



## **The Third Sunday in Lent**

**March 8, 2026**

**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-five 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 17:1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 **In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 **Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.**
- 7 For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 **Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.**
- 9 They put me to the test, \*  
though they had seen my works.
- 10 **Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."**
- 11 **So I swore in my wrath, \*  
"They shall not enter into my rest."**

## The Epistle

## Romans Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person— though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

*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 & 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**

**Prayer of Humble Access**

**Page 337**

**The Communion**

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

**The Post-Communion Prayer**

**Page 339**

**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.***

## SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Dr. Eric Biddy  
Stan Taylor  
Catherine Stuckey  
Tom Cathey

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

### PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED:

***For the special needs and concerns of this congregation;*** especially LaRue Downing, Bill Weston, Pam Uros, Lois Marble, Beth Pate, Adair Blackwood, Fred Kidd, Cindy Shafer, Riley Rivers, Kisha Seals, Mary Lynn Ford, Rain Coleman, Francis O'Shea, Ann Kilpatrick, Lois Hand, Ricie Eubanks, Dorine Smith, Wayne Matthews, Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau, Samm Fusselle, Katie Delaigle, Susan Keithley, Margaret Lodi, Yvona Myrna, Gary Crotteau, Greg Maxie, Jimmy Dykes, Russell Smyre, Jan-Blaise MacEachern, Andrew, Margaret Smith, Eugene, Vincent McClure, Gina Hall, Joyce Mitchell, Steve Scott, Shirley B., Mike Ivey, Jan McElreath, Laura Luther Medved, Kaycie Jackson, Sharie Wylie-Gruen, Michael Krepps, Joy Mallard, James Wesley Schutte, Andrew Recuperero, Andrea Elliott, Mike, Ryan.

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

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

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	Charlie Tudor, Jr. Warden	Will Rice, Treasurer
Bryan Hawkins, Chancellor	Julie Badger, Clerk of the Vestry	

#### Vestry Term Expires 2026

Stacy Nuessle  
Tom Cathey  
Mary Porter Vann

#### Vestry Term Expires 2027

Kathleen Chandler  
Patsy Davis  
Melissa Friedman

#### Vestry Term Expires 2028

Jerry Ashmore, III  
Linda Hardy  
Tom Robertson

### 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 & Dianne L'Heureux	Lectors & LEM – Robin Merriman
Linen Guild – Tricia Nixon	Nursery Grandmother's Guild – Coleman Graham
Outreach – Marilyn Grau	Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt
Stewardship – Kitty Gordon	Ushers – Rex Teeslink & Cindy Shafer
W.E.E.M. – The Rev. Kimberly Dunn & Summer Bell	

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Eric Biddy, Rector	ext. 205	<a href="mailto:ebiddy@saintpauls.org">ebiddy@saintpauls.org</a>
The Rev. Kimberly E. Dunn, Assoc. Rector	ext. 204	<a href="mailto:kdunn@saintpauls.org">kdunn@saintpauls.org</a>
The Rev. Dr. Bill Dolen, Assisting Priest		
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor, Assisting Priest		
The Rev. Erwin Veale, Assisting Priest		
Aubrey Hinkson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries		<a href="mailto:ahinkson@saintpauls.org">ahinkson@saintpauls.org</a>
Keith Shafer, Director of Music	ext. 215	<a href="mailto:kshafer@saintpauls.org">kshafer@saintpauls.org</a>
Catherine Stuckey, Liturgy and Parish life	ext. 203	<a href="mailto:cstuckey@saintpauls.org">cstuckey@saintpauls.org</a>
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator	ext. 225	<a href="mailto:mailbox@saintpauls.org">mailbox@saintpauls.org</a>
Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant	ext. 206	<a href="mailto:nnieminen@saintpauls.org">nnieminen@saintpauls.org</a>
Toni Clayton, Assistant for Administrative Projects		
Victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir		
Sarah Pritchard, Music Associate Emerita		
Hillary Bryant, Anthony Ellis, James Wheeler; Sextons		
Mark Albertin, Brandon Dawson, Marty Duff, Wright Montgomery, Audio Visual		

