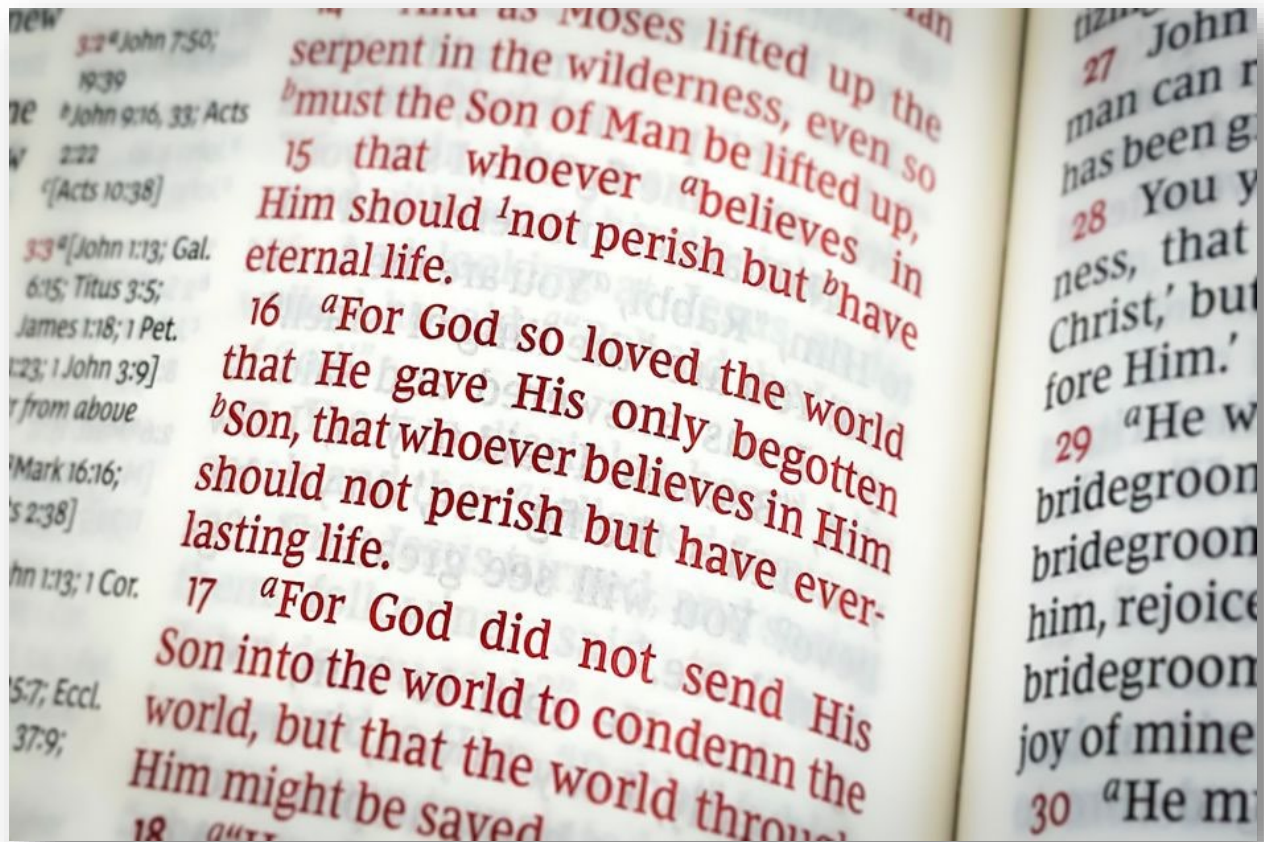


St. Paul's Episcopal Church Canton, Ohio



**Second Sunday of Lent
Holy Eucharist Rite 2
March 1, 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

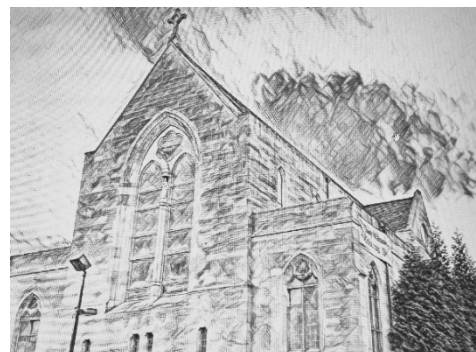
(330) 455-0286

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."

Second Sunday of Lent

Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby

Readings and Psalm

- [Genesis 12:1-4a](#)
- [Psalm 121](#)
- [Romans 4:1-5, 13-17](#)
- [John 3:1-17](#)

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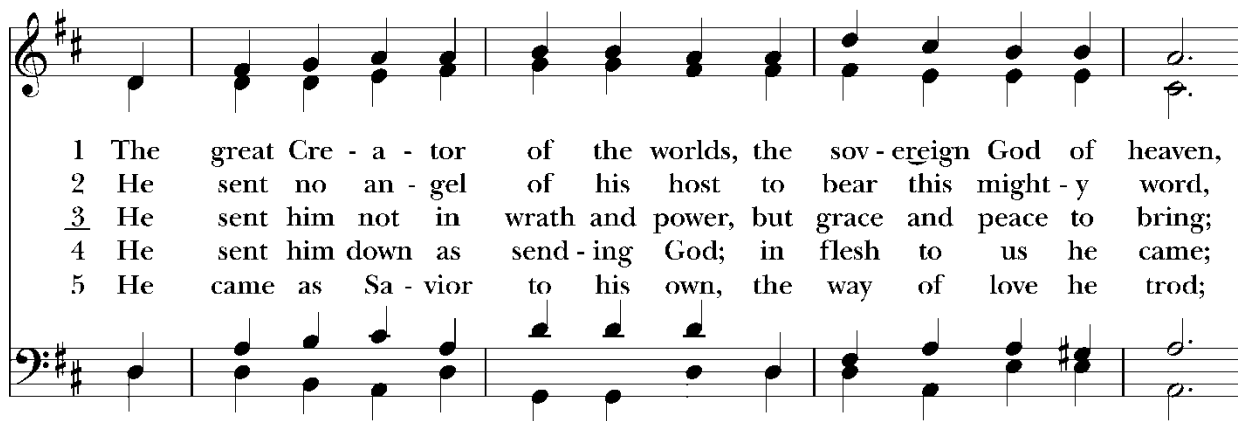
Prelude: *Hymn Prelude on Tallis' Ordinal* (George Dyson)

The Word of God

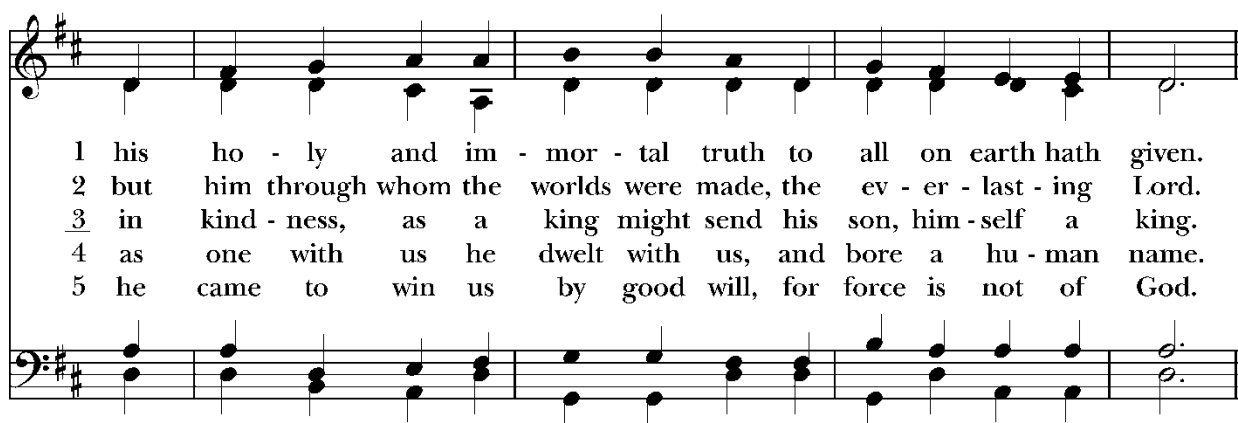
Please stand in body or spirit

Entrance Hymn: *The great creator of the worlds* (Tallis' Ordinal)

(H 489)



1 The great Cre - a - tor of the worlds, the sov - ereign God of heaven,
 2 He sent no an - gel of his host to bear this might - y word,
 3 He sent him not in wrath and power, but grace and peace to bring;
 4 He sent him down as send - ing God; in flesh to us he came;
 5 He came as Sa - vior to his own, the way of love he trod;



1 his ho - ly and im - mor - tal truth to all on earth hath given.
 2 but him through whom the worlds were made, the ev - er - last - ing Lord.
 3 in kind - ness, as a king might send his son, him - self a king.
 4 as one with us he dwelt with us, and bore a hu - man name.
 5 he came to win us by good will, for force is not of God.

6 Not to oppress, but summon all
 their truest life to find,
 in love God sent his Son to save,
 not to condemn mankind.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.*

KYRIE: *Lord have mercy* (EOM148)

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a five-line staff. The lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' are placed below the first staff, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of 'cy.' to the start of the second staff. The second staff continues the melody, with the lyrics 'Lord, have mer -' below it. The second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The lyrics '- cy.' are placed below the first staff, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of 'cy.' to the start of the second staff. The second staff continues the melody, with the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' below it. The second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Setting: Mark MacDonald, from **Red Lake Mass**, adapt. Francis Densmore.
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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Please sit.

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

¹Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a}So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

- ²My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- ³He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- ⁴Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- ⁵The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- ⁶So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- ⁸The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth forevermore.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

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

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

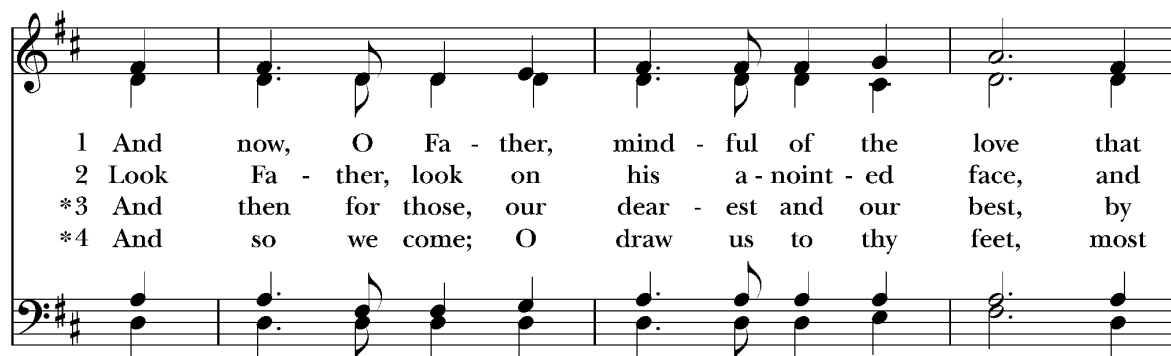
¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

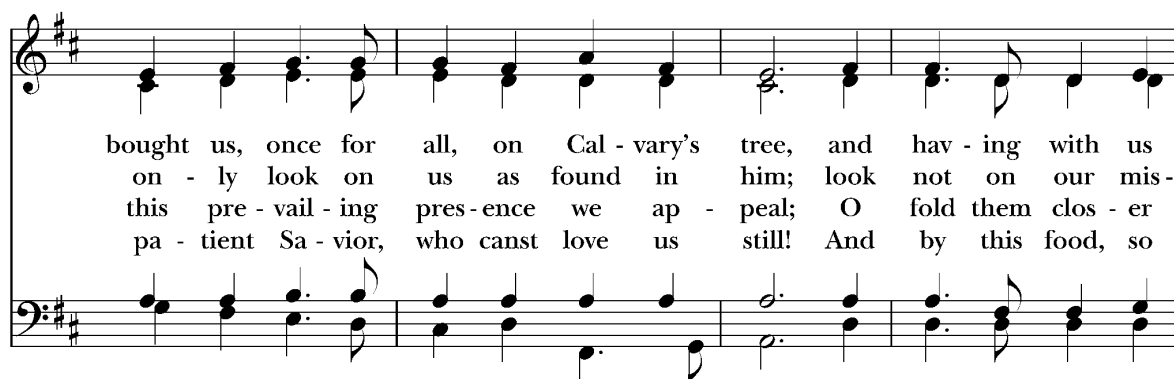
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit

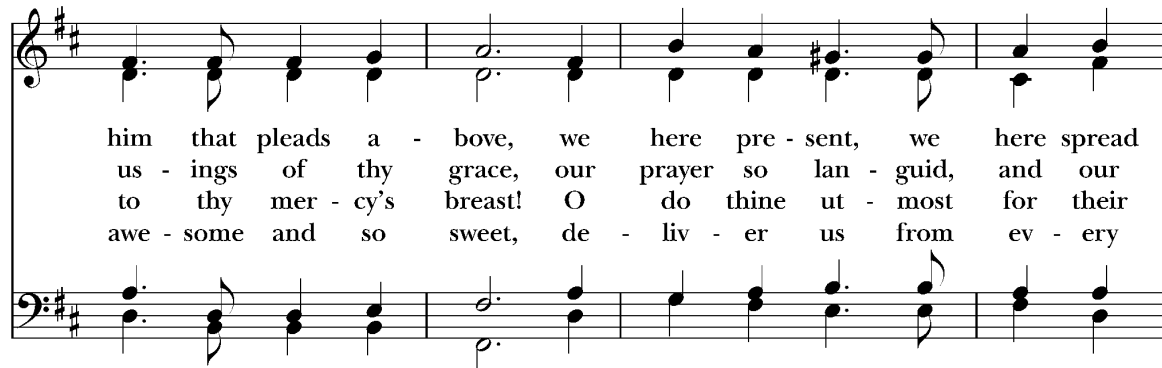
Sequence Hymn: *And now, O Father mindful of your Love* (H 337)



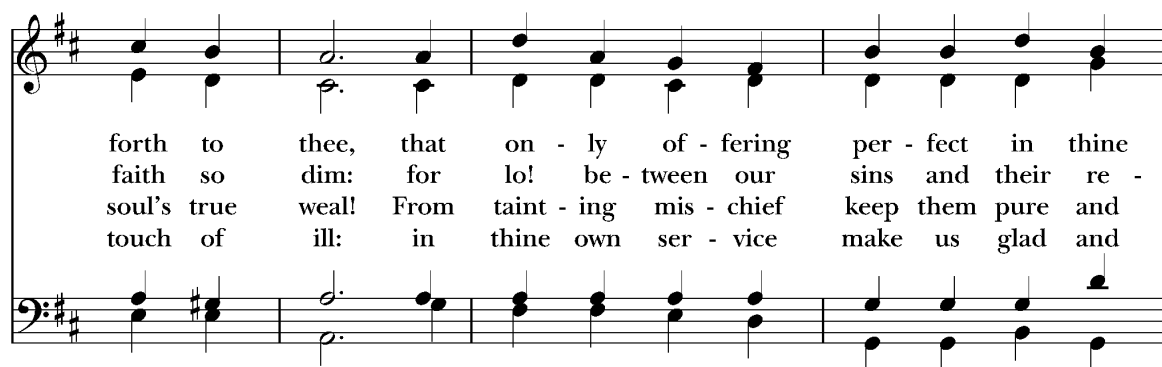
1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and
 *3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
 *4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most



bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so



him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery



forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

GOSPEL: JOHN 3:1-17

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

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord 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

For those who lead and guide the Church of Christ;

for loving care, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For faithful witness, fellowship in love;
for living hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For those who guide the nations of the earth;
that wisdom reign, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For those who seek and serve the common good;
that justice reign, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For neighbors' needs, for shelter from the storm;
for homes of peace, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For those in sorrow, anguish, and despair;
that they find hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For those oppressed, for those who live in fear;
that they be freed, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For all the sick especially Johanna Middleton, Elaine Neff, Linda Fogle, Peter Dench, Patricia Willford, Cara Warren, Alice Bolam, Molly and Nathan Weisel, Gene, Andrea, Marilyn Dickinson, Ed Denning, Doug Geissinger, Jackson, Gary, Richard Green, John Titmas, Holly Hillen, Bob Reiner, Frances Beacon, Vicki Simpkins, Brinley Wyczalek, Alayna Linqvist, Ronnie Long and Debbie Schmiedlen, we pray to you, O Lord: *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, hear our prayer.*

For the dying, and the dead, be life and grace, *God ever faithful, God ever merciful, God of your people, 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: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

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

Priest and People

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.

The Priest 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.*

The Peace

All stand.

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 ANTHEM: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* (Richard Shephard)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: ♪♪♪

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." ♪

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many 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.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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,

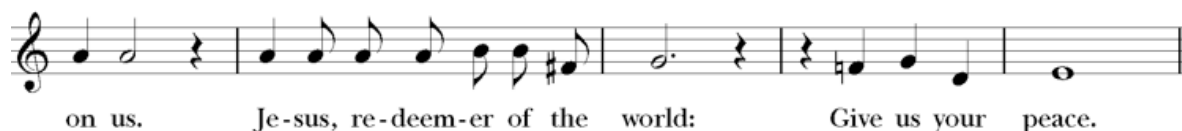
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread



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.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

****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 Priest of St. Paul's.*

POST COMMUNION HYMN: We will lay our burden down (MHSO 78)



1	We	will	lay _____	our bur - den	down,	we	will
2	We	will	light _____	the flame of	love,	we	will
3	We	will	show _____	both hurt and	hope,	we	will
4	We	will	walk _____	the path of	peace,	we	will



lay _____ our bur - den down, we will lay _____ our bur - den
 light _____ the flame of love, we will light _____ the flame of
 show _____ both hurt and hope, we will show _____ both hurt and
 walk _____ the path of peace, we will walk _____ the path of



down in the hands of the ris - en Lord. _____
 love as the hands of the ris - en Lord. _____
 hope like the hands of the ris - en Lord. _____
 peace hand in hand with the ris - en Lord. _____

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Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

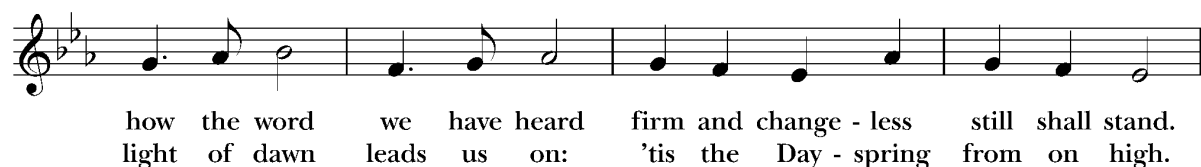
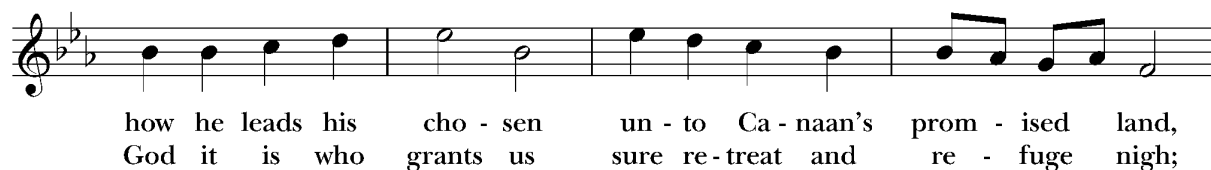
Post-communion blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Praise our great and gracious Lord (Maoz Zur) (H 393)*



1 Praise our great and gra - cious Lord, call up - on his ho - ly Name;
 2 God has given the cloud by day, given the mov - ing fire by night;



Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Herzliebster Jesu* (Johannes Brahms)

TODAY'S SERVERS:

Celebrants: The Revs. Kay and Joe Ashby

Parish musician: Edward Grimes

Greeters: David Lewis

Crucifer: Karl Roshong

Eucharistic Minister: Demetrius Carrothers

Video: David Lewis

Altar Guild: Demi Carrothers and Karen Swope

Lector: Carol Sutek

Counters: David Swope and Carol Sutek

Announcements

Happy March Birthdays!

Stephen Sutek 03/01	Sean Ryan 03/12
Robert Reiner 03/02	Wendy Gray 03/13
Linda Heitger 03/05	Gregory Johanning 03/14
Paul Schmucker Jr. 03/05	Corey Demastus 03/21
Beverly Vail 03/05	Johnathan Suba 03/22
Brenda Maurer-Denning 03/06	Mike Paynter 03/26
Jason Marcum 03/09	Pierce Cox 03/27
Haley Wade 03/11	Elizabeth Mapp 03/31

Come and walk-about St. Paul's

Saturday March 7, 2026, 3 p.m.

Junior Warden Linda Heitger is inviting everyone with knowledge and love of our building over the years to join her for a walk-about next Saturday, March 7, at 3 p.m. This includes junior wardens, members of Building and Grounds committees and many more.



The walk-about is crucial as we discern and prepare for our future and sketch a comprehensive picture of what TLC our physical structure needs and all that our building can be. This is especially important as St. Paul's prepares to host a regional gathering of the Diocese of Ohio on Friday, May 29.

The Diocese is coming to St. Paul's for its first-ever regional gathering – and everyone is invited

The first regional gathering of the Diocese of Ohio will be the Akron-Canton region and St. Paul's will be one of three hosts (St. Paul's Akron and Christ Church Hudson are the other two). Our day will be Friday, May 29, and will include a wardens' lunch, prayer and compline, dinner and a focus on building spiritual practices to deepen beloved communities.

Here's more from the Diocese on the gathering and its purpose:

At Convention, Bishop (Anne) Jolly shared that our Rhythms of Gathering discernment, together with our shared desire for greater connectivity, deeper formation, and stronger support for ministry across the Diocese of Ohio, has led us to launch Regional Gatherings, beginning in 2026.

Our first Regional Gathering is scheduled for the Akron/Canton region, May 28–30, 2026. All are welcome to attend. Participants are welcome to join the entire gathering, or attend only one or two sessions. We will host another Regional Gathering, in a new location, in 2027.

The 2026 Regional Gathering is a three-day experience designed to strengthen the life of our faith communities. Through worship, shared meals, and practical workshops, people of all ages are invited to gather for formation and renewal. With a regional confirmation at its heart, this gathering will bring together learning, community, and joy to deepen our shared life across the Diocese of Ohio.

This gathering will include:

Teaching and practical tools from the College for Congregational Development (CCD) to equip congregations to become more faithful, healthy, effective, and sustainable.

Opportunities for worship, prayer, and connection:

- Training, tools, and support for those serving in a variety of ministry roles.
- A celebration of Holy Eucharist with a regional confirmation.
- Time to meet with members of the Bishop's staff, both individually and in groups.

Registration for the Regional Gathering will open the first week of March. Workshops for the event are available to view [on the diocesan website](#). Suggested hotel accommodations will be forthcoming for those choosing to travel for the event. Childcare options will be available on Thursday evening and all day Saturday. Additional childcare is provided on an as-needed basis, and can be requested at the time of registration.

We're excited for these Regional Gatherings to strengthen our diocesan connections and support the ministry happening across every region. Come ready to engage, connect, and enjoy the collaborative and uplifting experience that awaits us all. We can't wait to see you there!

Share bread and a courageous conversation

Congratulations to Courageous Conversations on Race Relations, which was just awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Episcopal Community Services Development Council.



CCORR is the brain-child of St. Paul's, Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church and StarkFresh, which first came together some eight years ago. Its mission today is what it was then: "A diverse group of individuals creating a beloved community through courageous, open dialogue, confronting systemic racism and the ways it causes division, by educating and empowering participants into anti-racist actions."

Among the ways that happens are monthly dinners where we get the chance to really understand how everything from big-picture redlining to unthinking microaggressions have hurt our neighbors and our entire community. As importantly, we're learning from each other how to heal the wounds and ensure we don't repeat the mistakes of the past. Together we're growing as individuals and as the greater Canton community

In addition, CCORR has given birth to the Social Justice Book Club, which also meets monthly. And we've stepped outside our walls, joining last year's Juneteenth celebration and organizing a bus tour of Canton that helped people see, hear and feel how the highways and unfilled promises of industrial developments sliced through our town.

The program has grown to include people of other faiths and individuals throughout the community who share one thing: a willingness to ensure our future is stronger than our past.

If you haven't had a chance to experience Courageous Conversations, please join us the third Tuesday of the month, with dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Book Club meets the fourth Tuesday, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Diocese of Ohio Launches School for Diaconal and Lay Ministries in Partnership with the Iona Collaborative

Across the Diocese of Ohio, we are witnessing the Holy Spirit raising up new leaders and vocations for ministry in energizing and hopeful ways. In response, we are launching the Diocese of Ohio School for Diaconal and Lay Ministries, a new

formation initiative designed to equip lay leaders and vocational deacons with strong theological grounding and practical training. Our Lay Preacher College has served this diocese faithfully for many years, and its legacy will carry forward through a new Lay Preaching Formation pathway. Currently licensed lay preachers are encouraged to review the [FAQs](#) on our diocesan webpage for more information about what this transition means for them and their ministry. Read the entire announcement [here](#).

Clergy or senior wardens who sense that a layperson is being called to a preaching ministry should meet with that person to discuss discernment, review the outlined requirements of the formation program, consult with their vestry, and **complete the [application](#) by April 13**. If accepted into the program, the applicant will need to register to attend the kick-off event on May 8-9 at Bellwether Farm. For more information, please visit the diocesan website or contact [Russ Tripi](#), Canon for Leadership Development.

The Great Vigil of Easter at Trinity Cathedral

We invite faith communities throughout the diocese to share in the celebration of the Great Vigil of Easter at 8 p.m., **April 4**, at Trinity Cathedral. Please promote this within your congregations if you would like to be a part of the service. We welcome shared leadership! If clergy or ministry leaders would like to participate in the leadership of the service, please [reach out to Dean Owens](#) by March 11.

Special offerings at St. Paul's during this time of preparation

Lent is a time of preparation and expectation and St. Paul's is offering special services and educational opportunities to gather strength and understanding and to deepen our understanding and relationship with God.

- Sundays following services through March 29: Father Joe and Mother Kay are offering special classes that take us beyond what we think we know about Christ's love and sacrifice.
- Wednesdays at noon throughout Lent: Special Holy Eucharist services followed by a light lunch of homemade soups and breads.
- Fridays at 5:30 p.m. throughout Lent: Stations of Cross to understand the path Christ traveled through Holy Week.



Each of these is in addition to our weekly Holy Eucharist services, Sundays beginning at 10:30 p.m.

Please help make our Sanctuary burst into bloom this joyful Eastertide! To place your order for Easter Flowers, please complete this form and return it to Tammy in the Parish Office. Make checks payable to St. Paul's. Thank you!

Name: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

To the Glory of God for: _____

Quantity	Type	Price	Donate *	Purchase **
_____	Easter Lily (7.5")	\$17.25 ea.	_____	_____
_____	Easter Lily (8.5")	\$24.75 ea.	_____	_____
_____	Tulips (6.5" - assorted colors)	\$10.00 ea.	_____	_____
_____	Paschal candle flower ring (one needed)	\$50.00	_____	xxxxxxx
_____	Majesty palm plant (4 needed)	\$24.00 ea.	_____	_____

*Flowers donated will be distributed to homebound parishioners when the chancel area is cleared, and are tax-deductible.
 **Flowers purchased will be labeled with the buyer's name and may be picked in the Narthex when notified (non-deductible).

Deadline to order flowers: Monday, March 23

