



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**September 20, 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.

Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are invited to sit for the readings.

Old Testament

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord ! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord , please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 ***Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.***
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 ***One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.***
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 ***They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.***
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 ***The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.***

The Epistle

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

The People are invited to stand.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Eric Biddy

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

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The Confession and Absolution

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The People are invited to stand.

The Peace

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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

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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
The Blessing	Page 339
The Dismissal	
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God by Sally Simkins in honor of the birthday of Merry Simkins and in loving memory of Bryan Simkins.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially Rain Coleman, 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, Betty Harrod, Ann Parker.

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.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service— Please join us for a hot breakfast in Tyler Hall, then at 9:30 AM at the Sunday Forum we'll introduce our 2026 Annual Stewardship Campaign, share details of our fellowship gatherings, and hear testimonials from several committee members about the role giving has played in their life of faith. We encourage you to attend this important conversation.

Also following this service—Need help joining the new Church Directory with Realm? We'll be available in Tyler Hall **TODAY** 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).

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.

Common Ground Fellowship will gather Wednesday, September 23, 7 PM for a faith talk in Tyler Hall. Mtr. Kimberly will join us. 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.

Caring Prayer Thursday, September 24, 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 Fr. Eric at ebiddy@saintpauls.org.

Next Week is Ironman Weekend 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 or the direct link in Friday’s *Weekly Postings*. Contact Kim Butler for more information at kimberlybutler@gmail.com.



Blessing of the Animals—Bring your best friend for a celebration and blessing Sunday October 4, 4 PM in the Churchyard. The Saint Paul’s Blessing of the Animals is cosponsored by The Augusta Humane Society. Please consider a donation of one of the following items to The Augusta Humane Society: paper towels, bleach, Dawn detergent, 13-gallon garbage bags, or cash. All animals must be on a leash or in a carrier.

Register for Cursillo, October 15-18 at Honey Creek. Cursillo is a weekend for adults that gives participants the opportunity to build community and delve deeper into their faith. More details and a link to registration are available in Friday’s *Weekly Postings*. For more information contact Heather Wheeler (hndawgs@gmail.com) or by phone (706) 993-8471).

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.

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, drop by the greeters table to complete a yellow form. We’ll make the tag and you’ll find it at the table next week. Or, email the Catherine Stuckey (cstuckey@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.



SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Eric Biddy
Stan Taylor
Barbara Coleman
Will Badger

Celebrant
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Guild
Vestry Person of the Day

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM	LIGHT 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 – Linda Hardy and Charlie Tudor
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		
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Toni Clayton, Assistant for Administrative Projects		tclayton@saintpauls.org
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		

