

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025 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. We are delighted to offer activity bags for families to help keep little hands busy and engaged during worship services. Feel free to pick one up at the entrance!
- Episcopalians customarily pray either standing or kneeling, so please do what <u>you</u> 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, sorting themselves according to how they would like to receive. Those who come to the "pulpit side" (east) will be given bread and offered a common cup of wine from which to drink. There is no intincting/dipping on the pulpit side of the altar rail. For those on the lectern side (west, the big eagle), the minister will dip the bread in the wine for the people, and offer a piece of bread that has already been "intincted." All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please, no one may dip their own bread in the wine.
- 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. Here, the minister will dip the bread in the wine for you. 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.
- 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 after church. Please feel free to fill out as much or as little information as you'd like so we can connect with you.

# Celebration of The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

# The Word of God

# **Our Service Begins in the Book of Common Prayer**

**Page 323** 

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity Page 323

Gloria Page 324

# The Collect of the Day

**The Opening Acclamation** 

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in thee: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, give us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

#### he Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 1

Prayed responsively by whole verse

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

- Their delight is in the law of the LORD, \* and they meditate on his law day and night.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \* everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \*
  they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \* nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, \* but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

The Holy Gospel Luke 6:17-26

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets." "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon	The Reverend Eric Biddy
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The Peace	Page 332
The Ministers and People greet one o	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	Page 333
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The Post-Communion Prayer	Page 339
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The Dismissal	
Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  People Thanks be to God.	

# **SERVING TODAY**

The Reverend Eric Biddy
Stan Taylor
Nancy Trefz, Ian McQueen, Mary Lynn Ford, Barbara Coleman
Erick Montgomery

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

#### THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS SUNDAY

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the Rev. Dr. Mary-Kathleen Gernant Blanchard (16 February 1948 - 19 March 2015). Given by her family Karen and Louis, who miss her greatly, and arranged by the Flower Guild.

#### **PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially, Dorine Smith, Jeanne Lindsey, Martha Hawkins, Sam Hunter, Margaret Lodi, Bob Nelson, Al Yarbrough, Gayle Jolley, Samm Fusselle, Ricie Eubanks, Keisha Seals, Katie Delaigle, Robin Merriman, Ann Kilpatrick, Ben Mason, Anne Way, Sandy, Lois Hand, Jan-Blaise MacEachern, Bob Crosby, Cee Cee, Gail, Ron Carrne, Aggie MacEachern, Brian Williams, Mary Catherine Hurrion, Ernest Fokes, Joseph Cristie, Linda Carrne, Rod Smith, Chris Reid, Mary Black, Sevealyn Smith, The Laskey Family, Renee Shaw, Marlisa Shaw, Inez O'Brien, Lauren O'Brien, Scott Ball, Ronique Thomas, Happy DeVane, Connie Duke, Marianna Simmons, the Rev. Sandye A. Wilson, Lisa Holland, Henry and his family, Jamie, Kellee Lauderdale.

For all the blessings of this life; especially, for the birth of Mary Cobbs, daughter of Martha and Bennett Sprinkle, granddaughter of Tricia and Cameron Nixon, and great-granddaughter of Minta and Cobbs Nixon and for the birth of Madeline Sue, daughter of Sarah Brittany and Thomas Greneker and granddaughter of Benita and Brad Sandbach.

For those serving our country at home and abroad; especially, Sam and Lara Powell, Joe Way, Jim Ring, Bennett Ivey, Isaac Mikell, Zach Nevard.

For those who have died; especially, Mason Evans, Bill Bebee, Barbara Nichols, Pat Hinson, Geri Camille Eatman.

#### **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Following this service at 9:00 AM, coffee and continental breakfast in Tyler Hall. Then at 9:30 AM in the Berlin Room, our Spring "Women of the Bible" Adult Christian Formation Series concludes with a study of the Book of Susanna.

5-7 PM Tonight—Put on your dancing shoes and join us for the Winter Family Fun Dance. Saint Paul's youth are proud to present this special event for children 3k-5th grade to attend with a loved one. Enjoy music, dancing, refreshments, photobooth and priceless memories. We invite all children across the CSRA to participate. This is a great way to welcome new families to Saint Paul's. Please share with friends. The proceeds from this event will go to support our youth for upcoming retreats and missions. \$12 a ticket, available at the door or by the QR code to the right.



Enroll now to join the spring Called into Being Program. Called Into Being is a ten-session program to help us discern and articulate our own callings (vocations) in the church and the world. With God's help, this program will empower us to live and practice our faith with confidence and joy. More information available in Friday's Weekly Postings and in the Narthex. This spring, we are offering a weeknight group, but specific meeting times will be determined by the participants after sign-ups are complete. Email Fr. Eric (ebiddy@saintpauls.org) to register by Friday, February 21.

Join Mtr. Kimberly's cheering section to watch the Lander University vs. Augusta University basketball game on Monday, February 17, 2025, at 7:30 PM at AU. (Please note the change of date). Mtr. Kimberly will be there and hopes that several others from Saint Paul's can join her to cheer her son, #21 Noah Dunn, for Lander Bearcats MBB to a win! Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Tuesday's Music Live continues its 36th season Tuesday, February 18, with a free concert by Ben Rosenblum Jazz. More information at TuesdaysMusicLive.com or by calling the Box Office at (706) 722-3463.

Join us for our next Senior Lunch, Wednesday, February 19, 12 Noon in Tyler Hall. While gearing to retirees, anyone is welcome. No agenda; just a relaxing social time every third Wednesdays September - May. Lunch is provided but donations are welcome. Please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or on our website (a direct link in available in Fridays Weekly Postings). Contact Gene Helmich (ehelmich21@comcast.net) for more information.

Martha Arrington, artist and Saint Paul's parishioner, offers a Zentangle Workshop in the Berlin Room Saturday, February 22, 9 AM. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing patterns. Contact Martha Arrington (marthaarringtonart@gmail.com) for class descriptions and cost.

The Annual Episcopal Visitation is Sunday, February 23. Bishop Logue will preside at the Holy Eucharist at both 8 AM and 11 AM with the rite of Confirmation and Reception at the 11 AM service. Please plan to join us in the Berlin Room for a "Conversation with the Bishop" at the Sunday Forum at 9:30 AM and share a few moments following the 11 AM service with our Confirmands in the Churchyard.

The Augusta Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to lift your heart in song at a Community Hymn Festival hosted by Saint Paul's Church on Sunday, February 23, at 3:00 PM. Beloved hymns will be sung by the Festival Choir accompanied by the organ, brass quintet, with soloists, Dr. Johnnie Felder and Melissa Schultz. The community is invited to attend and celebrate "God Is." For further information, please contact Director of Music, Keith Shafer, kshafer@saintpauls.org.

**Caring Prayer gathers in the chapel on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3:30 PM (this month February 27).** 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.

Hornsby Book Drive—Support young readers at Hornsby Elementary by giving a new or gently read book (all ages picture book - 5th grade). Baskets are located in the Narthex and Tyler Hall. A list of suggested titles is available. Take this opportunity to spark a love of reading in young minds and make a lasting impact on our community. For more information contact Barbara Coleman at barbaracolem@gmail.com.

We are excited to introduce Saint Paul's Pod, a weekly podcast where faith is nurtured, and the love of God is shared with all. Each episode will feature the previous Sunday's sermon and words of encouragement and inspiration. Tune into Saint Paul's Pod on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music and iHeartRadio.

Need CPR? (Confidential Prayer Request) We all do sometimes, and Daughters of the King are committed to daily prayer for you. Complete a CPR card on Sunday (found in church pews), find us on the website (saintpauls.org) or call the church office with your requests.

The new Day by Day issue for February, March, and April has arrived and is available in the Narthex.

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.



#### 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 || 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 2025Vestry Term Expires 2026Vestry Term Expires 2027Bryan HawkinsStacy NuessleKathleen ChandlerIan McQueenCharlie TudorPatsy DavisRex TeeslinkMary Porter VannMelissa Friedman

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Altar Guild – Catherine Stuckey Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton Buildings and Grounds – John Robertson Creation Care – in transition Daughters of the King – Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau Endowment – Monty Osteen Eucharistic Visitors - Ellen Nesbitt Finance – Cameron Nixon Facebook – Stacy Nuessle & Aubrey Hinkson 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 Invite, Welcome, Connect – Patsy Davis Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers – Robin Merriman Linen Guild - Tricia Nixon Newcomers and Greeters - Summer Bell Nursery Grandmother's Guild – Coleman Graham Outreach - Marilyn Grau Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt Stewardship - Kitty Gordon Ushers – Nick Uros & Rex Teeslink W.E.E.M. - The Rev. Kimberly Dunn & Summer Bell

# **CLERGY AND STAFF**

The Rev. Dr. Eric Biddy, 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

Aubrey Hinkson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Keith Shafer, Director of Music

Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator

Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant

victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir

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Mark Albertin, Wright Montgomery, Audio Visual