



ST. PAUL'S

Est 1855

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship, Love, Live the Message

WORSHIP BULLETIN:
MARCH 1, 2026
Holy Eucharist Rite II

8:45 AM
Prayer B

Second Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE:

Instrumental

Melodie

Composed by: Jules Massenet

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung.

(H 393) Praise Our Great and Gracious Lord

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

**People: God's mercy endures forever.
Amen.**

DECALOGUE: BCP p. 350

The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

The celebrant concludes with a sentence of scripture.

CONFESSION OF SIN: BCP p. 359

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 stands and says

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

TRISAGION:

The following is sung, all standing.

(S 96) Lord, Have Mercy

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 357

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.**

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

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.

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL HYMN:

The following is sung

(H 635) If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee



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 MUSIC:***Instrumental***Improvisation**

Composed by: John Partridge

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 ANTHEM:***The following is sung by the choir***I Gave My Life for Thee**

Lyrics by: Frances R. Havergal

Music by: John Partridge

I Gave My Life for Thee Words - ©2013 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, TheContributors: Frances Ridley Havergal, Larry Shackley Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under OneLicense #73350 All rights reserved.

OFFERTORY HYMN:*The following is sung***(H 691) My Faith Looks Up to Thee****EUCHARISTIC 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*

(S 129) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might

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

(S 161) Lamb of God

COMMUNION SOLO:

Instrumental

Improvisation on: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(H 313) Let thy Blood in Mercy Poured

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.

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.

(H 401) The God of Abraham Praise

DISMISSAL:

The Celebrant will dismiss the people

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

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

Instrumental

Largo

Composed by: G. F. Handel



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

SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST:



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(707) 745-0307

120 E J St. Benicia, CA

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.

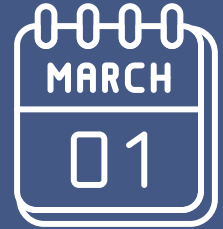
NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

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