St. Paul's Episcopal Church

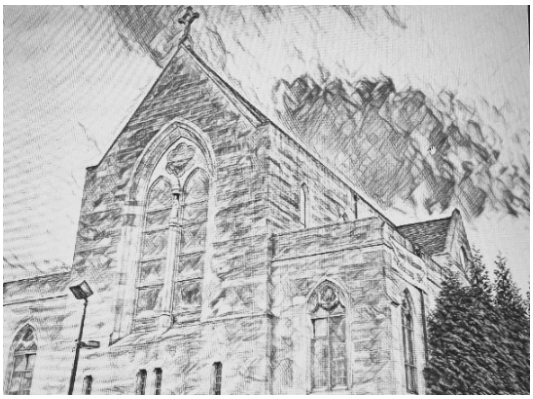
Canton, Ohio

12th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Aug. 16, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286
Office hours for Week of Aug. 16: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton



St. Paul's Mission

St. Paul's is an exceptionally welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, and called by God's Love to minister to the world.

The mission of The Episcopal Church is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." In step with that mission, we follow Jesus into loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with God, with each other, and with the earth.

"Love God. Love Your Neighbor. Change the World."

"God Loves You. No Exceptions."

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Psalm 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

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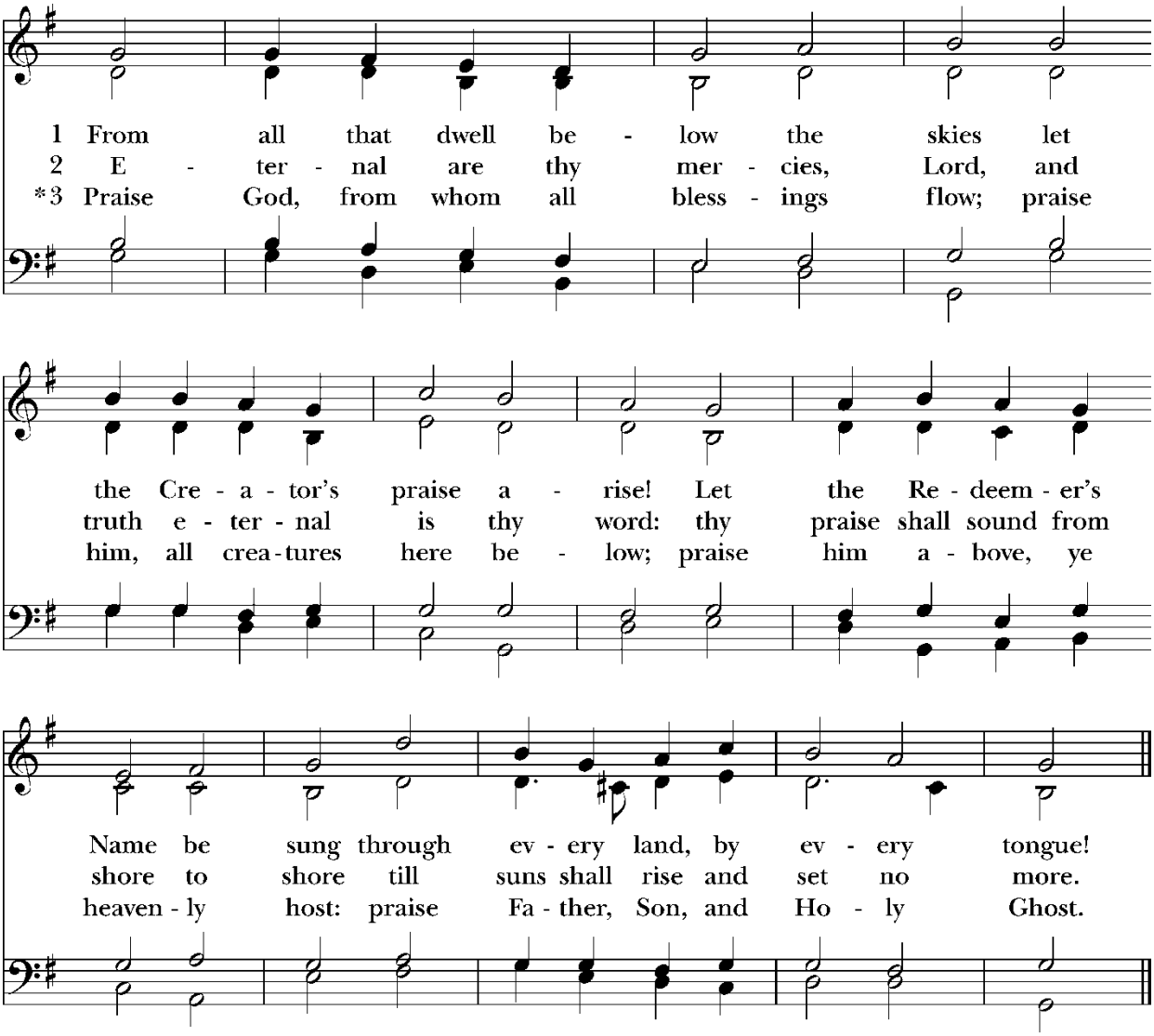
Prelude: *Opus 38* (Dustin O'Halloran)

The Word of God

Please stand in body or spirit

Entrance Hymn: *From all that dwell below the skies* (Old 100th Psalm Tune) (H380)



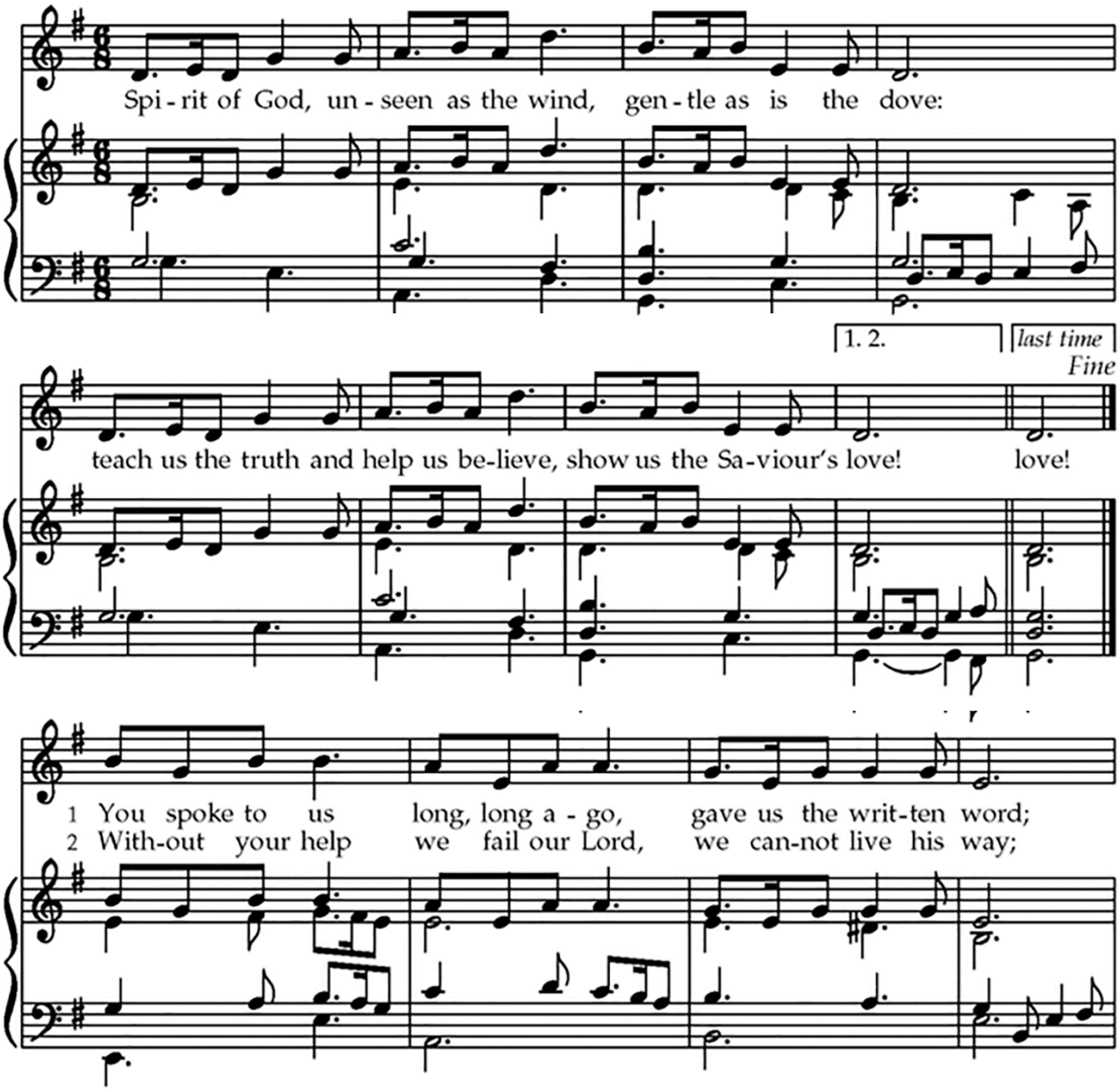
Opening Acclamation

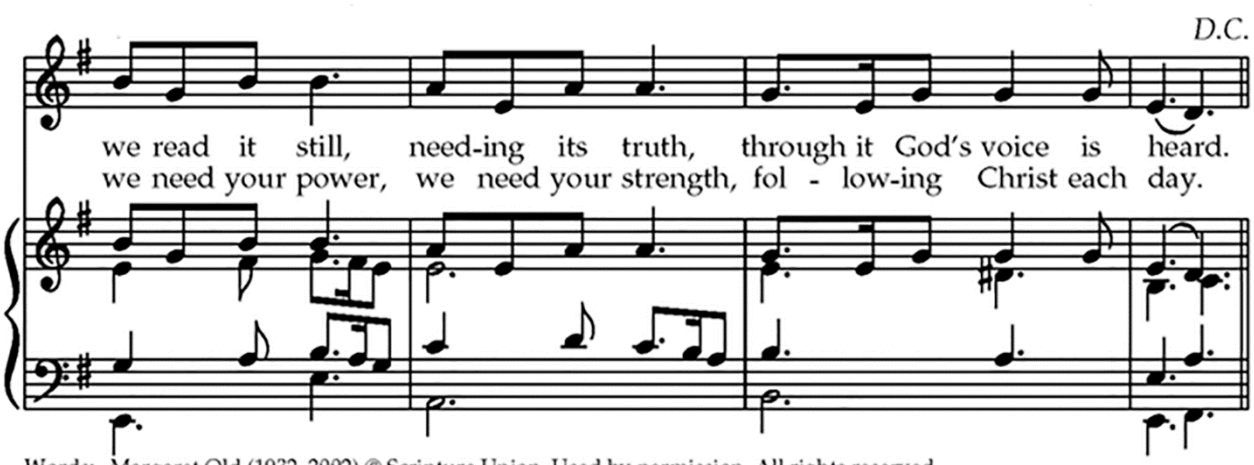
Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Song of Praise *Spirit of God* (Skye Boat Song) (VF 53)





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Music: *Skye Boat Song*, Scottish traditional melody; arr. James Whitbourn © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.
Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Please sit.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 56:1, 6-8

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

[1]Thus says the Lord:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.
[6]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—
[7]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.
[8]Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

[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.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 11:1-2A, 29-32

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

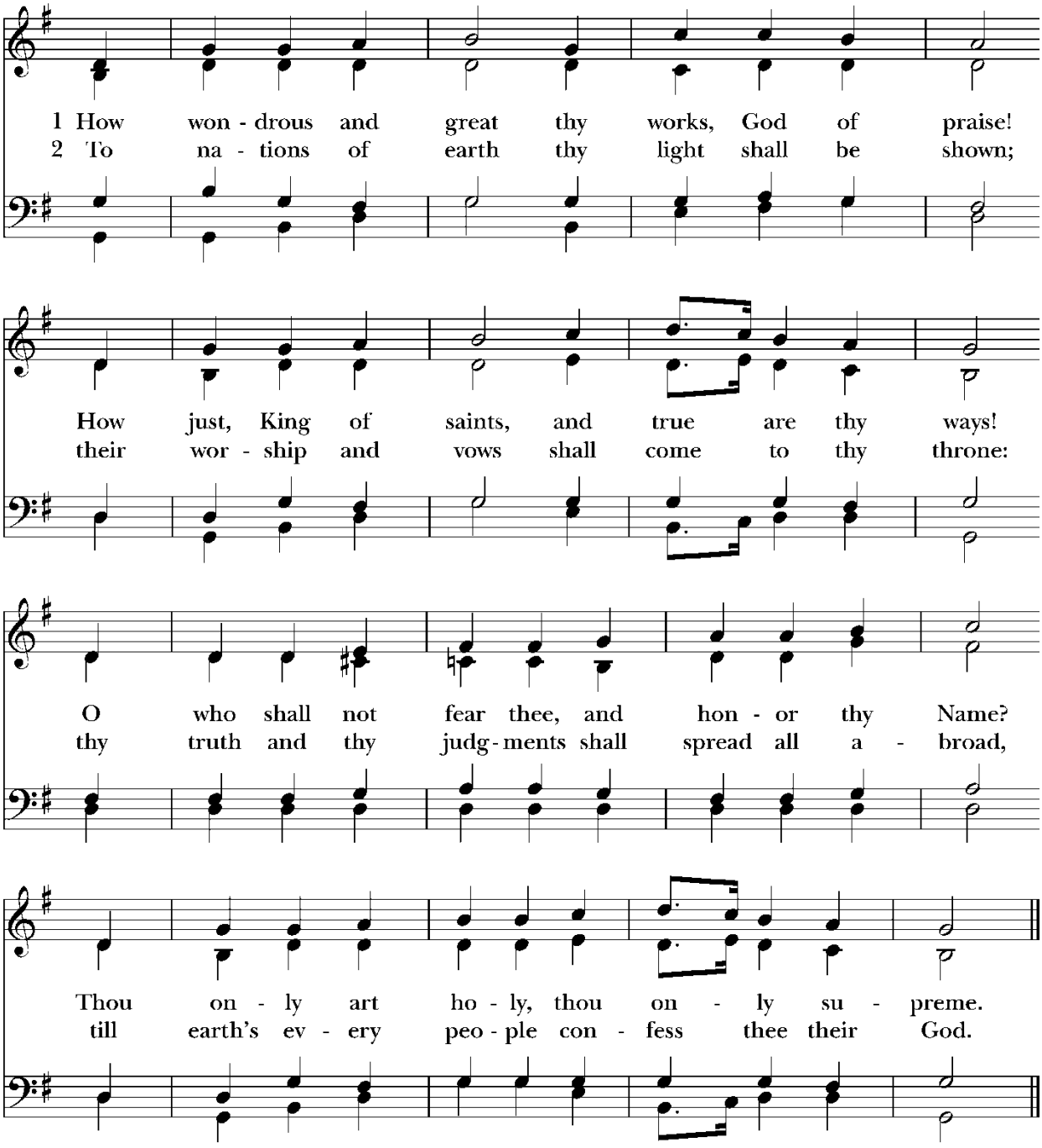
[1]I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. [2a]God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

[29]For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. [30]Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, [31]so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. [32]For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit

Sequence Hymn: *How wondrous and great Thy works, God of praise* (Lyons) (H559)



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 15: 21-28

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[10[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:11it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” 12Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” 13He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. 14Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” 15But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” 16Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? 17Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? 18But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. 19For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. 20These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”] 21Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22Just 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.” 23But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” 24He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” 26He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” 27She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28Then 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 Christ
People Glory to you, O Christ

The Sermon: The Rev. Kay Ashby

Please stand in body or spirit

The Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,

begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remain standing

Prayers of the People

All-loving God, whose life is the source of our life, whose love is the source of our salvation, pour out your grace upon your church and upon the world, that all may know you, love you, and serve one another in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

All-governing God, who set forth the foundations of the world, so direct, inspire, and correct those in authority in this nation and the world, that the laws they make and the policies they embrace may reflect the dignity with which you created humanity in your image, and in harmony with your creation. Remove from the imaginations of power all thoughts toward oppression, discrimination, or other sins of pride, that we may truly love your image in one another, and in your Name;
Hear our prayer

Incarnate God, you lived among neighbors, friends and enemies alike; you know the intimate and everyday concerns of your people in this and every community. Where there is suffering, continue to heal it. Where there is harm, continue

to expose it. Where there is need, continue to feed your people with the abundant Providence of God, from whom all blessings flow. Do not let us forget, either, our responsibility for one another's welfare, in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

Resurrecting God, we pray for those who live in the shadow of death, in places of war, in places of terror, in unsafe homes, in uncaring communities. We pray for an end to war, an undoing of terror, a disarming of hatred. We pray for those who have died, known to us and known only to you, that we may one day receive the same mercy that you have for each of them. In your Name we pray*;*
Hear our prayer.

Awe-inspiring God, we thank you for the joys of human living, for the relationships that bring us closer to the knowledge of your love, for the colors of creation that reflect your glory, as the prophet recognized in the rainbow the glory of the living God. We thank you that we are "marvelously made" in your image, and in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

All healing God, we ask for your healing presence in the lives of those we love especially for Tom Lilly, Dr. Claire Pernsteiner, Johanna Middleton, Viola Sullins, Linda Fogle, Peter Dench, Cara Warren, Alice Bolam, Molly and Nathan Weisel, Andrea, Marilyn Dickinson, Jackson, Gary, Richard Green, John Titmas, Holly Hillen, Bob Reiner, Frances Beacon, Vicki Simpkins, Brinley Wyczalek, Ronnie Long, Aiden Ortiz, we pray to you O Lord.
Hear our prayer.

All listening God, we offer before you the deepest thanksgivings and desires of our hearts, silently or aloud.
People add their prayers.
We pray to you O Lord.
Hear our prayer.

We pray together now the Discernment Prayer for St. Paul's:
O Lord our God, May we, the parish of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, embrace your commandment of loving our neighbors as you have loved us while we discern who we are and how best to serve you. We ask that you quiet our souls, so we may listen to you. We ask that you grant us wisdom as we seek new leadership. And lastly, we ask for the courage to follow wherever you lead us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Everliving God, we give thanks for the ways in which you have allowed the prism of your glory to be reflected through the diversity and beauty of creation, and through your children, made in your image. We repent of the times we

have refused to recognize it. We rely on your mercy to restore its vision to us. We give thanks that you always hear our prayers, made in your Name. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

Please stand in body or spirit

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.
The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

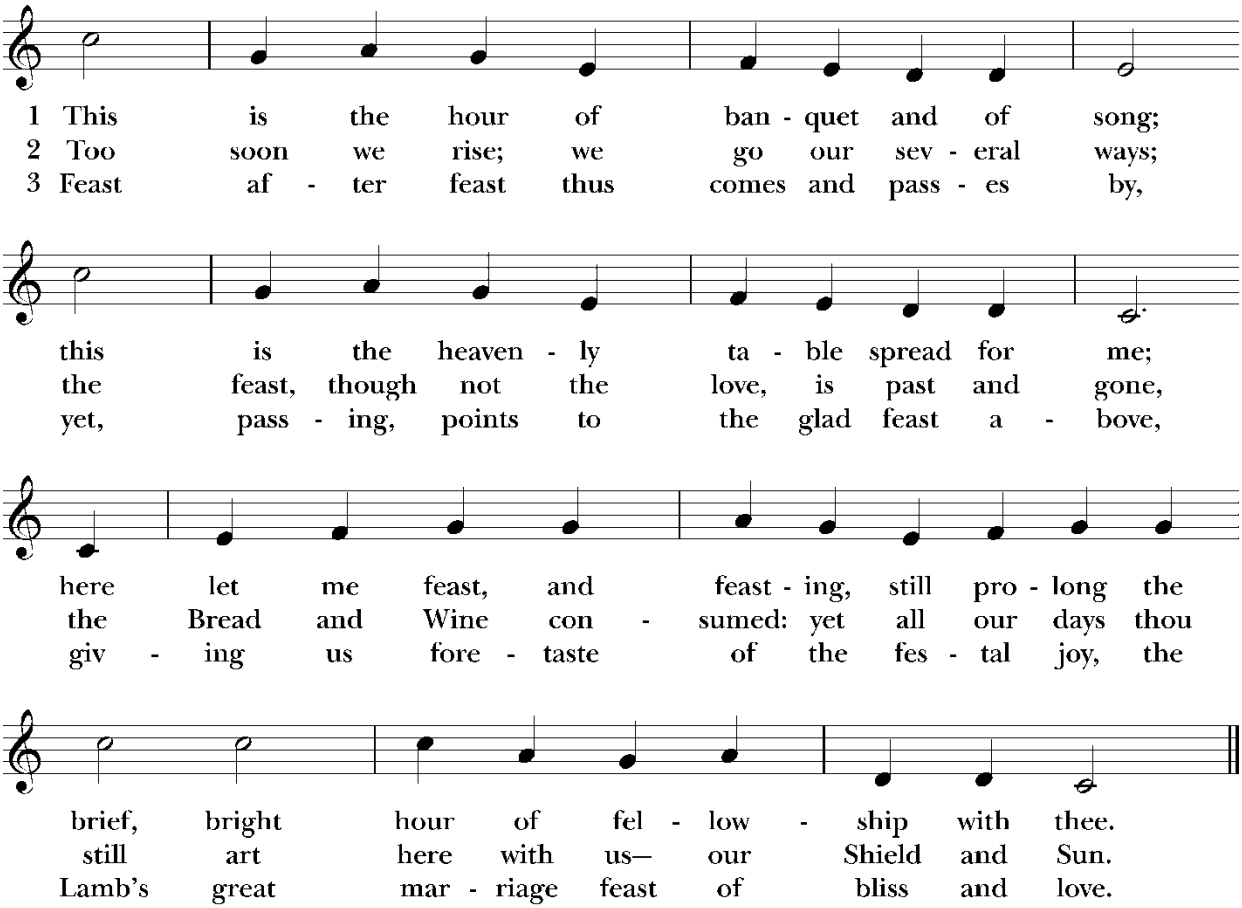
Church Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence (Psalm 50:14)

The Celebrant says
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Offertory Hymn: *This is the hour of banquet and of song* (Canticum refrectionis) (H 316)



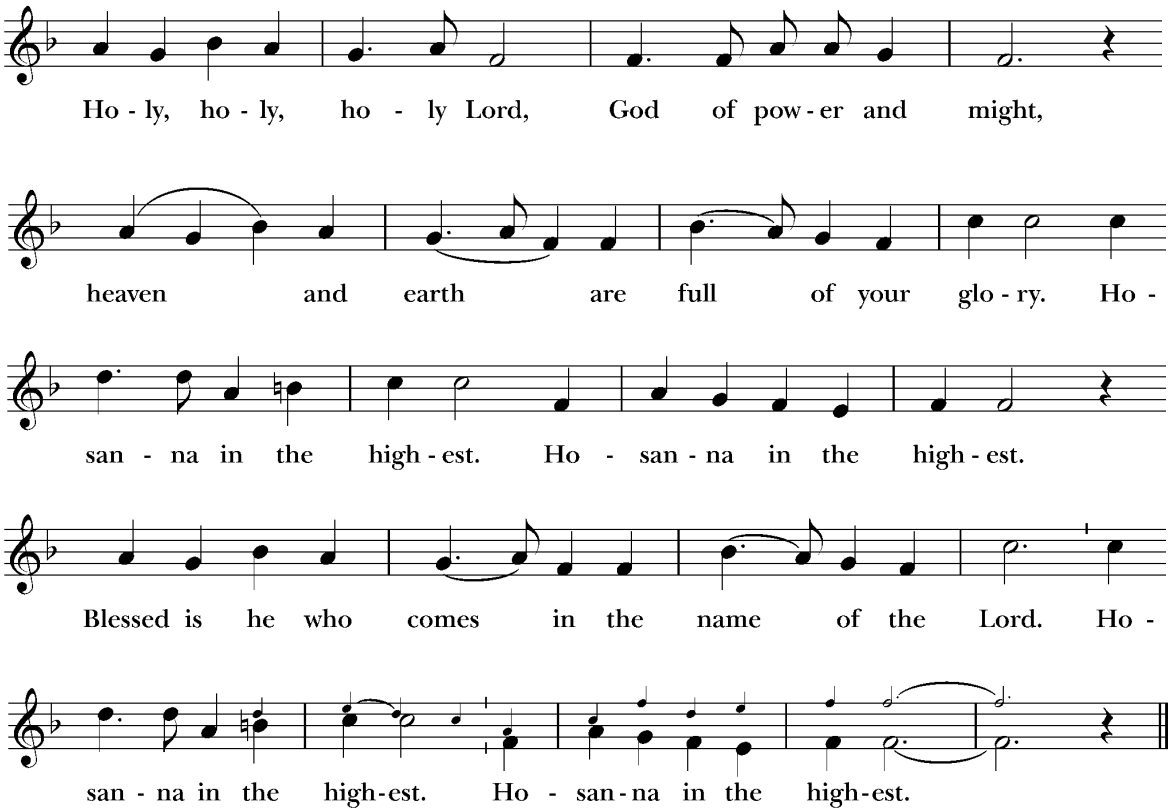
The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing: ♪♪♪

Sanctus S125



Blessed are you, Gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”♪
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."♪

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. ***AMEN.***

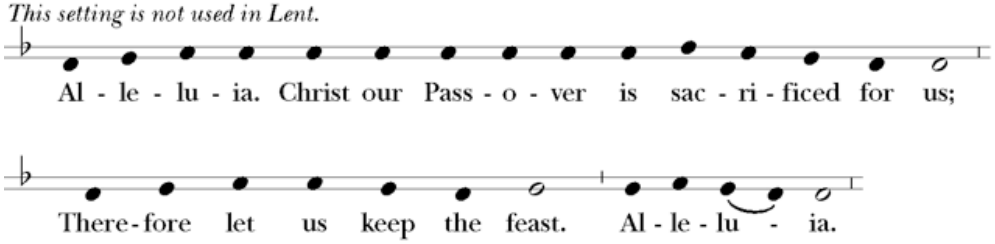
The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (S 152)

This setting is not used in Lent.



This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

Celebrant Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not altogether in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

****Note to the congregation: Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the clergy if you need gluten-free bread. If you come to the communion station for a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the priests of St. Paul's.*

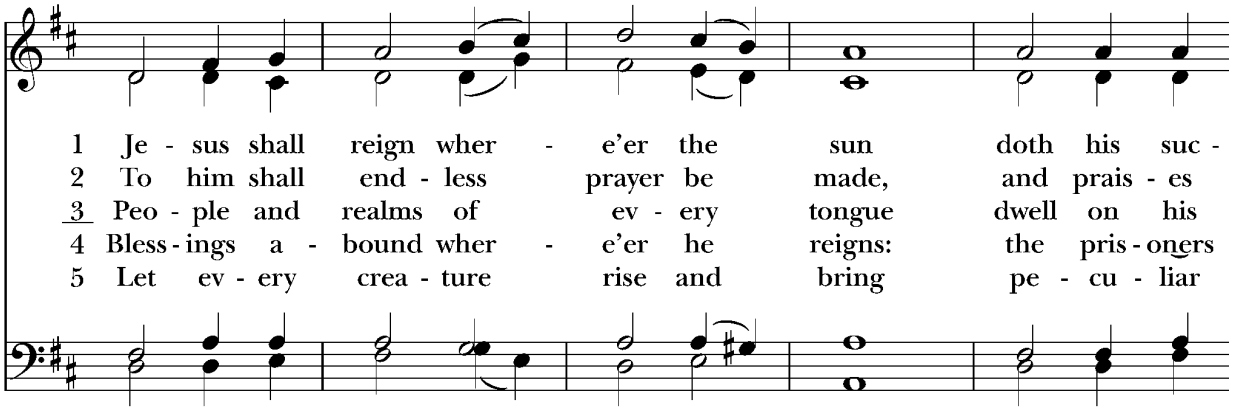
Post-Communion Prayer

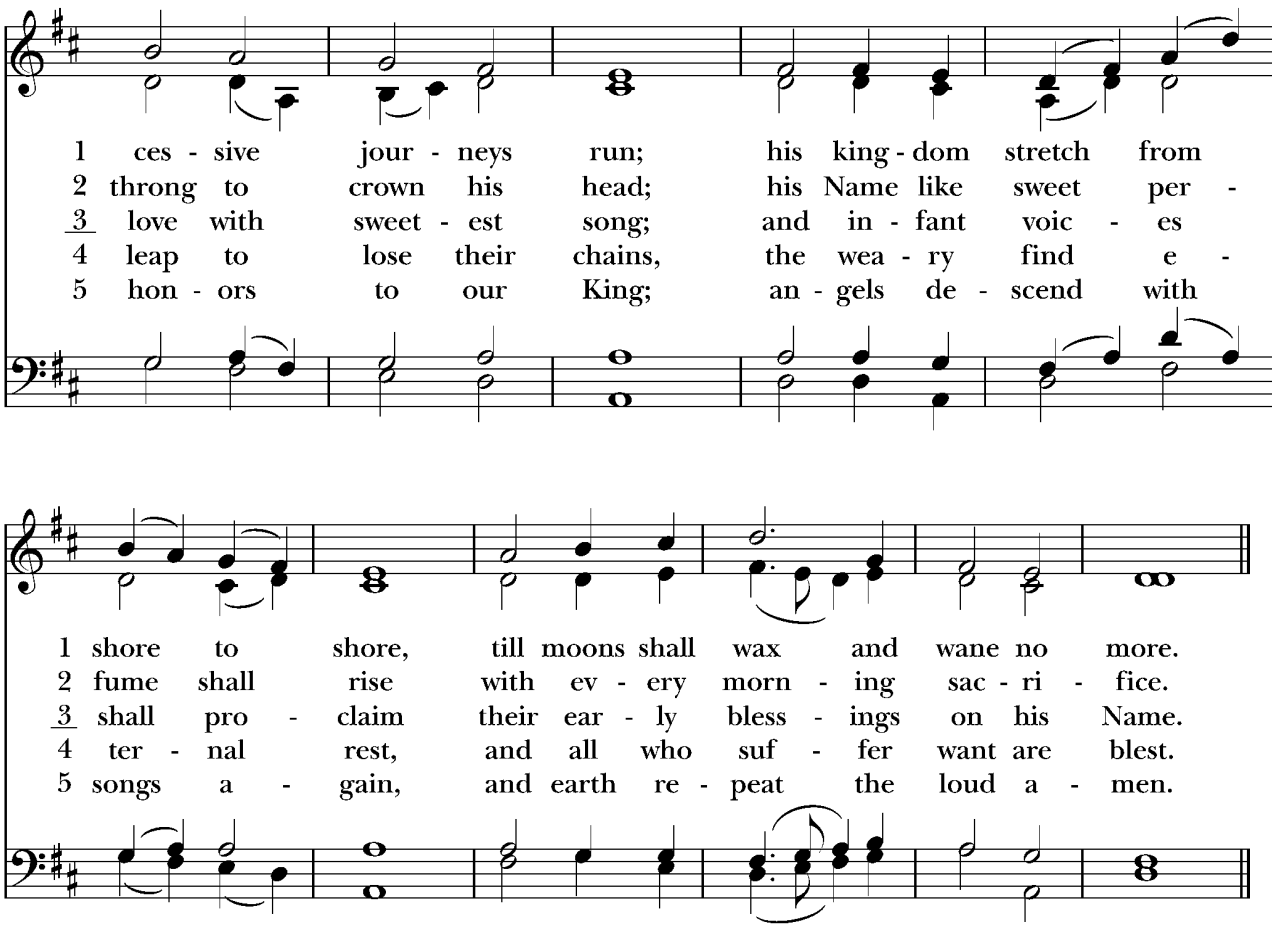
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant
God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Jesus shall reign where're the sun (Duke Street) (H544)





Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Hymn Improvisation on *Duke Street* (Richard Knight)

A prayer for peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Today's Servers
Celebrants: The Revs. Kay and Joe Ashby
Parish musician: Edward Grimes
Greeters: David Lewis and Paula Hampton
Crucifer: Douglas Colmery
Eucharistic Minister: Demetrius Carrothers
Video/Photography: David Lewis, David Rotthoff
Lector: Carol Sutek
Altar Guild: Susan Phillips and Barb Anderson
Counters: Linda Heitger and David Swope

Parish News

Happy August Birthdays

Karl Roshong, 8/3
Stephen Johnson, 8/5
Katie Ryan, 8/12
Thomas Lilly, 8/13
David Lewis, 8/16
Victoria Suba-Roshong, 8/29
Richard Reinbold, 8/31
Cara Warren, 8/31
Tammy Patterson, 8/31

Happy August Anniversaries

Greg and Cathi Johanning, 8/11
Demetrius and Cynthia Carrothers, 8/28

Parish News

You and your voice matter

St. Paul's has embraced a structure of lay committees and ministries to help guide our church. This includes but is far from limited to the Vestry. Our committees and missions also include the Finance Committee, Worship Committee, Discernment Committee, Building and Grounds Committee, Harvest Outreach Table, and Altar Guild.
None of the work of any of these can happen without your interest and input. If you are curious, have suggestions or want to get more involved, please let us know.

You also are welcome to attend each and every Vestry meeting. We meet on the fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 6 p.m. Some of these meetings are primarily via Zoom, but we ensure there always is someone in the building during the regular meetings if anyone in the congregation wants to attend in person. The next meeting will be Aug. 24.
You also can ask for the Zoom link to the meetings.
If you want to contact Senior Warden M.L. Schultze directly, feel free to call (330) 842-7660 or write pottermommy@aol.com.

Prayers of the People

Much of the beauty of the Episcopal service is the familiar liturgy – grounded in the Book of Common Prayer -- that fills just about any Episcopal church you walk into.
But The Episcopal Church also encourages individual parishes to shape their Prayers of the People to speak to the special concerns of the times and their communities.
Cara Warren – who especially felt the beauty of the Prayers of the People when she first began attending St. Paul's a half-dozen years ago – has agreed to head a committee considering the prayers we say – and how we say them -- at St. Paul's. Aided by our deacon-in-training Demi Carrothers and Fr. Joe and Mother Kay – the committee will be looking at the words, form and delivery of the prayers.
The prayers may change by week or season. They may blend new passages with familiar ones or build entirely new. They may be recited by the reader or by the congregation individually or as a whole. And they will incorporate the concerns of people who come to St. Paul's for reasons beyond Sunday services.
The national church does stipulate six concerns that must be included in the prayers:

- The Universal Church, its members, and its mission
- The Nation and all in authority
- The welfare of the world
- The concerns of the local community
- Those who suffer and those in any trouble
- The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate).

If you would like to be participate in this effort, please see Cara. And everyone can be part of it by, of course, praying!

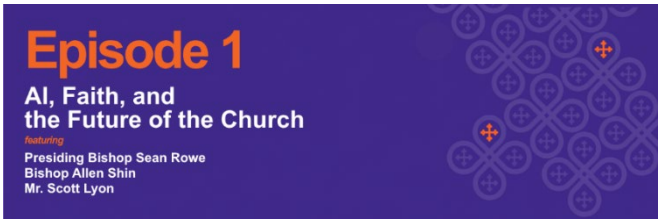
Happy Birthday to Tom Lilly

You're all invited to join us in the Guild Hall following today's service to celebrate the 92nd birthday of one of our oldest active members, Tom Lilly. Tom's been a part of St. Paul's since 1942 when, as an 8-year-old, he joined the church's famed Boys Choir. He remained active in the church's choirs for the next seven decades and, as the long-time junior warden, has a better understanding of our building (and boiler) than just about anybody.

AI and the Episcopal Church: How to navigate the fear and the hype

The Episcopal Parish Network is launching a new podcast called "Gather: Cultivating a Community of Leaders," with the first episode focused on AI and its impact on humanity.

"Gather" explains the network, is to create "space for broader conversations about leadership, faith, and the future of the Church," Through conversations with leaders from across the Church and beyond, we'll explore the ideas, challenges, and possibilities shaping ministry today and cultivate a community of leaders who listen to and learn from one another."



Here's more on the first episode.

AI, Faith, and the Future of the Church

Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe and Bishop Allen Shin join Scott Lyon, an Episcopalian and founder and CEO of Solace AI, to explore what the rapid growth of artificial intelligence means for Christian ministry, leadership, and discipleship. Where can AI strengthen the Church's work? What challenges should church leaders be thinking about now? And amid rapidly changing technology, what remains uniquely and irreplaceably human?

Moving beyond both fear and hype, the conversation offers a hopeful, practical vision for engaging AI with theological depth and faithful imagination, while keeping Christ, community, human relationships, and the movement of the Holy Spirit at the center.

Whether you're curious, skeptical, or already experimenting with AI, we hope you'll listen and join the conversation.

To listen to the launch episode of Gather, click on this link.
https://episcopalparishes.org/gather-podcasts/?mc_cid=4eae355da9&mc_eid=9296e9ef09

Courageous Conversations: Code switching and the languages that get us through life

Please join us Tuesday, August 18, 2026 for Courageous Conversations on Race Relations (CCORR). We will gather to learn, listen, and dialogue about Code-Switching. Dinner will begin @ 6 pm and is free. We'll wrap up by 8 p.m.