



The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

**August 16, 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

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Kyrie eleison and Gloria

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son 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 56:1,6-8

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

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

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 ***Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.***
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 ***Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.***
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 ***The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.***
- 7 ***May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.***

The Epistle

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

The People are invited to stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 15: 10-20, 21-28

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

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth

proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 People are invited to stand.

The Peace	Page 332
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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

The Communion

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

The Post-Communion Prayer

Sending out of the Eucharistic Visitor

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

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 Dr. Eric Biddy
John Bradley
Barbara Coleman
Charlie Tudor
Jim Hancock

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the alter this Sunday are given by Thomas and Sarah Brittany Greneker to the glory of God and in celebration for a new school year and in thanksgiving for their three children Mary Thomas, Robert David, and Maddie Sue!

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially Dee Richardson, Sandra Mashburn, Betsy Rollins, Kisha Seals, 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, Jim Sealock, Charles Courtney, Laura Luther Medved, Drew Sandbach, Rhett Baker, Mitch Wyatt, Susan Wyatt, David Hawkins, Jim Williams, Pearce Truesdale, Zach Beckham, Shirley Courtney, Jane Silcox, Jeanne Ashmore.

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

For the departed; especially Nancy Glaser, Ed Moody.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service— Please join us for breakfast in Tyler Hall, then at 9:30 AM at the Sunday Forum, Questions of Faith: Where to Begin? This year in the Sunday Forum we are using the catechism to ask our own questions of faith. And this week we'll explore where to begin to think about God, and the difference our starting point makes for where we might end up.

Today 4 PM—The EYC (Episcopal Youth Community, grades 6-12) Kick-off is a Splash Party. Bring your swimsuit and towel. RSVP to Aubrey Hinkson for directions and address at ahinkson@saintpauls.org.

Next Sunday 9:30 AM, in Tyler Hall we'll pack 90 Snack Pack Mini's for daily distribution in the Narthex of Saint Paul's. Snack Packs are small bags of food containing some type of protein, cracker, water, etc., to help sustain someone until their next meal. Simple handwritten notes can be included in the bags.

New(ish) to Saint Paul's? Looking to connect? Join us August 23, following the 11 AM service to connect with Saint Paul's parishioners, clergy, staff, and lay leaders. These events are a great chance to familiarize yourself not just with the people but the facilities and ministry opportunities that make this church come to life. Light snacks will be provided. Contact the parish office for more information at mailbox@saintpauls.org.

Caring Prayer, Thursday, August 27, 3:30 PM, in the Chapel, 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. For more information, contact Fr. Bidy at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Saint Paul's is hosting the Diocese of Georgia's Acolyte Festival. This event will be an overnight lock-in from Saturday, August 29th at 12:00 PM-Sunday, August 30th at 12:30 PM (we will attend the 11AM service). We encourage all acolytes and anyone interested in becoming an acolyte to register for the weekend on our website (a direct link is available in the Weekly Postings.) For more information contact Meg Horton at megmhorton@gmail.com.

Join our Greeter team, August 30, following the 11 AM service. A warm welcome can change a newcomer's entire Sunday. Join our upcoming Greeter Orientation to learn the ropes and become part of our front-line welcoming team. Contact Jackie Pingel, jackiepingel@gmail.com, or Dianne L'Heureux, dithehappy1@gmail.com, for more information.

Common Ground Fellowship will gather for silent prayer, Compline, and then go out to dinner together, Wednesday, August 26, 7 PM in Tyler Hall. 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.) For more information contact Fr. Eric at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Our Backpack and School Supply Drive for the children at Hornsby Elementary continues through August. A supply list from Hornsby is available in the Narthex and in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. If you prefer, gifts may be made for our back-to-school supplies, and we'll do the shopping for you. Use the Giving QR code below or visit our website; Choose Outreach and Hornsby sub fund.

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 & YOUTH
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) (please see the EYC calendar for dates)
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		

