



Celtic Evening Prayer and Communion at Saint Paul's Church

The Day of Pentecost - Whitsunday
May 24, 2026 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

Erin Montgomery

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, the People are invited to stand.

Opening

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

Celebrant Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Pentecost

Malcolm Guite

Celebrant Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
All ***Today the hidden fountain flows and plays***

Celebrant Today the church draws breath at last and sings
All ***As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.***

Celebrant This is the feast of fire, air, and water
All ***Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.***

Celebrant The earth herself awakens to her maker
All ***And is translated out of death to birth.***

Celebrant The right words come today in their right order
All ***And every word spells freedom and release***

Celebrant Today the gospel crosses every border
All **All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace**

Celebrant Today the lost are found in His translation.
All **Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.**

Please be seated. A period of silence is observed.

The Reading

John 20:19-23

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to John.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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 Ted H. Clarkson

A period of silence is observed.

Music for Meditation

Erin Montgomery

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

The People are invited to stand.

Celebrant Almighty God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church and for all who serve you in it.

Leader Loving God, enliven the Church for its mission.
People **That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

Leader Breathe fresh life into your people.
People **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

Leader Creator of all, lead us and every people into the ways of justice and peace.
People **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

Leader Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.
People **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

Leader God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.
People ***That all may act with integrity and courage.***

Leader Give grace to all those whose lives are linked with ours.
People ***May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.***

Leader Let us now name before God those for whom we offer our personal prayers, either silently or aloud.

The people may add their intercessions silently or aloud.

Celebrant Lord, you have called us to serve you.

People ***Grant that we may walk in your presence:
your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds,
your strength in our wills, until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Erin Montgomery

The Grace

Celebrant May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

People ***Amen.***

The Peace

The People are invited to stand.

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 Ted H. Clarkson

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

The Offertory Music

Erin Montgomery

Eucharistic Prayer

The People are invited to 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 O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, in seasons of life and death. With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

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 praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness. Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to them saying:

All ***"This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me."***

Celebrant So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it, and gave it to them saying:

All ***“This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me.”***

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant Come now, Spirit of God, and as we eat and drink these bodily things, make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory forever. ***Amen.***

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

The Invitation to the Lord’s Table

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 Communion Music

Erin Montgomery

After Communion

The People are invited to stand.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All ***God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.***

The Blessing

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Leader The Lord has made a promise to love you faithfully forever. Go out with joy and be led forth with peace. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Music for Meditation

Erin Montgomery

Please feel free to remain or depart during the closing music, and honor the silence for all in prayer.

SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Ted H. Clarkson
Ellen Nesbitt, Naila Assad
Patsy Davis
Catherine Stuckey

Celebrant
Eucharistic Ministers
Vestry Member
Altar Guild

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Eric Biddy, Rector of Saint Paul's, is on sabbatical through June. Saint Paul's is grateful to all the clergy and lay leaders making our worship possible this week.

Caring Prayer Thursday, May 26, is for anyone who wants to pray and needs support. The group is appropriate for caregivers, for 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. Gather at 3:30 PM in the chapel to pray Evening Prayer together, check in with each other, and provide mutual support. For more information contact Mtr. Kimberly at kdunn@saintpauls.org.

Eat, Pray, Swim— Let's launch the summer with an afternoon of food, fellowship and fun at Wildwood Park, on Clark's Hill Lake, May 31, 1-4 PM. We will leave right after the 11:00 AM service and enjoy burgers and hot dogs, buns, condiments, iced tea and lemonade. Please sign up on our website to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. More information and an RSVP direct link available in the *Weekly Postings* and on the flyer in the narthex.

Common Ground Fellowship, our young adult ministry, will partner with Project Refresh for a mobile shower service day, June 6, 9 AM-12 PM at Saint Paul's. Volunteers are needed to greet guests and assist with forms and other tasks. Project Refresh (www.projectrefreshinc.com) was organized by local healthcare workers witnessing the effect a shower has on the spirit of those in need. Email the parish office (mailbox@saintpauls.org) for info on helping with this new service opportunity. All ages welcome.

Send a gift with our mission team to Ecuador. We're collecting over the counter first aid items needed in Quito until June 3. A "wish list" of medical supplies is available in the *Weekly Postings*. We've placed a box in the office for collection. For more information, contact Gene Helmich at ehelmich21@comcast.net. Gifts may be also made using the QR code to the right and the Outreach Committee will do the shopping.



Common Ground Fellowship will gather Wednesday, June 10 for a faith discussion and sharing. For more information, contact the parish office at mailbox@saintpauls.org. This group is our "common ground" for adults in their 20's to 40's to gather in fellowship, service, and deepening faith, whether single or partnered. (Note: these events do not include childcare.)

Dish and serve ice cream and cookies at our quarterly Veteran's Social June 14, 2:30-3:30 PM. We'll meet at the GA War Veterans' Nursing Home located at 1101 15th Street to share a dessert and then spend much-appreciated time visiting. All ages are welcome to participate. Contact Gene Helmich for more information at ehelmich21@comcast.net.

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-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.

VESTRY

Linda Hardy, Sr. Warden
Bryan Hawkins, Chancellor

Charlie Tudor, Jr. Warden
Julie Badger, Clerk of the Vestry

Will Rice, Treasurer

Vestry Term Expires 2027

Kathleen Chandler
Patsy Davis
Melissa Friedman

Vestry Term Expires 2028

Jerry Ashmore, III
Katherine Ferrara
Tom Robertson

Vestry Term Expires 2029

Will Badger
Summer Bell
Martin Schwerzler

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Altar Guild – Catherine Stuckey
Buildings and Grounds – John Robertson
Endowment – Monty Osteen
Finance – Cameron Nixon
Flower Guild – Barbara Register & Laurie Montgomery
Interior Design – Julie Badger
Lectors & LEM – Robin Merriman
Nursery Grandmother's Guild – Coleman Graham
Pastoral Care Ministry – Ellen Nesbitt
Ushers – Rex Teeslink & Cindy Shafer

Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton
Daughters of the King – Kathleen Fickling
Eucharistic Visitors – Ellen Nesbitt
Facebook – Stacy Nuessle & Aubrey Hinkson
Hospitality and Parish Life – Eric Friedman
Invite, Welcome, Connect – Jackie Pingel & Dianne L'Heureux
Linen Guild – Tricia Nixon
Outreach – Marilyn Grau
Stewardship – Kitty Gordon
W.E.E.M. – The Rev. Kimberly Dunn & Summer Bell

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Eric Biddy, Rector ext. 205 ebiddy@saintpauls.org
The Reverend Kimberly E. Dunn, Assoc. Rector ext. 204 kdunn@saintpauls.org
The Reverend Dr. William K. Dolen, Assisting Priest
The Reverend Dr. Cynthia Taylor, Assisting Priest
The Reverend Erwin Veale, Assisting Priest
The Reverend Ted H. Clarkson, Assisting Priest
Aubrey Hinkson, Director of Children & Youth Ministries ahinkson@saintpauls.org
Keith Shafer, Director of Music ext. 215 kshafer@saintpauls.org
Catherine Stuckey, Liturgy and Parish life ext. 203 cstuckey@saintpauls.org
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator ext. 225 mailbox@saintpauls.org
Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant ext. 206 nnieminen@saintpauls.org
Toni Clayton, Assistant for Administrative Projects tclayton@saintpauls.org
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

