



ST. PAUL'S

Est 1855

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship, Love, Live the Message

**WORSHIP BULLETIN:
MARCH 1, 2026**

Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:00 AM

Prayer B

Second Sunday in Lent

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung.

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

Verse 1:

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse 2:

One day ev'ry tongue will confess you are God.
One day ev'ry knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose you now.

(Repeat Verse 1)

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

PENITENTIAL ORDER:

The people kneel as able.

The Celebrant reads an opening sentence.

Celebrant: The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; A broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
And acknowledge our transgression in penitence and faith.

Leader: We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:

Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith: Fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust: Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: God forgives you. Be at peace.

People: Amen.

KYRIE:

The following is sung, all standing.

(S 96) Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 357

Celebrant: God 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.**

FIRST READING:**Genesis 12:1-4a***The people sit.*

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. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I 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." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.**PSALM:****Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *

from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, *

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved *

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

The Lord himself watches over you; *

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *

nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *

it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *

from this time forth for evermore.**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17***The people sit.*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For 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. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For 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, as 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.**GOSPEL HYMN:***The following is sung***(A3 63) Holy Spirit Come**

Holy Spirit come
 Let this be Your home
 Come and dwell among all of us who sing
 this song
 Come into this place
 Shine on ev'ry face
 Fill us with Your love and grace
 Holy Spirit come

GOSPEL:**John 3:1-17***All stand.*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He 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." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus 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?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The 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." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"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. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "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. "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**POST GOSPEL HYMN:**

*Please refer to **Gospel Hymn (pg. 2)** for lyrics*

(A3 63) Holy Spirit Come

THE SERMON:**The Rev. Annie Mertz****THE CREED:****BCP p. 358***All stand*

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

All remain standing

THE PEACE:

BCP p. 360

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **2026 Lenten Series: "2 for 1"**- Thursdays 7 - 8 pm - Through March 26. In-person in the Sanctuary & on Zoom.

- **SSP St. Patrick's Day Dinner**- Saturday, March 14th from 5:30 – 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & TRANSITIONS:

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin anew. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION:

OFFERTORY SENTENCE:

BCP p. 376

All remain standing

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 146) Softly and Tenderly

Verse 1:

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home.
Ye who are weary, come home!
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!

Verse 2:

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
Mercies for you and for me?

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
Passing for you and for me.
Shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,
Coming, coming for you and for me.

(Refrain)

Verse 4 :

Oh! For the wonderful love he has promised,
Promised for you and for me;
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me.

(Refrain)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B: BCP p. 367

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 God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE: BCP. p. 367

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.

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

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:

Celebrant and people

Americana Hosanna

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

Chorus:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your praises.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

BCP p. 368

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation...

...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

BCP p. 369

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine...

...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: BCP p. 363

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

People and Celebrant

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

FRACTION ANTHEM:

Celebrant and People

We Break This Bread

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are now of one body,
for here we all share in the one bread.

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(LEVAS 37) Were You There

Verse 1:

Were you there when they crucified my Lord
Were you there when they crucified my Lord
O sometimes it causes me to tremble
tremble tremble
Were you there when they crucified my Lord

Verse 2:

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree
O sometimes it causes me to tremble
tremble tremble
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree

Verse 3:

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb
O sometimes it causes me to tremble
tremble tremble
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb

Verse 4:

Were you there when He rose up from the grave
Were you there when He rose up from the grave
O sometimes it causes me to tremble
tremble tremble
Were you there when He rose up from the grave



COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(WLP 810) On Eagle's Wings

Verse 1:

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life, say to the
Lord: My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!

(Refrain)

Refrain:

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun
and hold you in the palm of his hand.
(last time only) And hold you, hold you in the
palm of his hand.

Verse 2:

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear: under his
wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

You need not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day; though
thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come.

(Refrain)

Verse 4:

For to his angels he's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

(Refrain)



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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.

SUNG BENEDICTION:

The following is sung.

Life is Short

Words by: Henri Frederic Amiel

Music by: Cameron DePalma

Life is short,
And we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who
make the journey with us.
So... be swift to love,
and make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God,
who made us,
who loves us,
and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.

A—MEN

BLESSING:

The Priest blesses the people, saying

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:

The following is sung.

(WLP 787) We Are Marching in the Light of God

Refrain:

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of, the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are
marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of, the light of
God.

We are marching, marching we are
marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of God.

DISMISSAL:

The Celebrant will dismiss the people

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



* 2026 Lenten Series: "2 for 1"
Thursdays 7 - 8 pm - February 26 - March 26. In-person in Church Sanctuary and on Zoom.
* SSP St. Patrick's Day Dinner - Sat. March 14, 5:30 - 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall.
* Free Concert: Mandolin World Retreat Ensemble - Sun. March 15, 4 pm - St. Paul's Church.

The deadline for submitting announcements is Wednesday at noon.
E-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org Phone: (707) 745-0307

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Please e-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org for updates or additions

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING

Mark Park
Mike Keefe
Jim Jewell
Sue Hammond
Blanche Hilman
Caroline H.
Donna Marshall
R.C. Whitehead
Jim Turner
Jude Augustus Emery
MaryFrances Kelly-Poh
Ron McGinnis
Nancy Gigliotti
Jack Carr
Vicky Carr
John
Bonnie Kofsky

PRAYERS FOR OUR SISTER IN HOSPICE

Jennifer Deal

WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

Major Russ Morris, U.S. Air Force Reserves
SFC Mike Moverley, 1st Battalion 143rd Field Artillery, U.S. Army
Warrant Officer Brandon Niemann, U.S. Army Airman
Andrew Severa, U.S. Air Force
SA Michelle Severa, PA, Air National Guard
Staff SGT Jake Sackett, U.S. Air Force
Major Xacasia Evans-Walp, U.S. Army
Airman 1st Class Nevaeh Jarvis, U.S. Air Force

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3/2 Ryan "Russ" Morris
3/6 Jupiter Pelkey

PRAYERS FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
	8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Music	John Partridge	John Partridge
Lector	Christopher Payne-Taylor	Carole Johnson
Intercessor	Jim Brown	Barbara Jewell
LEM	Robyn Wall & Jim Brown	Cathy Cellini & Barbara Jewell
Healing Prayers	Rev. Beth Gaines	Kim Rodekohr
Ushers	Fred & Mittie Railsback	Helen Kennedy-Lazar & Marjorie Lowry
Altar Guild	Donna Patey & Eileen Fisk	
Flower Guild	Linda Tremain	
Verger	Bob Hall	

PARISH LEADERSHIP

CLERGY:

The Rev. Annie Mertz, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder, Associate Priest

STAFF:

John Partridge, Traditional Music Director
Cameron DePalma, Contemporary Music Director
Eric Foster, Communications Director
Lisa Lannoy, Parish Administrator
Tim Markley, Archivist

VESTRY:

Ann Lindsay, Senior Warden
TBD, Junior Warden
Donna Marshall, Gerri MacGregor, Jim Peterson,
Brandon Bailey, Kathryn Gojack, Richard Padfield,
Megan Klingensmith, Michelle Fitzgerald

MISSION:

St. Paul's welcomes all people at any stage of their spiritual journey to worship together, care for the community, and live the message of Jesus Christ.

VISION:

We strive to be an active, diverse and welcoming community where people come together to worship and deepen their faith.

VALUES

COMMUNITY:

We support our neighbors through service & compassion. We are a safe space & a supportive community where members are cared for by one another.

INCLUSION:

We are an inclusive community where people of all identities, backgrounds & histories are welcome to find & continue their spiritual journey.

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST:

We believe in striving to live the message of Jesus Christ every day. At St. Paul's, we walk the way of love together.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

At any point in a person's spiritual journey, there are opportunities to learn, grow & strengthen one's faith at St. Paul's.

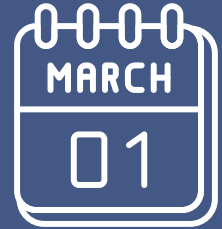
NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

When you enter a St. Paul's Episcopal Church service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, live streaming, and video recording may occur.

CALENDAR

The Second Sunday in Lent

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)
8:45 am +Communion
10 am Coffee Hour (P)
10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)
10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)
11 am +Communion
12 pm Coffee Hour (P)
4 pm Meditation (P)
8 pm AA (P)



MONDAY: 3/2

7 am AA Meeting (P)
9 am +Morning Prayer
4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
7 pm +GVRD Jazz Band
8 pm AA Meeting (P)

TUESDAY: 3/3

7 am AA Meeting (P)
9 am +Morning Prayer
1 - 2:30 pm +Organ Practice
5 pm Worship Committee Meeting (U)
6 pm BAFC Meeting (P)

WEDNESDAY: 3/4

7 am AA Meeting (P)
9 am +Morning Prayer
10 am +Communion
11 am Bible Study (P)
4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
7 pm +GVRD Symph Band

THURSDAY: 3/5

7 am AA Meeting (P)
7:30 am Coffee w/ Rev. Annie
9 am +Morning Prayer
2:30 - 4:30 pm +Bagpipe Practice
7 - 8 pm +2026 Lenten Series or on Zoom

FRIDAY: 3/6

7 am AA Meeting (P)
9 am +Morning Prayer
10:30 am Al-Anon Meeting (U)
7- 9 pm NA Meeting (P)

SATURDAY: 3/7

7 am AA Meeting (U)
7 am Men's Meeting (R)
8 am - 9 pm - Professional Kitchen Cleaning (K) (P)

The Third Sunday in Lent

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)
8:45 am +Communion
10 am Coffee Hour (P)
10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)
10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)
11 am +Communion
12 pm Coffee Hour (P)
4 pm Meditation (P)
8 pm AA (P)



KEY

+ = CHURCH
P = PARISH HALL
U = UNDERCROFT
R = RECTORY
K = KITCHEN