



The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 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 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, 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.

A Penitential Order: Rite One

The Word of God

Our Service Begins in the Book of Common Prayer **page 319**

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People ***His mercy endureth for ever.***

The Summary of the Law **page 319**

The Confession **Page 320**

Absolution **Page 321**

Kyrie eleison **Page 324**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And with thy spirit.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever ***Amen.***

The Old Testament Lesson **Exodus 3:1-15**

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 63:1-8

Prayed responsively by whole verse

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 ***Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, ****
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 ***So will I bless you as long as I live ****
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 ***When I remember you upon my bed, ****
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 ***My soul clings to you; ****
your right hand holds me fast.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

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

People ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Eric Biddy

The Nicene Creed

Page 326

The Prayers of the People

Page 328

The Comfortable Words

Page 332

The Peace

Page 332

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

Parish Greetings and 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 II

Page 340

The Lord's Prayer

Page 336

The Breaking of the Bread

Page 337

Agnus Dei

Page 337

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

The Communion

The Post-Communion Prayer

The Solemn Prayer

Celebrant Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED:

For the special needs and concerns of this parish; especially for Anne Stacks, Francis O'Shea, Magda Newland, John Luther, Sandra Mashburn, Dorine Smith, Jeanne Lindsey, Martha Hawkins, Sam Hunter, Margaret Lodi, Bob Nelson, 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, Jamie, Mila, Darren Bidy, Greg Maxie, Ed Moore, The Casey Family, Nancy Brown.

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 all who have died; especially, Zach Sasser.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service— Homemade Bagels in Tyler Hall. Then at the Sunday Forum 9:30 AM in the Berlin Room, our Lenten series, Characters of Holy Week, continues. This Sunday we are focusing on the politicians - Herod and Pilate. Special guest Sol Baird will join us to describe his experience of playing Pilate in Jesus Christ Superstar. We'll also look at the political history of the Holy Land to figure out who these guys are and what their jobs were, consider the role they've played in the Christian imagination, and do Bible study together as we accompany them through our most important week.

4 PM— Let's Play Putt-Putt (Children and Youth). Bring your best putting skills and join us on the green for a fun afternoon of mini-golf this afternoon (3763 Martinez Blvd., Augusta). Friends always welcome! Parents are welcome to stay and play too. This will be our last gathering until after Spring Break. Please RSVP to Aubrey at ahinkson@saintpauls.org.

Caring Prayer gathers in the chapel on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3:30 PM (this month March 27) to pray Evening Prayer together, check in with each other, and provide mutual support. 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.

The Parish Life and Hospitality Committee invites you to a Sunday home-cooked breakfast in Tyler Hall, Sunday, March 30, 9 AM. Join us for this time of fellowship with your parish family. This is an excellent Sunday to invite friends to join you at church. Donations welcomed.

Rose Sunday Concert at 4:00 PM on March 30th featuring Organist Keith Shafer is being given in commemoration of the 275th Anniversary of Saint Paul's Church. The program includes music composed by James Hewitt, the first Organist of Saint Paul's, a performance of "Phoenix," written in 2016 in observance of the 100th Anniversary of the fire that destroyed 16 blocks of downtown Augusta, and newly commissioned music composed by Michael Burkhardt. The concert is free, and a reception (please see below) follows in the River Room.

The Parish Life & Hospitality Committee invites you to make or purchase a dessert or beverage for the Rose Sunday Reception immediately following the concert at 4:00 PM, March 30. Sign up to bring an item and to serve on the hospitality team to set up or clean up. A direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*.

The Sunday Forum, Sundays 9:30 AM, Berlin Room—To prepare us for Holy Week, each week we will dwell with a key character or group from Holy Week. For each, we will look at the scriptural witness, extra-biblical historical sources, Christian memory, and cultural legacy (in art, books, music). This exploration will help us see ourselves in the characters in Holy Week and draw us more deeply into those great events by which God has saved us.

If you would like to contribute toward the cost of Easter music, or give an Easter lily or flowers, please return the form found in the Narthex to the Parish Office. Requests may also be made using the QR code to the right, using the direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*, or by e-mail to mailbox@saintpauls.org no later than Sunday, March 30.



Washer Wanted—The River Room washing machine is no longer working. Do you have a washer you no longer need or want a good excuse to buy a new one for your home? We'd love to make a home for your heavy duty working-condition washer. Please contact Buildings and Grounds Chair, John Robertson at jrobertson@rwallen.com.

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.



SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy
John Bradley
Becky Wright, Kathleen Fickling
Charlie Tudor

Celebrant and Preacher
Eucharistic Minister
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 – 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 – Jackie Pingel	Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers – Robin Merriman
Linen Guild – Tricia Nixon	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		ahinkson@saintpauls.org
Keith Shafer, Director of Music	ext. 215	kshafer@saintpauls.org
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator	ext. 225	mailbox@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, 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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