



ST. PAUL'S

Est 1855

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship, Love, Live the Message

**WORSHIP BULLETIN:
JUNE 21, 2026**

Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:00 AM

Prayer A

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/VBS Sunday

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung. .

(H 412) Earth and All Stars

Verse 1:

Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song!

O victory, loud shouting army, sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain:

He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Verse 2:

Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorms, sing to the Lord a new song!
Flowers and trees, loud rustling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song!

Verse 3:

Trumpet and pipes, loud clashing cymbals, sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre, loud humming cellos, sing to the Lord a new song!

Verse 4:

Engines and steel, loud pounding hammers, sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams, loud building workers, sing to the Lord a new song!

Verse 5:

Classrooms and labs, loud boiling test tubes, sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band, loud cheering people, sing to the Lord a new song!

Verse 6:

Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom, sing to the Lord a new song!

Children of God, loud praying members, sing to the Lord a new song!

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

SONG OF PRAISE:

The following is sung by the VBS kids only.

Come We that Love the Lord

Lyrics by: Isaac Watts; Music: Robert Lowry.

Featuring: St. Paul's VBS Campers

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 357

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:**1 Samuel 2:1-10***The people sit.*

Hannah prayed and said,
 "My heart exults in the Lord;
 my strength is exalted in my God.
 My mouth derides my enemies,
 because I rejoice in my victory.

"There is no Holy One like the Lord,
 no one besides you;
 there is no Rock like our God.
 Talk no more so very proudly,
 let not arrogance come from your mouth;
 for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
 and by him actions are weighed.
 The bows of the mighty are broken,
 but the feeble gird on strength.
 Those who were full have hired themselves
 out for bread,
 but those who were hungry are fat with
 spoil.
 The barren has borne seven,
 but she who has many children is forlorn.
 The Lord kills and brings to life;
 he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
 The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
 he brings low, he also exalts.
 He raises up the poor from the dust;
 he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
 to make them sit with princes
 and inherit a seat of honor.
 For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
 and on them he has set the world.
 "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
 but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;
 for not by might does one prevail.
 The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered;
 the Most High will thunder in heaven.
 The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
 he will give strength to his king,
 and exalt the power of his anointed."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:**Psalms 95**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our
 salvation.**
 Let us come before his presence with
 thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
 For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the
 sheep of his hand. *
**Oh, that today you would hearken to his
 voice!**
 Harden not your hearts,
 as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
**at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
 when they tempted me.**
 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
 Forty years long I detested that generation
 and said, *
**"This people are wayward in their hearts;
 they do not know my ways."**
 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

VBS POST-PSALM CHANT:*The VBS kids will chant a response***SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-13**

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many
 angels surrounding the throne and the living
 creatures and the elders; they numbered
 myriads of myriads and thousands of
 thousands, singing with full voice,
 "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
 to receive power and wealth and wisdom

and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

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

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN:

Congregation chants

(WLP 756) Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain:

Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

All stand.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the

sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

POST-GOSPEL HYMN:

Please refer to Gospel Hymn.

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***CONFESSION OF SIN:**

EOW p. 56

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us

through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen

ABSOLUTION:**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:

- Thank you VBS Volunteers!
- **Sunday, June 28** - Pride Sunday & First Outdoor Worship Service.
- **Live Streaming Hiatus** - During Outdoor Service – (June 28 – July 26) - Resumes August 2.
- **Restoration Project Volunteers** - Meet at 12 pm in the church after coffee hour today.
- **Presentation from Episcopal Community Services.**

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

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The following is sung.

(LEVAS 60) 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]**

SURSUM CORDA:

BCP p. 369

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.

Then, 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 forever 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. 362

The Celebrant continues. . .

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love
you made us for yourself . . . 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.

BCP p. 363

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father. . . 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

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.

Please refer to your hymnal.

(H 304) I Come with Joy

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

Please refer to your hymnal.

(H 325) Let Us Break Bread Together

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 congregation to sing the refrain only.

Come We That Love the Lord

Refrain:


We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion,
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

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!



The flowers at today's service are in loving memory of:

Jay Furlong, husband, father and friend.

Judy Furlong




VBS 2026
St. Paul's Episcopal Church · Benicia, California



Outdoor Worship
June 28th - July 26th | 10 AM




St. Paul's Backyard

Thank you campers, counselors and volunteers!



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



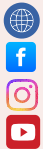
- * TGIFF Pop-Up Location!
Friday, June 26 - 5:30-7:30 pm - Parish Hall.
- * Sunday, June 28 - Pride Sunday & First Outdoor Worship Service.
- * Live Streaming Hiatus - During Outdoor Service - (June 28 - July 26) - Resumes August 2nd.

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 | Caroline H. |
| Donna Marshall | Jim Turner |
| R.C. Whitehead | Jack Carr |
| Jude Augustus | Vicky Carr |
| Emery | Dick Bryan |
| Neal Mulholand | John |
| Deb Mulholand | David Gibbs |
| Rev. Nancy Bryan | Mary Gibbs |
| Regina Williams | John Helm |
| Donna Sanderson | Lolli Hilton |

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL

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

- 6/24 Zora Dykzeul
- 6/26 Jackie French
- 6/26 Sandy Schipper
- 6/22 Steve & Linda Tremain
- 6/24 Bob & Donna Lawson

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz
10:00 AM	
Music	John Partridge
Lector	Carole Johnson
Intercessor	Jim Brown
LEM	Jim Brown & Kim Rodekohr
Healing Prayers	Rev. Beth
Ushers	Kathy Gojack & Mark Duncan
Altar Guild	Robin Silver & Kim Rodekohr
Flower Guild	Ann Lindsay
Verger	Gilbert Zabala

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
Richard Padfield, Junior Warden
Donna Patey, Treasurer
Charlie Kilbourne, Gerri MacGregor, Jim Peterson, Brandon Bailey, Kathryn Gojack, 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 after Pentecost - VBS Sunday

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)
 10 am +Communion
 11 am Coffee Hour (P)
 12 pm +Restoration Project Begins - Volunteers Meet in the Sanctuary
 11 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)
 11 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)
 8 pm AA (U)



MONDAY: 6/22

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
10 am - 1 pm +Restoration
Volunteers Meet in the
Sanctuary
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
 8 pm AA Meeting (U)

TUESDAY: 6/23

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting (U)

WEDNESDAY: 6/24

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
 10 am Communion (O)
 11 am Bible Study (R)
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
 7 pm BAFC (U)

THURSDAY: 6/25

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 7:30 am Coffee with Rev.
 Annie
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)

FRIDAY: 6/26

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
 10:30 am Al-Anon Meeting (U)
 5:30 pm TGIFF *(P)
 7- 9 pm NA Meeting (U)

SATURDAY: 6/27

7 am AA Meeting (U)

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - Pride Sunday

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

KEY

- +** = CHURCH
- P** = PARISH HALL
- U** = UNDERCROFT
- R** = RECTORY
- K** = KITCHEN
- L** = RECTORY LIBRARY
- O** = OUTDOORS

