

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*We believe that God is healing and restoring the world,  
and that we are recipients of and participants in that healing and restoration.*



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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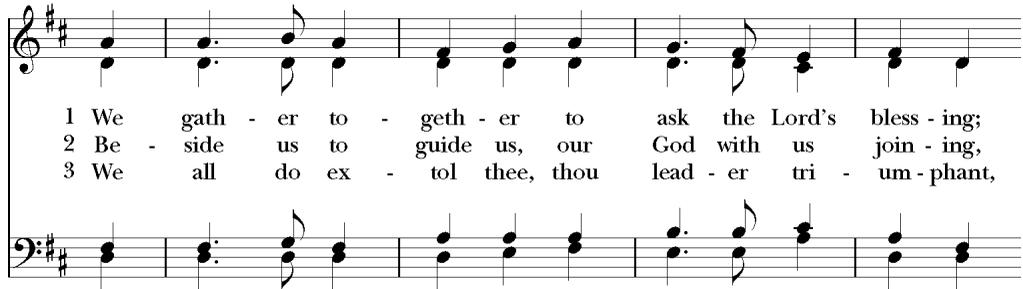
# Morning Prayer, Rite II

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Opening Hymn 433

### We Gather Together



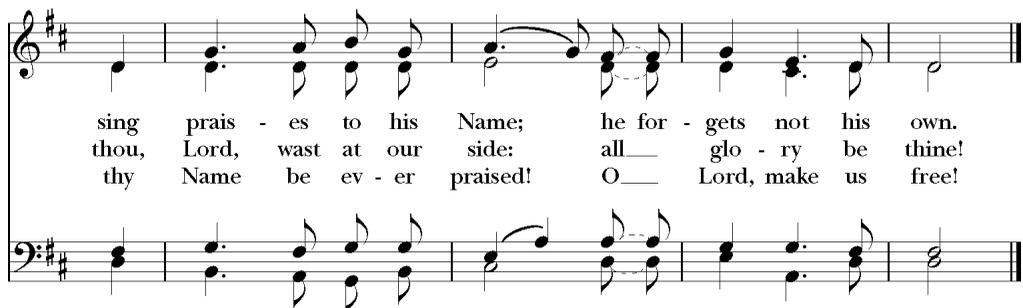
1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,



he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.



the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;  
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:



sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!  
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

## Opening Sentence

Officiant: The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him.

*John 4:23*

## Confession of Sin

*The Officiant says to the people:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling:*

**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 Officiant stands and says:*

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.**

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand, as able.*

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

**People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People:*

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

**People: Come let us adore him.**

*Officiant and People:*

**Venite**      *Psalms 95:1-7*

**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!**

*The people are seated.*

### **Psalm 90:1-12**

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.**
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.**
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
“Go back, O child of earth.”**
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.**
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.**
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.**
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?

12 So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## Readings

*A period of silence will follow each reading.*

### **Zephaniah 1:7,12-18**

*The people remain seated.*

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;  
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people

5 who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,

“The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”  
Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.  
The great day of the Lord is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.  
That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.  
I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the Lord,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.  
Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the Lord’s wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*

**Canticle 11    The Third Song of Isaiah**      *Surge, illuminare*  
*Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

**Arise, shine, for your light has come, \***  
**and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.**  
**For behold, darkness covers the land; \***  
**deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**  
**But over you the Lord will rise, \***  
**and his glory will appear upon you.**  
**Nations will stream to your light, \***  
**and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**  
**Your gates will always be open; \***  
**by day or night they will never be shut.**  
**They will call you, The City of the Lord, \***  
**The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**  
**Violence will no more be heard in your land, \***  
**ruin or destruction within your borders.**  
**You will call your walls, Salvation, \***  
**and all your portals, Praise.**  
**The sun will no more be your light by day; \***  
**by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.**  
**The Lord will be your everlasting light, \***  
**and your God will be your glory.**

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*The people are seated.*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*

**Canticle 18    A Song to the Lamb**

*Dignus es*

*Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13*

**Splendor and honor and kingly power \*  
are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
For you created everything that is, \*  
and by your will they were created and have their being;**

**And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, \*  
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation, \*  
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**

**And so, to him who sits upon the throne, \*  
and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, \*  
for ever and for evermore.**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

*The people are seated.*

Officiant: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

*Silence.*

*All stand, as able.*

**Canticle 19    The Song of the Redeemed**

*Magna et mirabilia*

*Revelation 15:3-4*

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

**The Sermon**

**Rev. Paul Moore**

*Sermon Meditation Questions: 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

1. Where are you “on the margins?”
2. Where are you in the center of things, and the idea of going to the margins is frightening?
3. What must it be like for those who are always forced to the margins?
4. How is God present in the margins of life?

## **Apostles' Creed**

*All stand, as able.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers**

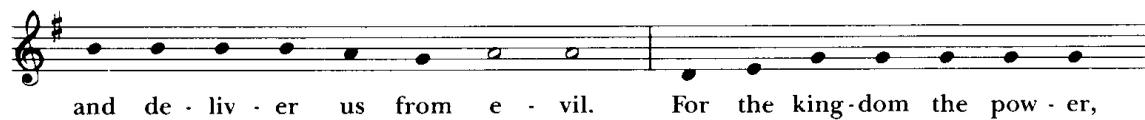
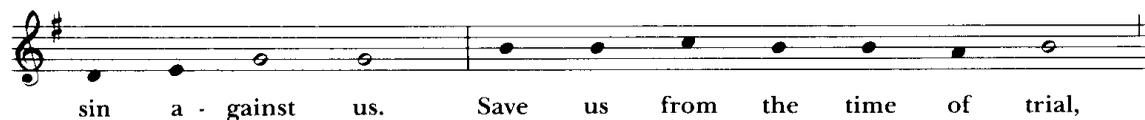
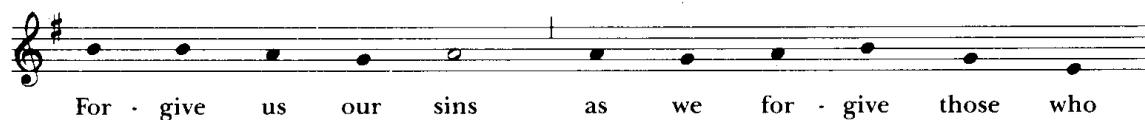
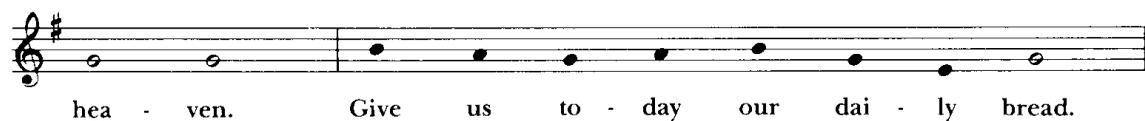
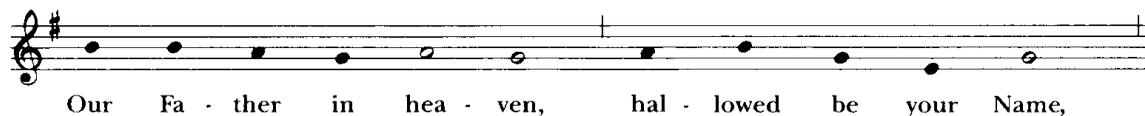
*All stand, as able.*

**Officiant:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Officiant:** Let us pray.

*Officiant and People:*



*The Officiant and People say responsively:*

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

**R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

**R. We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

**R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

**R. For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

**R. And we shall never hope in vain.**

## Collects

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly One, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Hymn 608

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the  
 2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard and hushed their ra - ging  
 3 Most Ho - ly Spi - rit, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, thy chil - dren shield in

rest - less wave, who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep its  
 at thy word, who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep, and  
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 calm a - mid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we  
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace; O hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

## The Prayers of the People

*Reader:* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Silence.*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant and People:*

**Almighty God, Source of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

**Officiant:** Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Closing Hymn 291

We Plow the Fields

1 We plow the fields, and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
 2 He on - ly is the Ma - ker of all things near and far;  
 3 We thank thee, then, O Fa - ther, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand;  
 he paints the way - side flow - er, he lights the eve - ning star;  
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food:

he sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
 the winds and waves o - bey him, by him the birds are fed;  
 the gifts we have to of - fer are what thy love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
 much more to us, his chil - dren, he gives our dai - ly bread.  
 but chief - ly thou de - sir - est our hum - ble thank - ful hearts.

Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*

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*Offertory - Thank you for giving!*

Please drop your offering in the church's mailbox or mail it to:

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
415 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

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Your **Vestry** members request your prayers for this congregation and their leadership. They want to be in conversation with you. Speak with them so they know the needs of the congregation:

Bonnie Schuh

Susan Cooper

Sandy McDougall

Dan Niven

Sara Young

Margaret Bird

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list.

Please email Penny Worrell at [penny.worrell@gmail.com](mailto:penny.worrell@gmail.com).

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## Morning Prayer:

Until we can meet together once again, our Sunday Morning worship will generally be Morning Prayer, as per the Bishop's instruction. For those who remember the days in the Episcopal Church when the Eucharist was only celebrated once a month, these days may have a familiar feel. For those of us who do not, it feels like a Eucharistic Fast. It has been so described by others who have written about our current situation. In the liturgical reforms of the 1970's the Eucharist has become the center of Sunday worship. Now, however, because of the worldwide pandemic, we are back to Morning Prayer as our regular fare.

What is Morning Prayer? It is a rite originally developed for the Benedictine monastic life in England in the Medieval period. Monks and nuns prayed seven times a day. Four of those prayer services became popular among the common people, Morning Prayer (or Matins,) Noonday Prayers (or Non,) Evening Prayer, (or Vespers,) and Compline. Matins and Vespers grew into full-blown services in themselves. Matins came to fill in on Sunday mornings when a priest was not available to preside at the Eucharist.

In the American church, the term Matins is rarely used, preferring the more descriptive, Morning Prayer. The rite became very popular in the western expansion precisely because it could be led by lay people. Our Prayer Books throughout the years have reflected this, always including a well-constructed rite. Our current one is no exception.

Adapted as it is for lay leadership, you will notice that the lay form for the absolution is provided for in the rubrics (instructions written in italics and smaller size.) There is no provision for a sermon. It has always been an Anglican thought that the Bible, read aloud to the people in their own language, was the foundation of spiritual formation in worship. When used as the primary service on Sunday, a sermon is usually inserted where we do it, or after the Creed, or even just before the dismissal. Rubrics for a blessing are also omitted.

The structure of the rite borrows from the synagogue worship of the early Jewish Christians, just like the first part of a Eucharistic service. It follows the same format of an introductory rite, readings from Scripture, prayers and a dismissal. Because Morning Prayer's focus is Scripture and Prayer, the introductory rites and the readings themselves are more elaborately done, and the prayers are more extensive. At St. Paul's, after the Collects, where the rubrics allow for "other authorized intercessions," we insert another set of prayers that focus our petitions on concerns of our time and place.

Because it is not a Eucharistic service, the services do not employ the liturgical colors. Instead of a white alb and stole, the presider often wears a black cassock, a white surplice over it, and a tippet. The tippet looks like a black stole, but it is really an academic vestment. It often has emblems of academic affiliations attached near the tips. Fr. Paul's has an Episcopal shield, and the shields of two seminaries from which he holds degrees. A simple alb with no stole may also be used.

## *Welcome to Saint Paul's!*

**W**e hope that your worship with us will be both inspirational and spiritually nurturing. Please feel free to participate in the worship service as much or as little as you wish. The prayer book gives directions as to when we stand, sit, or occasionally kneel; these are guidelines. What is more important is that you bring your complete self to worship God.

**E**veryone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. We use real wine in the cup. If you wish to receive only a blessing, simply cross your arms in front of you as the priest approaches. If you do not want to drink from the chalice, keep the piece of bread on your open palm, and present it to the chalice bearer, who will then dip the bread into the wine and place it on your tongue. Non-gluten bread is also available. Please inform us if this is your preference.

The Rt. Rev. Gregory H. Rickel <i>Bishop</i>	206-325-4200	grickel@ecww.org
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