



ST. PAUL'S

Est 1855

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship, Love, Live the Message

**WORSHIP BULLETIN:
APRIL 26, 2026**

Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:00 AM

EOW 1

Fourth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung.

(LEVAS 72) Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with thee;
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea.
Daily walking close to thee;
Let it be dear Lord, let it be.

Verse 1:

I am weak but thou art strong.
Jesus keep me from all wrong.
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, dear Lord, close to thee.

Verse 2:

Through this world of toils and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Verse 3:

When my feeble live is o'er,
Time for me will be no more.
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To thy kingdom's shore, to thy shore.

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY: BCP p. 355

The Celebrant may say

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.

GLORIA:

The following is sung, all standing.

Gloria to God

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right
hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 357

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:**Acts 2:42-47***The people sit.*

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:**Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

**you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING:**1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

*"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."*

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN:

The choir will sing the verses; please join in on the chorus.

(Gather 258) Celtic Alleluia

Refrain:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL:**John 10:1-10**

All stand.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name

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 93) In Christ Alone

Verse 1:

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all here in the love of
Christ I stand.

Verse 2:

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3:

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am his and he is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4:

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
'til he returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: EOW PRAYER 1

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love. . .

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

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Continued...

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. . .
. . .Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. . .
. . .Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: 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

Christ Our Passover

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

Alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

All are welcome to come forward for communion. If you're new to the sacrament, please reference the card in the pews with more information. The bread is given with the words, 'The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.' The wine is given with the words, 'The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.'



COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 67) How Great Thou Art

Verse 1:

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my savior God, to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!

Verse 2:

When through the woods and forest glades I
wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain
grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle
breeze. **(Refrain)**

Verse 3:

And when I think that God, his son not
sparing,
Send him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.
(Refrain)

Verse 4:

When Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my
heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou
art! **(Refrain)**



COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 150) Spirit Song

Verse 1:

Oh, let the son of God enfold you
With his spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
Oh, let him have the things that hold you
And his spirit like a dove,
Will descend upon your life and make you
whole.

Refrain:

Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Verse 2:

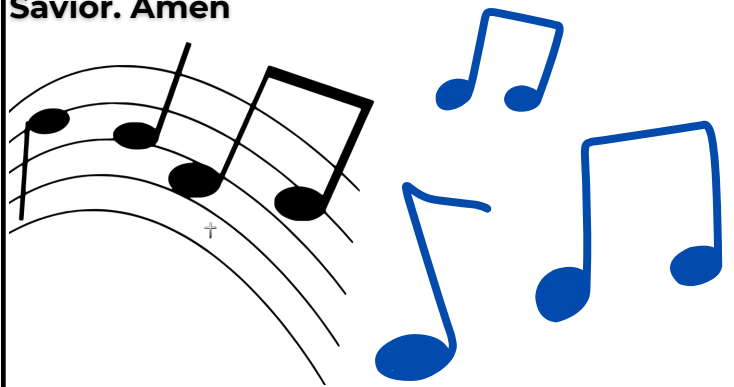
Oh, come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his
name.
Oh, give him all your tears and sadness.
Give him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: EOW p. 70

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Loving God, we give you thanks for
restoring us in your image and nourishing
us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of
Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that
we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our
Savior. 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 Celebrant blesses the people.

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

The following is sung.

Keep on the Sunny Side

Chorus:

Keep on the sunny side
Always on the sunny side
Keep on the sunny side of life
It will help us ev'ry day
It will brighten all the way
If we keep on the sunny side of life

Verse:

There's a dark and a troubled side of life
There's a bright and a sunny side too
Though you meet with the darkness and
strife
The sunny side may also find you

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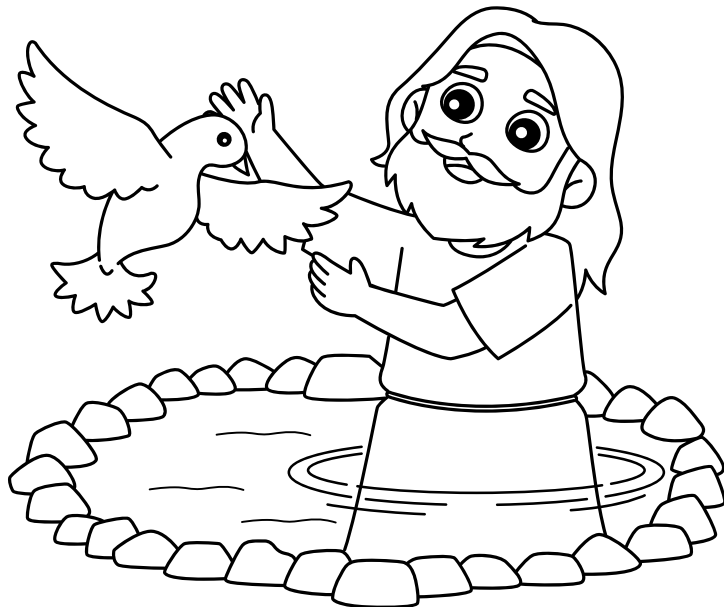
DISMISSAL:

The Celebrant will dismiss the people

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

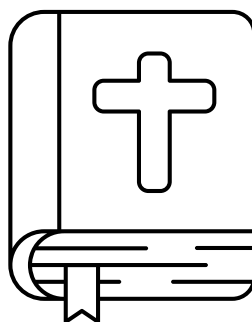
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

KIDS COLORING PAGE:



VBS 2026

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Benicia, California



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



* Women's Bible Study –Tues., April 28th 7 pm.

* Save the Date - Knife Sharpening Fundraiser – Community Meal – Sat., May 9th.

* VBS June 15–19 – This year's theme: "Sing to the Lord!" – Registration is now open .

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
Jim Jewell
Sue Hammond
Blanche Hilman
Caroline H.
Donna Marshall
R.C. Whitehead
Jim Turner
Jude Augustus Emery
Ron McGinnis
Jack Carr
Vicky Carr
Dick Bryan
Don Haberkost
Neal Mulholand
John

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL

Mary Frances Kelly-Poh
Nancy Gigliotti
Christopher John Bogart

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
Captain Greg Arnold, U.S. Navy

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

4/26 Lisa Pena
4/26 Christine Stevens
4/27 Jill Morris
4/28 Pam Chalk
4/28 Rev. Beth & Dennis Gaines

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
	8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Music	John Partridge	Cameron DePalma
Lector	Debi Hall	Barry Cunningham
Intercessor	Jim Brown	Ann Lindsay
LEM	Jim Brown & Robyn Wall	Barbara Jewell & Cathy Cellini
Healing Prayers	Karen Payne-Taylor	Donna Patey
Ushers	Art & Sandy Schipper	Debbie Borst & Carole Johnson
Altar Guild	Cathy Cellini & Susie Bonstin	
Flower Guild	Liz Stallings & Kathy Gojack	
Verger	Gene Ekenstam	

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
Kylie Lazarek, Nursery Staff
Heather Pritchard, Nursery Staff

VESTRY:

Ann Lindsay, Senior Warden
Donna Patey, Treasurer
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 Fourth Sunday of Easter

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)
 8 pm AA (P)



MONDAY: 4/27

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: 4/28

7 am AA Meeting (P)
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 1 - 2:30 pm +Organ Practice
 5:30 pm Kiwanis Meeting (P)
 7 pm Women's Bible Study (U)

WEDNESDAY: 4/29

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

THURSDAY: 4/30

7 am AA Meeting (P)
 7:30 am Coffee w/ Rev. Annie
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 2:30 - 4:30 pm +Bagpipe Practice

FRIDAY: 5/1

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

SATURDAY: 5/2

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 7 am Men's Meeting (R)

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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
- L** = RECTORY LIBRARY