



The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**September 27, 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, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; 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

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 ***Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.***
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 ***Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.***
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 ***Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.***
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 ***He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.***

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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.***

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

page 331

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

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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 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 Page 339

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 Linda and Jim Hilliard in thanksgiving for all pets.
Arranged by the Flower Guild.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially Ann Pendarvis, 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, the Moye family.

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 Beth Huggins, Courtney Lewis.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following this service— Please join us for a breakfast in the River Room with our Ironman Hospitality, then at 9:30 AM at the Sunday Forum in the Chapel: We believe in one God . . . so what about everyone else's gods? How does omnipotence work? And just how much is there to all that is, seen and unseen? On October 4 at the Sunday Forum, we'll continue our journey through the catechism by focusing on its claims about divine power. Following the track of God as creator, we will then wonder about the fullness of creation—of what is included when we confess that God created all that is, seen and unseen.

Blessing of the Animals—Bring your best friend for a celebration and blessing next Sunday, October 4 at 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 paper towels, bleach, Dawn detergent, 13-gallon garbage bags, or cash/check for this shelter. All animals must be on a leash or in a carrier.

Need help joining the new Church Directory with Realm? We're happy to help you get started and answer your questions. Contact Toni (tclayton@saintpauls.org) if you did not receive an invitation link, if your link has expired, if you need help with the Realm settings or the Realm app.

The 38th season of Tuesday's Music Live continues October 6 with a free 30-minute concert at 12:00 Noon performed by Anita Graef, cello, and Nathan Canfield, piano. More information at tuesdaysmusiclive.com or 706-722-3463.

Join us for our next Men's Monthly Meal (Mmm!) scheduled Wednesday, October 7. (Men gather at 4 PM to cook, the parish gathers at 6 PM for dinner.) Details forthcoming. Please RSVP on the website, so that we may be a good host. A direct link is available in Friday's *Weekly Postings*.

Daughters of the King invite you to Quiet Morning - a spiritual morning of peace and solitude, Saturday, October 10, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, beginning in the chapel. Bring "prayer tools" such as your bible, journal, or anything used for meditation.

Spiritual Explorations meets October 11 from 4 -5 PM in the Berlin Room. Linda Hardy will lead a discussion of Visio Divina. All are welcome. For further information contact Lydia Bliven at bliven@comcast.net or Linda Hardy at lindahardy703@gmail.com.

Common Ground Fellowship will gather Wednesday, October 14, 7 PM for Compline in the Chapel and then dinner downtown together. 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.

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).

RSVP for Parents' Afternoon Out October 18. This time is set aside for parents to reconnect and recharge while children enjoy pumpkin painting and park play. Contact Aubrey Hinkson for more information at ahinkson@saintpauls.org. RSVP required.

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.

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
Jason Massie
Becky Wright
Bobbie Ingenito
Jerry Ashmore, III

Celebrant
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Guild
Eucharistic Visitor
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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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		

