



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**September 13, 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.

- We share communion from three locations: we receive at the altar rail and on the floor below the pulpit (especially for those who need or would prefer to avoid stairs). Or, the ministers can bring bread and wine to you in your pew (please notify an usher).
- At the altar rail, a minister will share bread and another minister will follow with a cup of wine. Those who are drinking from the common cup of wine will eat the bread and then drink from the cup. Those receiving by intinction should hold the bread until the Lay Eucharistic Minister approaches with the wine. The LEM will dip the bread in the wine and then return it. After receiving communion or a blessing, the people exit through the door to the left (as you face the altar).
- To receive a blessing instead of either or both the bread and/or the wine, cross both arms over your chest, with palms on your collar. The church has always taught that Christ is fully present in each element of communion, and so receiving only the bread, for instance, has no effect on the amount of grace enjoyed in the sacrament.
- If your children are in the nursery, you are invited to bring them to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.
- Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the person sharing the bread.

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.

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The people are invited to sit for the readings.

Old Testament

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalms 103:8-13

Prayed responsively by whole verse.

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 ***He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.***

- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 ***For as the heavens are high above the earth, ****
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 ***As a father cares for his children, ****
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

The Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

The People are invited to stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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 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	<i>All who come in faith are welcome at the Lord's table.</i>
The Post-Communion Prayer	Page 339

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

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The Dismissal

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

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given by Ellen Nesbitt to the glory of God in loving memory of Mary Lynn Ford and in support of Bill and Braye.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially Dee Richardson, Sandra Mashburn, Betsy Rollins, Kisha Seals, Yvona Myrna, Ann Kilpatrick, Lois Hand, Ricie Eubanks, Dorine Smith, Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau, Samm Fusselle, Katie Delaigle, Susan Keithley, Margaret Lodi, Gary Crotteau, Louis Walker, Jimmy Dykes, Greg Maxie, Jim Sealock, Charles Courtney, Laura Luther Medved, Rhett Baker, Mitch Wyatt, Susan Wyatt, David Hawkins, Jim Williams, Pearce Truesdale, Zach Beckham, Shirley Courtney, Jane Silcox, Jeremy Carr, Mark Simon, Rob Verfurth, Victor Dunn, Jamie Medved, Sonia Bentley, Warren Sealock, Arion Strothers, Jeff Spires, Rain Coleman.

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 John Curtis, Martha Chandler.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please help us welcome Amy Lewis as she begins an internship with Saint Paul's. Amy is a postulant to the priesthood and will be serving at Saint Paul's for two years. Find her bio in Friday's *Weekly Postings* and say hello following today's service on the portico.

Need help joining the new Church Directory with Realm? We'll be available in Tyler Hall **TODAY** and **Sunday, September 20** following this service to help you get started, answer your questions, and take your family photo if you need one. For weekday appointments, contact Toni (tclayton@saintpauls.org).

Following this service— Please join us for a hot breakfast in Tyler Hall, then at 9:30 AM at the Sunday Forum we'll continue our exploration of the catechism by asking what we learn about God through the revelation to Israel. What difference does monotheism make for how we live our lives of faith? What does idolatry look like today? And how do we make sense of the claims of other religions?

Dish and serve ice cream and cookies at our quarterly Veteran's Social TODAY, 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. For more information contact Gene Helmich at ehelmich21@comcast.net.

Spiritual Explorations will begin TODAY from 4 -5 PM in the Berlin Room. Linda Hardy will discuss meditation including a brief review of both Christian and Western meditation styles, and will lead a guided meditation for the group. All are welcome. For more information contact Lydia Bliven at bliven@comcast.net or Linda Hardy at lindahardy703@gmail.com.

Next Sunday at the Forum, we'll introduce our 2026 Annual Stewardship Campaign, share details of our fellowship gatherings, and hear from our several committee members' personal reflection on Saint Paul's and the meaning in their giving. We encourage you to attend this important conversation.

Join us for our first Senior Lunch of the season, Wednesday, September 16, 12 Noon in Tyler Hall. While gearing to retirees, anyone is welcome. No agenda; just a relaxing social time every third Wednesdays. Lunch is provided but donations are welcome. Please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. A direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. Contact Gene Helmich (ehelmich21@comcast.net) for more information.

The 38th season of Tuesday's Music Live begins on September 22 with a free 30-minute concert at 12:00 Noon performed by the Nikita Borisevich, violin, and Margarita Loukachkina, piano. More information at tuesdaysmusiclive.com or 706-722-3463.

EYC (Episcopal Youth Community, grades 6-12) will serve at the Ronald McDonald House September 19. Please RSVP to Aubrey (ahinkson@saintpauls.org).

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, September 20. All who wish to be baptized are invited to contact Fr. Eric (ebiddy@saintpauls.org).

Ironman Weekend is September 25-27. We have a fantastic weekend planned and there are volunteer opportunities and a place for each of us to be involved in some way. Sign up to serve using the QR code to the right. A direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. Contact Kim Butler for more information at kimberlybutler@gmail.com.



Hornsby Book Drive continues through September—Support young readers at Hornsby Elementary by giving a new or gently read book (all ages picture book - 5th grade). A list of suggested titles is available. If you prefer, gifts may be made for our book drive, and we'll do the shopping for you. Use the Giving QR code below or visit our website; Choose Outreach and Hornsby sub fund. For more information contact Barbara Coleman at barbaracolem@gmail.com.

ERD Offering —The Outreach Committee has voted to send \$1000 to Episcopal Relief and Development's International Disaster Fund in response to the flooding in Nepal. We will collect gifts from the parish, and then will send a combined check from the people of Saint Paul's Wednesday, September 23. If you would like to add your gift, please make your check payable to Saint Paul's Church with a notation ERD Disaster Fund. You may also use the Giving QR code below or visit our website; Choose Special Offering and ERD sub fund.

Join us for our first Senior Lunch of the season, Wednesday, September 16, 12 Noon in Tyler Hall. While gearing to retirees, anyone is welcome. No agenda; just a relaxing social time every third Wednesdays September to May. Lunch is provided but donations are welcome. Please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. A direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*. Contact Gene Helmich (ehelmich21@comcast.net) for more information.

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
Catherine Stuckey
Katherine Ferrara
Jim Hancock

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

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 – Linda Hardy and Charlie Tudor
W.E.E.M. – The Rev. Kimberly Dunn & Summer Bell

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Eric Biddy, Rector ext. 205
The Reverend Kimberly E. Dunn, Assoc. Rector ext. 204
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
Keith Shafer, Director of Music ext. 215
Catherine Stuckey, Liturgy and Parish life ext. 203
Elisabeth Price, Parish Administrator ext. 225
Norm Nieminen, Parish Accountant ext. 206
Toni Clayton, Assistant for Administrative Projects
Victoria Hammond and Nikki Wickware, St. Nicholas Choir
Sarah Pritchard, Music Associate Emerita
Hillary Bryant, Will Douse, Anthony Ellis, Sherry Wilson; Sextons
Mark Albertin, Brandon Dawson, Marty Duff, Wright Montgomery; Audio Visual

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