronic illness, has lost their job, or faces any kind of challenge that might be helped by love and prayer. Contact Fr. Eric for more information at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Snack Pack Outreach, Two Ways to Help: donate items for our snack packs and/or help us pack bags Saturday, January 25, 9:00 AM in Tyler Hall. Snack Packs are small bags of food containing some type of protein, cracker, water, etc., to help sustain someone until their next meal. More details including a shopping list available in the Narthex. Contact Mandy Harmon (msamandajoy27@hotmail.com) or Melissa Friedman (friedmanme2@gmail.com) for more information.

The Annual Parish Meeting for the 275th year of Saint Paul's Church is Sunday, January 26, at 9:30 AM. As we enter a year of celebrating 275 years of worship and ministry together, this year's Annual Parish Meeting is a chance to honor several parishioners who have recently concluded long terms of leadership in our ministries and committees. Join us to hear crucial reports and plans for this year and to thank Minta Nixon (Linen Guild), Monty Osteen (Finance Committee), and Carolyn Dolen (Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors) for their decades of faithful leadership among us. We'll have biscuits, coffee, hope, and gratitude in the River Room.

MLK Jr. Parade RESCHEDULED— Episcopal Churches in the Augusta area are marching with Bishop Logue in the MLK Jr. Day Parade Saturday, February 1, 1 PM. Join us for a sign making party in advance of the event in Tyler Hall at 9 AM. Buona Caffe coffee and pastries will be provided. Parade line up begins at 11 AM. Let us know if you'll be joining us by signing up on the website (a direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*.)

You are invited to join Saint Paul's parishioners, family, and friends on a mission trip this summer to Ecuador June 5-16, 2025. This would include a 4-day retreat to the Galapagos Islands. An information sheet is available in the *Weekly Postings*. If you would like additional information about Quito, Ecuador, the mission work, and trip details, please contact Gene or Rose Helmich at ehelmich21@comcast.net, or call 803-640-3405. The deadline to join the trip is January 31, 2025.

Martha Arrington, artist and Saint Paul's parishioner, offers two Zentangle Workshops in the Berlin Room this February. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing patterns. Anyone, young or old, can create a Zentangle drawing if they can write their name. Two classes available: February 1st (Zentangle Reversed) or February 22nd (Zentangle Renaissance). Contact Martha Arrington (marthaarringtonart@gmail.com) for class descriptions and cost.

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—“All that we are and all that we have comes from God. In gratitude, we honor him by giving of ourselves and our gifts to care for his world.” 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.



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.

VESTRY

Kitty Gordon, Sr. Warden
Bryan Hawkins, Chancellor

Erick Montgomery, Jr. Warden
Julie Badger, Clerk of the Vestry

Will Rice, Treasurer

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

Buildings and Grounds – John Robertson

Daughters of the King – Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau

Eucharistic Visitors – Ellen Nesbitt

Facebook – Stacy Nuessle & Aubrey Hinkson

Flower Delivery – Barbara Register & Margaret Scott Penix

Hospitality and Parish Life – Eric Friedman

Invite, Welcome, Connect – Patsy Davis

Linen Guild – Tricia Nixon

Nursery Grandmother's Guild – Coleman Graham

Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt

Ushers – Nick Uros & Rex Teeslink

Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton

Creation Care – in transition

Endowment – Monty Osteen

Finance – Cameron Nixon

Flower Guild – Barbara Register & Laurie Montgomery

History – in transition

Interior Design – Julie Badger

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers – Robin Merriman

Newcomers and Greeters – Summer Bell

Outreach – Marilyn Grau

Stewardship – Kitty Gordon

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Eric Biddy, Rector

ext. 205

ebiddy@saintpauls.org

The Rev. Kimberly E. Dunn, Asso. Rector

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kdunn@saintpauls.org

The Rev. Dr. Bill Dolen, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Erwin Veale, Assisting Priest

Aubrey Hinkson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries

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Keith Shafer, Director of Music

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Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator

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Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant

ext. 206

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Victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir

songbird95@hotmail.com

Sarah Pritchard, Music Associate Emerita

Hillary Bryant, Greg Maxie, TJ Wilson, 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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