

THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 15, 2026

I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

*Isaiah 49:6*

**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.

As the season of Epiphany draws to a close, we are presented with the image of Jesus at his Transfiguration, surrounded by a blinding light. This moment in Jesus' life marks a turning point in the Church Year. Following Jesus' conversation with Moses and Elijah, the disciples wish to remain in that place. Jesus, however, begins his own final journey to Jerusalem by telling his disciples, "Get up and do not be afraid."

This story will help us as we embark on our own journey through Lent, all the way through Good Friday. Only after that will we find ourselves at Easter morning.

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

This morning, we welcome Isabel Randall who will be singing two African American spirituals during communion. Later today she will be singing a concert at 3:00pm as part of our Third Sundays @ 3 concert series. We are grateful to Isabel for sharing her musical gifts with all of us today.

### PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S LITURGIES

*Readers:* John Currie, Ingrid Stanlis (8:00)

Susan Dow, Joan Flint, Jennifer Bleecker (10:15)

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Tim Dewart (8:00)

Erin Glanton, Kevin Frisch, Pat Moran (10:15)

*Crucifer:* Wayne Least

*Altar Guild:* Judy McGrath, Nancy Reale, Jackie Barnes, Lila Kennedy

*Ushers:* Bonnie Martin, Claudius Scott, Lindsay Korth

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

*Live-Stream Operator:* Sonja Slother (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.*

✠ *indicates to stand as able.*

## ✠ HYMN 129

Christ Upon the Mountain Peak

*Mowsley*

## ✠ OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Presider* 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 IN EXCELSIS

8:00 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.**

10:15 WLP 900

John Rutter

## ✠ COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray. O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# THE WORD OF GOD

## FIRST LESSON

Exodus 24:12-18

**T**he Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99 (*Said responsively at 8:00; Sung by ALL at 10:15*)

*Duke Street*

1 The Lord is King; let people quake; he sits above the cherubim;\*

**In Zion God the Lord is great; let nations stand in awe of him.**

2 He is the Holy One, his Name is awesome, great, let all confess;\*

**“Lover of justice, mighty King, you have established righteousness.”**

3 Proclaim God’s greatness and bow down and worship him, the Holy Lord;\*

**Moses and Aaron, Samuel, they called on God and heard his word.**

4 Out of the cloud he spoke to them, they kept his law and his decrees;\*

**O Lord, you answered and forgave, yet punished all their evil deeds.**

5 Proclaim God’s greatness and bow down, worship him on his holy hill;\*

**He is the Lord, our God and King, the Holy One, our Savior still.**

## SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 1:16-21

**W**e did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

✠ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *sung twice before Gospel and once following* Celtic Alleluia



✠ HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*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.

✠ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Prayer is offered for the Church, Nation, world, those who suffer, and for the departed.*

*Intercessor* May you be manifest in us;

*People* May we bear your light to the world.

*Additional prayers may be offered, and the Presider adds a concluding collect.*

✠ CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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 Presider pronounces the Absolution*

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

✠ EXCHANGE OF PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another in Christ's Name. Words of welcome and announcements are then made.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Deacon says:* Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's Name; bring offerings and come into the courts with praise. (*Psalms 96:8*)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Just a Closer Walk

American folk song  
arr. Daniel Kallman

*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. I am weak but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord who cares? Oh, who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me won't be no more; alleluia! Guide me safely, gently o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.*

✠ SAID AT 8:00    **All things come of thee, O Lord,  
and of thine own have we given thee.**

✠ SUNG AT 10:15: HYMN 705 (*stz 3*)

*Forest Green*

**With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to thee  
to serve thy cause and share thy love with all humanity.  
O thou who gavest us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son,  
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

## ✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 AND BENEDICTUS

*From A Mass for a Soulful People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

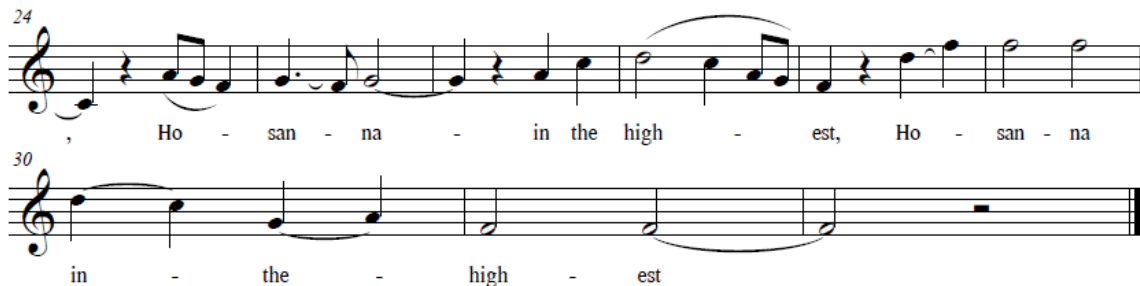
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly - , Ho - ly, ho - ly - , Ho - ly Lord God -

6 - of ho - sts - Hea - ven and ear - th are - filled with your glo -

12 ry, Ho - san - na in - the - high - est - Ble - ssed is - He who -

18 - comes in the name - of the Lord - of the Lord -





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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into 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 disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember Christ's death,**

**We proclaim Christ's resurrection,**

**We await Christ's coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [\_\_\_\_\_, and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your

children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for 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* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

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

All are welcome at God's table.

*All are encouraged to come forward for Communion at the direction of the ushers. The Sacrament is given in both kinds: bread and wine. If you are not able to go to any of the stations, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available.*

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

Jesus Loves Me!

William Bradbury  
arr. Ardis Freeman

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so. Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago, taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me." Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Deep River

African American spiritual  
arr. Harry T. Burleigh

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into  
campground. Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast; that promised land where all  
is peace?" Oh, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.*

Ride On, King Jesus! African American spiritual  
arr. Hall Johnson

*Ride on, King Jesus! No man can hinder me. For he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,  
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no man works like him. King Jesus rides a milk white horse,  
no man works like him. The river of Jordan he did cross, no man works like him. For he is  
King of kings, he is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last. Oh, King Jesus rides in  
the middle of the air, Oh, he calls the saints from everywhere, Ah, ride on, King Jesus! No  
man can hinder me. He is King, he is the Lord, Jesus Christ, the first and last, no man  
works like him. Ride on, Jesus!*

✠ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

**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.**

✠ HYMN 618

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

✠ BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*The children and Presider invoke God's blessing with the people repeating before the  
dismissal concludes:*

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

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

VOLUNTARY

In Thee is Joy

Johannes Mathias Michel

## 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 Church of the Province of Indian Ocean

In the Diocese Cycle of Prayer: Diocesan Council

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

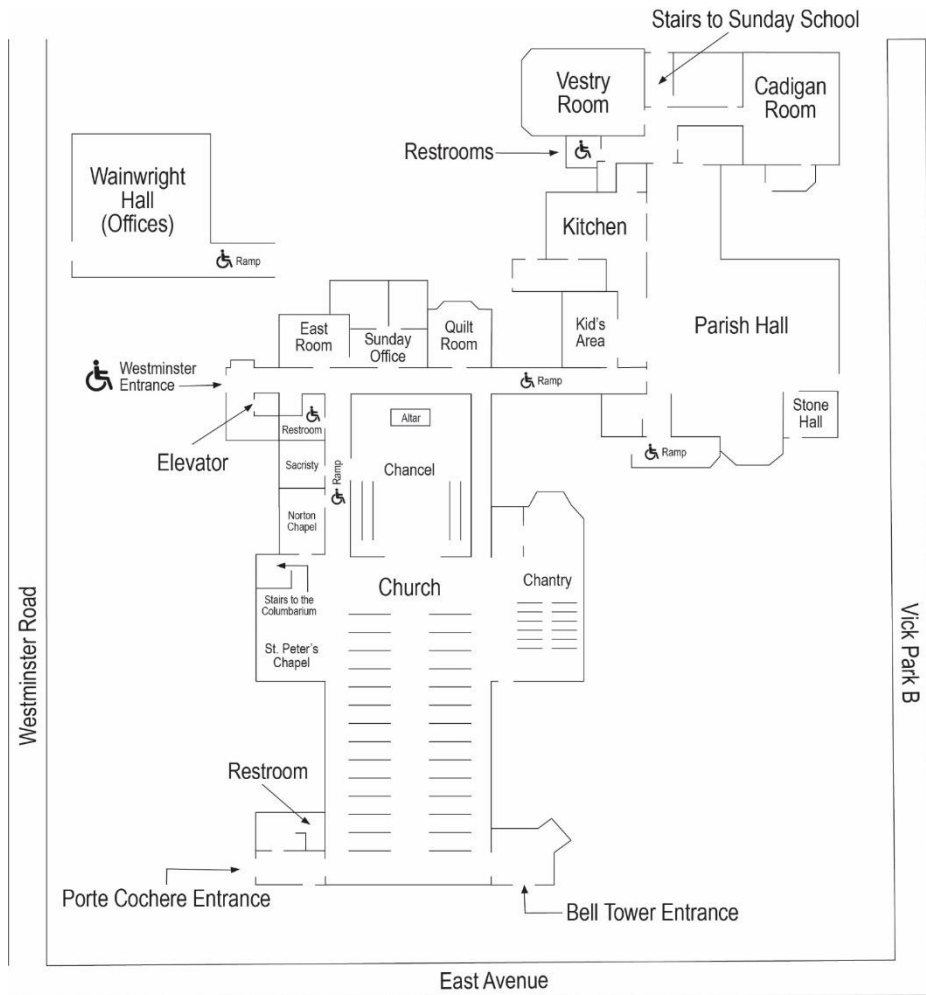
Those who have died.

*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 Lawrence & Frances Hardy

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)

10:00 am: Sunday School

10:15 am: Holy Eucharist (Church)

11:30 am: Fellowship Hour (Parish Hall)

3:00 pm: Third Sundays @3pm Concert (Church)

4:30 pm: Youth Group (Stone Hall)

### Monday, February 16th

*Presidents' Day – Parish Office Closed*

7:00 pm: ACA Survivors (Stone Hall)

### Tuesday, February 17th

6:00 pm: Mardi Gras Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (Parish Hall)

7:00 pm: Vestry Meeting (Cadigan Room)

### Wednesday, February 18th

7:30 am: Ash Wednesday Service (Chantry)

9:00 am: Wednesday Women AA (Stone Hall)

Noon: Ash Wednesday Service with Hymns (Chantry)

5:30 pm: Ash Wednesday Service with Hymns (Chantry)

8:15 pm: Young & Restless AA (Stone Hall)

7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal (Church)

### Thursday, February 19th

6:00 pm: AA Meeting (Stone Hall)

8:30 pm: Academy Group AA (Stone Hall)

### Saturday, February 21st

10:30 am: Debtors' Anonymous (Quilt Room)

8:00 pm: AA Saturday Group (Stone Hall)

## NEWS AND NOTICES

- ❖ **St. Paul's Children's Choir:** We are looking forward to having the St. Paul's Children's Choir sing "Jesus loves me" TODAY at the beginning of communion. So, at the very beginning of communion, the kids should plan to gather around the piano in the front.
- ❖ **Third Sundays @3pm\*:** The next St. Paul's concert series will be TODAY at 3:00 pm with Afro-Cuban soprano, Isabel Randall, in collaboration with the Rochester Oratorio Society, Arts Connexions. *\*Tickets will be available at the door; \$30 general admission; \$25 students and seniors.*
- ❖ **Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Meal on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** In addition to pancakes and sausage, we have sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall if you would like to bring something. Whether you bring something or not, come to the meal for a great time!
- ❖ **Lenten Soup 'n Study:** Tuesdays, February 24, March 3, & 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Join Revs. Dan Burner and Jay Burkardt for a discussion on the book by Brian McLaren titled: "Finding Our Way Again – The Return of the Ancient Practices." Soup Supper at 6:00 pm, Program begins at 6:30 pm, Compline at 7:15 pm. Sign up in the Parish Hall to bring a soup or side.
- ❖ **Altar Flowers:** There are opportunities to donate altar flowers. Please call Nancy Andrus at 406-8545 or nancyandrus308@gmail.com. The following Sunday is available for the **High Altar: February 22<sup>nd</sup>.**
- ❖ **Scivias** will be presenting a concert at St. Paul's on Saturday, February 28, at 7:30 pm. This women's chorus specializing in Medieval music will present a concert entitled Canon Events – Musical Puzzles, Games and Curiosities.
- ❖ **Reminder:** Clergy & staff will never text or email asking for gift cards.

## LENT at ST. PAUL'S

Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>: 7:30 am, Noon (w/ hymns), 5:30 pm (w/ hymns)  
Lenten Soup 'n Study: Tues., Feb. 24, March 3, 10, & 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm (Parish Hall)  
Third Sundays @3pm: Lenten Choral Meditation on March 15<sup>th</sup>

## 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

25 Westminster Road  
Rochester, New York 14607  
585-271-2240 • [www.stpaulsec.org](http://www.stpaulsec.org)  
*After-hours Pastoral Emergency Line:*  
585-483-0472