



WORSHIP BULLETIN:
JULY 5, 2026
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:00 AM
Prayer A
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung. .

(A3 81) I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Verse 1:

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God sent the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the sky are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Verse 2:

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. **(Refrain)**

Verse 3:

I'm looking for the coming of Christ,
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.
(Refrain)

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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, all standing.

Glory 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, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

The people sit.

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will."

So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death. Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;

they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away."

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

All stand.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children

sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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:**

BCP p. 360

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.

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:

- **Pew Adoption** - campaign runs through August 31 – no gift too small.
- **Calendar Updates** - Coffee W/Out the Rector - Thurs. July 9th – Eucharist & Bible Study are Cancelled - Weds. July 15th.
- **Join St. Paul's Holy Strollers at Relay for Life - August 1st & 2nd.**
- **Peddlers Fair - Saturday August 8th** – See announcements for volunteer opportunities.

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.

(A3 19) Be Not Afraid

Verse 1:

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain:

Be not afraid, I go before you always.
Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

Verse 2:

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you.

(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.

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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.

(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

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 69) I Am the Bread of Life (Raise Him Up)

Verse 1:

I am the bread of life;
they who come to me shall not hunger;
they who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw them.

Refrain:

And I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the
last day.

Verse 2:

The Bread that I will give
is my Flesh for the life of the world,
and they who eat of this bread,
they shall live for ever.

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
They who believe in me,
even if they die,
they shall live for ever.

(Refrain)

Verse 4:

Yes, Lord, we believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God
who has come into the world.

(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**

foodvin 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 Celebrant blesses the people.

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

The following is sung.

(H 8) Morning Has Broken

Verse 1:

Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

Verse 2:

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.

Verse 3:

Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!

DISMISSAL:

The Celebrant will dismiss the people

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

People: Thanks be to God.



**RELAY
FOR
LIFE**
AUG 1ST & 2ND
ST PATRICK'S-ST VINCENT'S H.S. TRACK
1500 BENICIA RD, VALLEJO, CA.



Contact: Laura Peabody-Park
Lpeabodyca@gmail.com

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



* Pew Adoption - campaign runs through August 31 – no gift too small.

* Calendar Updates - Coffee w/out the Rector on Thurs. July 9th – No Eucharist or Bible Study on Weds. July 15th.

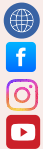
* Join St. Paul's Holy Strollers at Relay for Life! – August 1st & 2nd.

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	Mary Gibbs
Bryan	John Helm
Regina Williams	Lolli Hilton
Donna	
Sanderson	

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

7/6 Sally Adams
7/8 Elizabeth Healy

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz
	10:00 AM
Music	Cameron DePalma
Lector	Cathy Cellini
Intercessor	Kim Rodekohr
LEM	Cathy Cellini & Kim Rodekohr
Healing Prayers	
Ushers	Art & Sandy Schipper
Altar Guild	Donna Patey & Eileen Fisk
Flower Guild	
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
 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 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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)
 8 pm AA (U)



MONDAY: 7/6

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
 8 pm AA Meeting (U)

TUESDAY: 7/7

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Morning Prayer (L)
 5 pm BAFC Meeting (U)
 7 pm Facilities Meeting -
Zoom

WEDNESDAY: 7/8

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)

THURSDAY: 7/9

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

FRIDAY: 7/10

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

SATURDAY: 7/11

7 am AA Meeting (U)

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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