



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026

Eight o'clock in the Morning

WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

We are glad you are here. 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. 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.

Holy Eucharist: Rite One

The Word of God

Our Service Begins in the Book of Common Prayer

The people are invited to stand.

The Opening Acclamation

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

Kyrie eleison and Gloria

Page 324

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are invited to sit for the readings.

Old Testament

Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65: 9-14

Prayed responsively by whole verse.

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

- 10 ***You prepare the grain, ****
for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 ***You crown the year with your goodness, ****
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 ***May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,***
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

The Epistle

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law— indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

The People are invited to stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Eric Biddy

The Nicene Creed

Page 326

The Prayers of the People

Page 328

The Confession and Absolution

page 331

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 I

Page 333

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

Sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All ***We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.***

The Blessing

Page 339

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

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

SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy
John Bradley
Catherine Stuckey
Summer Bell
Jim Hancock, Bobbie Ingenito

Celebrant
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Guild
Vestry Person of the Day
Eucharistic Visitors

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God
and in memory of the life of Anne Elizabeth Taylor Massie.
Arranged by the Flower Guild.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially Cooper Thompson, Betsy Rollins, Kisha Seals, Mary Lynn Ford, Yvona Myrna, Francis O'Shea, Ann Kilpatrick, Lois Hand, Ricie Eubanks, Dorine Smith, Wayne Matthews, Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau, Samm Fusselle, Katie Delaigle, Susan Keithley, Margaret Lodi, Gary Crotteau, Louis Walker, Jimmy Dykes, Greg Maxie, Bill Houghton, the Woods-Bates family, Jim Sealock, Charles Courtney, Laura Luther Medved, Drew Sandbach.

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

For the departed; especially Jack Rule and Joel Cohen.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service— Please join us for a continental breakfast in Tyler Hall, then at 9:30 AM at the Sunday Forum, Lydia Bliven and Tom Smyth will present the lesson "The Synthesis of the Eucharist." Together the class will look at the prayers, gestures, and concrete elements of the liturgy to explore how they connect. Join us for a hands-on, global view of the Eucharist.

Next Sunday, at the Forum, come hear the story of the creation of one of the great offerings to God of the last centuries. The Rev. Ted Clarkson introduces the Saint John's Bible, the first handwritten and hand illuminated Bible in the last 500 years. We will also experience engagement with Scripture through one of its illuminations.

Registration for EfM begins on July 15th and weekly meetings begin in early September. What is EfM? The Education for Ministry program is designed to help move individuals toward a deeper understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom and one's individual and shared role in it. More details available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. Questions, contact tom.smyth@icloud.com for additional information.

The Parish Office will be closed, Tuesday, July 21 for a staff retreat to gather for prayer and planning for the upcoming program year.

Caring Prayer (Thursday, July 23, 3:30 PM) is for anyone who wants to pray and needs support. The group is for caregivers, anyone who is mourning, lives with chronic illness, has suffered loss of a job, or faces any kind of challenge that might be helped by love and prayer. Contact Fr. Bidy at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Help us package our next set of Snack Packs, Saturday, July 25, 9 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. Donate food and/or help us pack. More information available in the Narthex, in Friday's *Weekly Postings*, or by contacting Mandy Harmon (msamandajoy27@hotmail.com) or Melissa Friedman (friedmanme2@gmail.com).

Consider this your invitation to become an active partner in supporting our "partner school" Hornsby Elementary! We'll be announcing several opportunities to connect with this important community as we begin the new school year. **Start here: Help us serve teachers breakfast on their first day back, July 29, 8 AM.** It's a simple breakfast of biscuits, doughnuts, juice and coffee—minimal fuss and lots of fun (no cooking required). Our backpack and school supply drive begins next week. Mark your calendar for the First Day High-Five welcoming students August 5. To volunteer or for more information, contact Barbara Coleman at barbaracolem@gmail.com or call (706) 495-1884.

Back-to-School Blessing—We're sending our students and educators back to school with our prayers and blessings. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your friends to join us for this special service, August 2, 11 AM. All students, teachers, and administrators are encouraged to bring book bags, briefcases, or laptops to be blessed for the new school year.

August 2, following the 11 AM service, all kids and their families are invited to Sundaes Sunday in Tyler Hall. Grab an ice cream and tour the children's formation rooms and meet our amazing volunteers. We will answer any questions about Sunday School offerings. All are welcome! For more information about our Children and Youth Ministries, contact Aubrey Hinkson at ahinkson@saintpauls.org.

Name tags allow us to get to know each other and be a welcoming community to all. If you need a name tag or have just misplaced yours, email the parish office (cstuckey@saintpauls.org) or ask an usher for the yellow form to request a name tag.

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 (returns August 9)
9:30 - 10:30 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS
10:00 - 10:45 AM	CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH (returns August 9)
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) (returns Early August)
5:30 - 6:15 PM	CELTIC EVENING PRAYER & COMMUNION WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Nursery care offered in the Children's Ministry Center (CMC) 9:20 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

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

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	Acolytes – Meg & Donald Horton
Buildings and Grounds – John Robertson	Daughters of the King – Kathleen Fickling
Endowment – Monty Osteen	Eucharistic Visitors – Ellen Nesbitt
Finance – Cameron Nixon	Facebook – Stacy Nuessle & Aubrey Hinkson
Flower Guild – Barbara Register & Laurie Montgomery	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 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		

