
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The mission of St. Paul's is to be a community of open arms, listening hearts, serving hands,
and diverse voices... because we believe that Love is a commitment not a sentiment.*



The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany
February 12, 2023

WELCOME

Whatever your background and however you have come to be here, we are glad you are here. It is our prayer that you will encounter God's peace this morning.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

In the Episcopal Church, we often say that praying shapes believing, so how we worship in word and action shapes how we believe and respond to God. We are physical creatures made in God's image, and the physical nature of our worship helps us to connect more fully to God. This liturgy (*the work of the people in worship*) is enriched by the participation of everyone in the room. Regardless of what others are doing, how you physically worship is up to you and how you experience God. We invite you to read the **"About Our Worship"** card in the pew rack to learn more about our worship.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We are delighted to have children in our midst no matter how squiggly they may be. Worship bulletins for children are located on the table in the rear lobby. "New Friend" Activity bags and a small library of books can be found right outside of the left door next to the piano. We also have a play area/nursery upstairs with audio of the service for kids who need to expend a bit more energy.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located at the end of the hallway to the left of the church. Exit through the front or rear doors and walk 50 feet and turn left at the stairs.

THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Epiphany ("manifestation" or "revelation") is the third season of the church year and lasts until Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Epiphany marks the manifestation of Jesus beyond the people of Israel (represented by the magi), reminding us that while Jesus was a Jew and spoke largely to Jewish crowds during his life on Earth, he came to bring peace and restoration to all people. If Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, then Epiphany is about the spread of this incredible news to the wider world. During this season we focus our lives on a world transformed by God's incarnational presence in Jesus. The liturgical color is green, representing the green things of God's earth and referring to growth of the spirit of God within us in response to God's coming at Christmas.

+ = You are invited to stand.
BCP = *Book of Common Prayer*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Welcome

+ Opening Greeting & Collect for Purity BCP 323

Hymn of Praise: The Gloria BCP 324

WE HEAR GOD'S STORY

The Prayer of the Day p. 4

The Psalm *Psalm 119:1-8* p. 5

The Epistle Lesson *1 Corinthians 3:1-9* p. 5

+ The Holy Gospel *Matthew 5:21-37* p. 6

Faith Journey Sermon Captain Michael Montes, USN

WE RESPOND TO GOD

The Nicene Creed BCP 326

Prayers of the People p. 8

Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP 330

The Peace

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

Offertory

+ Doxology All things come of thee O Lord:
and of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer II BCP 340

Post-Communion Prayer BCP 339

Announcements & Milestone Blessings

WE GO IN THE STRENGTH OF GOD

+ The Blessing

The Dismissal

+ = You are invited to stand.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Offertoire

Leon Boellmann

We begin our worship by observing a musical prelude during which we quiet our thoughts and voices and breathe in the peace of God.

RECTOR'S WELCOME

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I sing the almighty power of God

Hymnal 398

vv. 1-4

OPENING ACCLAMATION & PRAYER FOR PURITY

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider Let us pray.

People **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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

Hymnal S-280

The hymn of praise is found at the front of the blue hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Living One, in whose freedom creation was born as gift: free us from the need to possess, define and silence others that we might rejoice in the strangeness of your beauty revealed in flesh and blood; through Jesus Christ, our reconciliation **Amen.**

THE PSALM*Psalm 119:1-8*

In this reading, the psalmist describes who are faithful to God's commandments and asks God to give wisdom and discernment for keeping them.

¹ Happy are they whose way is blameless, *
who walk in your law, O God!

² **Happy are they who observe your decrees *
and seek you with all their hearts!**

³ Who never do any wrong, *
but always walk in your ways.

⁴ **You laid down your commandments, *
that we should fully keep them.**

⁵ Oh, that my ways were made so direct *
that I might keep your statutes!

⁶ **Then I should not be put to shame, *
when I regard all your commandments.**

⁷ I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, *
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸ **I will keep your statutes; *
do not utterly forsake me.**

THE EPISTLE LESSON*1 Corinthians 3:1-9*

In addition to adopting party designations (1:12), the Corinthians seem to have enjoyed categorizing one another's spiritual maturity. Paul informs the Corinthians that they are far from being as spiritually mature (2:6) as they think. Although they have received the Spirit in baptism and are thus implicitly "spiritual," their strife shows that they are not living out their true status. Today's lesson calls us to remember that there is no "better" Christian or denomination, for we are all working to build God's beloved community as one body.

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?

being condemned by the governing council. And if they say, ‘You fool,’ they will be in danger of fiery hell. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift at the altar and go. First make things right with your brother or sister and then come back and offer your gift. Be sure to make friends quickly with your opponents while you are with them on the way to court. Otherwise, they will haul you before the judge, the judge will turn you over to the officer of the court, and you will be thrown into prison. I say to you in all seriousness that you won’t get out of there until you’ve paid the very last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, *Don’t commit adultery*. But I say to you that every man who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery in his heart. And if your right eye causes you to fall into sin, tear it out and throw it away. It’s better that you lose a part of your body than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to fall into sin, chop it off and throw it away. It’s better that you lose a part of your body than that your whole body go into hell.

“It was said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife must *give her a divorce certificate*.’ But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife except for sexual unfaithfulness forces her to commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again you have heard that it was said to those who lived long ago: *Don’t make a false solemn pledge, but you should follow through on what you have pledged to the Lord*. But I say to you that you must not pledge at all. You must not pledge by heaven, because it’s God’s throne. You must not pledge by the earth, because it’s God’s footstool. You must not pledge by Jerusalem, because it’s the city of the great king. And you must not pledge by your head, because you can’t turn one hair white or black. Let your *yes* mean yes, and your *no* mean no. Anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the sermon, we observe a period of silence to rest in God's peace and to reflect on what we have heard, read, and sung thus far in worship.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each petition, you are invited to add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Intercessor

We pray for the health and vitality of the church: You command us to honor you by loving one another, yet all too often there is quarreling and jealousy among us. Help us to live your law of love as we seek to grow into the full stature of Christ. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Diocesan Commission on Ministry and in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Absalom Jones, abolitionist and founder of the first black Episcopal church.

Loving God, help us to turn our hearts toward you.

We pray for the welfare of the world: You have blessed us with every skill and gift for nurturing the common good, but our self-centered ways incline our hearts toward evil. Strengthen us to work together for the mutual benefit of neighbors near and far and for the life and prosperity of your reign on earth.

Loving God, help us to turn our hearts toward you.

We pray for the well-being of your creation: Our choices wreak havoc on the world you have made and put your planet in peril. Guide our patterns of consumption for the flourishing of all creation and for generations yet unborn.

Loving God, help us to turn our hearts toward you.

We pray for all who suffer and are in need, including those on our prayer list:

Sandie, Debbie, Gene, Mary Anne, Sallie, Colleen, Dorothy, Wendy, Barbara, Ray, Karen, Sandi, Lyn, Woody, David, Bridget, Larry, John, Tina, Ed, Linda, John, and Shelly.

(Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings.)

You call us to care for one other with compassion and steadfast love, yet we wither in the face of anguish and brokenness. Equip us for the work of reconciliation, that we might offer hope and healing in the power of your name.

Loving God, help us to turn our hearts toward you.

We pray for all who are sick and are dying: May your will for them be fulfilled. Fill us with your mercy and kindness that we may care for them with loving hearts as you bring them to the wholeness of your peace.

Loving God, help us to turn our hearts toward you.

The presider will add a concluding prayer.

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

Please kneel and allow a moment of silence for reflection.

All **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.**

Presider 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

Presider Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. The peace of Christ be always with you

People **And also with you.**

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

At the offertory we offer back to God the first fruits of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money given. You may place your offering in the offering tray or scan the QR code to give securely online. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting



OFFERTORY

My Life Flows On

+THE DOXOLOGY

Mary Luti

**Praise God, the source of breath and birth,
who formed us from the dust of earth,
and made us kin in unity
to love and set each other free.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Eucharist (from the Greek word eucharisteeo, meaning “thanksgiving”) begins as we lift our hearts with thanksgiving and continues as we remember the story of creation, redemption, and renewal. In the act of remembering and in the Spirit’s blessing upon the bread and wine and the gathered assembly, Christ is made present to us now, giving us strength for the journey.

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the God of Light.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you, God of many names, whose Spirit runs free through all the earth, whose image lies deep in every mortal soul. In your grace your Word is made known to every people, calling forth the best we have to offer; your Beloved is immersed in the waters of creation healing the chaos that floods our world; your Son is the guest who offers new wine changing hearts grown withered and cold.

Therefore, we celebrate the rays of morning light that bathe the world in glory and kindle a new song:

THE SANCTUS

Sanctus is the Latin word for "holy." When we sing the Sanctus we are rejoicing in the holiness of God.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

The Presider continues,

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, we come to him in whom all is created in heaven and on earth, whose cross and resurrection make all things new. We offer this to you, asking you to smile upon the gift we bring, for you alone are the Giver and Christ the gift through which we live once and for all. Through him who is emptied to bear your fullness we make our prayer with all created life to the glory of the God who fills all in all now and for ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Savior taught us, so we pray:

People **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

After the invitation and upon the presentation of the consecrated elements,

Presider Behold who you are.

People **May we become what we receive.**

You may be seated.

THE COMMUNION

Jesus ate with everyone to show the breadth and depth of God's love; thus, our table is open to all who hunger. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will give you a blessing. If you would like more information on baptism, the official rite of initiation into the household of God, please see the priest. We would be honored to receive you.

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the priest know if you need a gluten-free wafer.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Lord make us servant of your peace

Hymnal 593

I have decided to follow Jesus

Piney Song Book 52

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider

Let us pray.

All

God of glory, you nourish us with bread from heaven. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

MILESTONE BLESSINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

+THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hymnal 460

WE GO IN THE STRENGTH OF GOD

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Go forth in the light of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Parishioners, Family, and Friends: Sandie Branan, Debbie Chaney, Gene Fornadley, Mary Anne Gebler, Sallie Lyons, Colleen Meadows, Dorothy Moore, Wendy Van Hoozier, Barbara D., Ray D., Karen R., Sandi M., Lyn W., Woody W., David A., Bridget A., Larry S., John D., Tina D., Ed, Linda, John M., Shelly D.

Homebound: Diane Coon, Jack & Joyce Ferguson, Maudie Holt, Barbara Huiras, Ed Jaffe, Rodgers Johnson, Dick Leman, Vera Otto, Betty Wilson

Armed Forces: Cameron Chase, Zach Kettner, Malachi Lakey, Megan Laurine, Michael Montes, Nate Ochsner, Garrett Roberson, Jr.

First Responders: Jimmy Cox, Butch and Janice Keirse, James Laurine, Kenny Levy, Pat Lyon, Alvaro Paz Hicho, Connor Runser, Luke Smith

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocesan Commission on Ministry; Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Absalom Jones (February 13)

Community and World: Those suffering with Covid/flu/RSV; the people of Ukraine and Puerto Rico; those impacted from the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria

In order to keep the list current and to facilitate the intentionality with which we pray, names remain on the prayer list for one month (but can be renewed at any time). To submit a prayer request: email Joyce Scofield: rjscofield@comcast.net or Mother Maria: mkane@stpaulswaldorf.org

DAILY PRAYERS

Questions for Reflection

Today's readings speak of blessings and curses, life and death, good relationships and those that are broken. Moreover, the texts suggest that we have a choice in these matters. Where do you find life, and where do you not—and what role do your choices play? Where have you experienced broken relationships in your own life or in the church? How do Christ and the reign of heaven enable us to move beyond brokenness and live in mutual support?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy God, I greet this day with thanks and the determination to choose the good. Help me to walk with you in blessing. Let my "yes" be yes, and my "no" be no, as I share the light of Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Jesus, it is night, and night is for sleeping; yet, my mind is racing fast. I give thanks for the blessings this day, and then I worry—there is so much left undone. But you are with me! You calm my anxiety, fill me with peace, and help me choose the way of rest. Amen.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's flowers are given by Greg and Donna Ferguson in memory of their granddaughter, Kinsley Reese Sandvik.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARDI GRAS PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 21, 5-7 p.m. Tickets: Adults - \$8; Kids 4-11 years - \$5; 3 & under - free; Family Cap - \$20. Volunteers are needed to help with prep, serving, and clean-up. You may sign up on the white board in the parish hall. The whole community is welcome, so spread the word and bring your friends. Register and pre-pay on Realm. *Pancakes are associated with the day preceding Ash Wednesday as a way of using up eggs, milk, and sugar (which were considered to be foods of indulgence in the Middle Ages) before the start of Lent.



SUNDAY WINTER FORUM: HOLY LIVING, HOLY DYING

During the month of February, Sundays, 9:15 a.m., Mother Maria will lead a 4-week forum on end-of-life decisions, funeral planning, having tough conversations, and facing life's end with dignity, grace, and agency.

FEBRUARY WEEKEND BACKPACKS

For the month of February, we are collecting small jars of peanut butter (small jars available at Dollar Tree) and jelly (plastic bottles if available). If you are interested in serving on the rotation of volunteers who help pack the backpacks each week, please email Joyce Scofield at rjscofield@comcast.net.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is February 22. There will be two services: 12:00 p.m. at St. Paul's and 7:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd. Please join us as we begin a season of reflection and renewal.

FISH FRY

There will be a Fish Fry meeting on Sunday, February 19 at 11:30. The Fish Fry will take place on Friday, March 31, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sign up boards for volunteers will be in the parish hall. Contact Frank Pilato at frankpilato1@gmail.com with questions.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 12, Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 a.m. Soul School for Kids
9:15 a.m. Holy Living, Holy Dying: Agency at the End of Life
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Wednesday, February 15

- 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting
8:00 p.m. AA

Saturday, February 18

- 8:00 p.m. AA

Sunday, February 19, Last Sunday After the Epiphany

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 a.m. Holy Living, Holy Dying: Funeral Planning
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:30 a.m. Fish Fry Meeting

MINISTERS IN WORSHIP

	February 12, 2023, 8:00	February 12, 2023 10:15
VPOD	Greg Ferguson	
Acolytes	N/A	Benjamin Berkowitz, Jackson Berkowitz, Jovero Forrest
Lector	Fred Ritter	Sewell Truitte
Chalice	Vicky Mumford	N/A
Chalice & Psalm	N/A	Paula Truitte
Prayers of the People	Fern Brown	Greg Ferguson
Ushers	Jim & Jan Waters	Anita Wilson, Michelle Wilson
Live Stream	N/A	Laurie Jaffe
Coffee Hour	Joyce Scofield	Janet Sargent, Jennifer Kettner, the Gaumonds
Altar Guild	Vicky Mumford, Jeannie Paz Hicho	
Backpacks	2/16 - Donna Dillon, Sallie Lyons	
Counters	Joe Guy, Phil Hamilton, Paula Truitte	
Recycling	2/15 - Joe Guy	
	February 19, 2023, 8:00	February 19, 2023 10:15
VPOD	Siad Norman	
Acolytes	N/A	Emily Lopez, Kayden Lyon, Samira Norman
Lector	Jeannie Paz Hicho	Jenna Monroe
Chalice	Johnny Van Hoozier	N/A
Chalice & Psalm	N/A	Charlie Gaumond
Prayers of the People	Jeannie Paz Hicho	Greg Ferguson
Ushers	Phil & Judy Hamilton	Lynn & Sallie Lyons
Live Stream	N/A	Tom Gryn
Coffee Hour	Fern Brown	OPEN
Altar Guild	Cathy Lavender, Laraine Tuttle	
Backpacks	2/23 - Kathy Fornadley, Darlene Guy	
Counters	Greg Ferguson, Kathy Fornadley, Buddy Weaver	

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, *Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church*

The Rt. Rev. Mariann E. Budde, *Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Washington*

The Rev. Maria A. Kane, Ph.D., Rector

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