

THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 15, 2026

Jesus said, “If anyone would come after me,  
let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

*Mark 8:34*

**W**ELCOME! St. Paul's Church builds bridges — to God, to one another, to the city and beyond. We are glad you have joined us today.

Throughout the season of Lent, we are steadily drawn deeper into the mystery of our redemption. Abraham and his story show us the early work towards that redemption. This redemption is fulfilled in Jesus' death and resurrection which we witness in Holy Week and Easter at the conclusion of this holy season. Each week we take another step in our understanding of the depth of God's love for us as we seek to strengthen our faith so that we may better receive the joy that is to come at Easter.

This service booklet, *The Book of Common Prayer* (red), *The Hymnal 1982* (blue), and *Wonder, Love and Praise* ("WLP," green paperbound) provide the resources needed for participation in our worship. Please silence your cell phones.

### MUSIC NOTE

The anthems this morning are from the *St. John Passion*, written by English composer Bob Chilcott in 2013. Based on the Passions written by Johann Sebastian Bach, Chilcott's also has extensive solo roles with the choir, often taking the role of the crowd but also stepping out of character to provide meditative moments of reflection. This hour-long piece will be offered in its entirety this afternoon at 3:00 pm by the St. Paul's Choir.

### PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S LITURGIES

*Readers:* Steve Chepiga, TBD (8:00)

Louise Moore, Carol Panzer, Melinda Johnson (10:15)

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Sue Ouellette (8:00)

Cynthia Miller, Kitty MacDowell, Lindsay Korth (10:15)

*Crucifer:* Dan Wright

*Altar Guild:* Maureen Chepiga, Andrew Ferrante, Linda White, Lila Kennedy,  
Carey Wilcox

*Ushers:* Al Zenner, Gretchen Zenner, Doug Kelley, Jane Newcomb

*ASL Interpreter:* Luane Haggerty (10:15)

*Live-Stream Operator:* Leif Johnson (10:15)

Cover illustration by Sonja Slother

*Before worship, let God speak to you. During worship, speak to God.  
After worship, speak to one another.*

VOLUNTARY

Psalm Prelude (based on Psalm 23:4)

Herbert Howells

✠ *indicates to stand as able.*

✠ HYMN 645

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

*St. Columba*

✠ PENITENTIAL ORDER

*Presider* Bless the God of our salvation:

*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

*Presider* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The congregation may kneel or stand. A period of silence is kept.*

**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.**

*The Presider pronounces the Absolution*

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

✠ TRISAGION: S-102 (said or sung by ALL three times)

Alexander Archangelsky

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily composed of chords, with some eighth-note patterns in the bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

✠ COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Let us pray. Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

**T**he Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come

to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23 (*Said responsively at 8:00; Sung by ALL at 10:15*)

*Chant: Karl Robson*



- 1 The Lord / is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not / be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down / in green pastures \*  
and leads me be-/ side still waters.
- 3 He re-/ vives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for / his Name’s sake.

- 4 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.**
- 5 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.**
- 6 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 LESSON

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

✠ HYMN 339 (*stz 1-2*) Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness *Schmücke dich*

✠ HOLY GOSPEL John 9:1-41

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**A**s Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and

beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Judeans did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Judeans; for the Judeans had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

✠ HYMN 339 (*stz 3*) Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness *Schmücke dich*

SERMON

The Rev. Jay Burkardt

*A brief period of quiet reflection follows the sermon.*

✠ NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

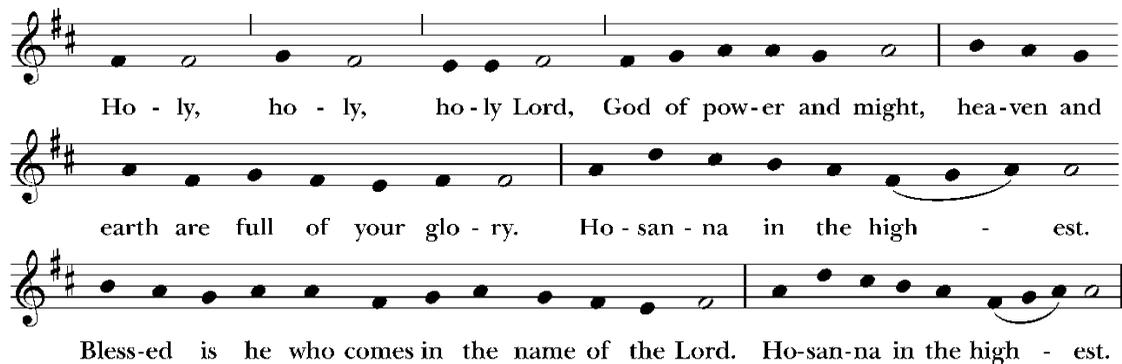
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power 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.**



It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (*said at 8:00 am; sung by all at 10:15 am*) David Hurd



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The congregation may remain standing or kneel, as the Presider continues.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Blessed Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.**

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

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Presider* The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All are welcome at God's table.



## PRAYER LIST

*We entrust into your unfailing care, Merciful God...*

Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; Kara Wagner Sherer, our Bishop; and, the Clergy, Staff, and Lay Leaders of St. Paul's Church

In Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Kenya

In the Diocese Cycle of Prayer: St. Mark's & St. John's Church, Rochester

Linda, Stan Refermat, Andrew Visconti, Jack, Mara Hazzard-Wallingford, Eric Beach, Shelia Eiss, Cheri Potter, Jean Rodman, Luke Humphry, Bill & Diane Bailey, Lois, Matthew, Donna Grear, Gwen Cheney, Hans Thurston, Nathan, Noreen, Scott, Bertha Simpkins, Jeff, Tom, Amelia Smith, Ella Richard-Dyson, and Bill Dewart.

Those who have died.

*Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## FLOWER MEMORIALS

The flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and  
in loving memory of George Juneau.

When immigrants live in your land with you, you must not cheat them.  
Any immigrant who lives with you must be treated as if they were one of your  
citizens. You must love them as yourself, because you were immigrants  
in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God.  
Leviticus 19:33-34 (CEB)



All are invited to make a gift to support our mission:

As the plate is passed. • By scanning the QR code at the left. • Online at [stpaulsec.org/donate](http://stpaulsec.org/donate). • By texting PAUL to 73256 and following the prompts.

Thank you for your generosity!

## **TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S**

- 8:00 am: Holy Eucharist (Chantry)
- 9:00 am Bible Study (Vestry Room)
- 10:00 am: Sunday School
- 10:15 am: Holy Eucharist (Church)
- 11:30 am: Fellowship Hour (Parish Hall)
- 11:30 am: Chorister Rehearsal (Church)
- 1:00 pm: Search Committee Meeting (Vestry Room)
- 3:00 pm: Third Sundays @3pm Concert (Church)
- 4:30 pm: Youth Group (Stone Hall)

### **Monday, March 16th**

- 10:00 am: Archives Team (Stone Hall)
- 7:00 pm: ACA Survivors (Stone Hall)

### **Wednesday, March 18th**

- 9:00 am: Wednesday Women AA (Stone Hall)
- Noon: Holy Eucharist (St. Peter's Chapel)
- 6:00 pm: Handbell Rehearsal (Church)
- 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal (Church)
- 8:15 pm: Young & Restless AA (Stone Hall)

### **Thursday, March 19th**

- Noon: Caregivers Support Group (Vestry Room)
- 6:00 pm: AA Meeting (Stone Hall)
- 8:30 pm: Academy Group AA (Stone Hall)

### **Saturday, March 21st**

- 10:30 am: Debtors' Anonymous (Quilt Room)
- 8:00 pm: AA Saturday Group (Stone Hall)

## NEWS AND NOTICES

- ❖ **Third Sundays @3pm:** The next St. Paul's concert series is TODAY at 3:00 pm with a Lenten Choral Meditation featuring the St. John's Passion by Bob Chilcott sung by the St. Paul's Choir.
- ❖ **Lenten coloring is back!** There are large-format coloring pages and colored pencils set out in Parish Hall for everyone to color. This is a great way to spend time side by side as we work together to make something beautiful.
- ❖ **Bible Study meets each week at 9:00 am in the Vestry Room.** Join us as we study and discuss the week's readings!
- ❖ **Palm Sunday Passion Reading:** If you would like to participate in the Palm Sunday Passion reading, please contact Rev. Jay (jburkardt@stpaulsec.org) to let him know.
- ❖ **Altar Flowers:** There are opportunities to donate altar flowers on the Sundays listed below, "In memory of" or in "celebration of" an event. Please call Nancy Andrus at 406-8545 or nancyandrus308@gmail.com. The following Sundays are available for the Chantry Altar: March 22.
- ❖ Envelopes for **Easter Altar Flower Donations** are available in the pews and on tables throughout the church. You can also submit names online at: [StPaulsEC.org/flowers](http://StPaulsEC.org/flowers). Please submit memorial or thanksgiving names to the office by **March 30<sup>th</sup> at noon**.
- ❖ **St. Joseph's House:** For March, we will collect men's long underwear, undershirts, men's & women's travel-size deodorant, men's coats, gloves, hats, razors, towels, laundry detergent, coffee & sugar. Please place all donations in the baskets located at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting your Rochester neighbors in need.
- ❖ **Reminder:** Clergy & staff will never text or email asking for gift cards.

## ST. PAUL'S STAFF

The Reverend Dan Burner  
*Interim Rector*

The Reverend Sue Ouellette, PhD  
*Deacon*

Amy Welker  
*Director, Children & Youth Faith Formation*

Bob Potter  
*Property Manager*

Dave McEntee  
*Maintenance Associate*

Judy McGrath  
*Parish Accountant*

The Reverend Jay Burkardt  
*Assistant Rector*

Dr. John W.W. Sherer  
*Organist and Director of Music*

Augustine Sobeng  
*Organ Scholar*

Sonja Slother  
*Director of Communications & Digital Ministry*

Natosche Holt  
*Parish Office Administrator*

Lisa Werner  
*Accounting Assistant*

Susan Hall & Dorrie Champlin  
*Sunday Childcare*

## ST. PAUL'S VESTRY

### Officers

*Wardens:* Erin Glanton & Ingrid Stanlis  
*Treasurer:* Rick Harrison • *Clerk:* Judy McGrath

### Class of 2026

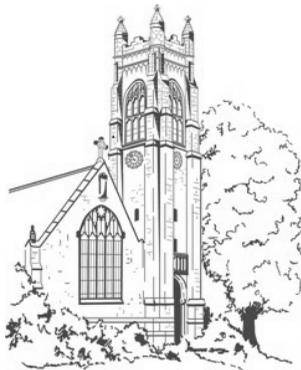
Floyd Bayley  
Laura Carr  
Chari Krenis

### Class of 2027

Lila Kennedy  
Les Kernan  
Abuk Mabut

### Class of 2028

Swing Harre  
Doug Kelley  
Christopher Moore



## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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585-483-0472