

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in  
the midst of wolves: be ye therefore  
wise as serpents, and harmless  
as doves.”**

Matthew 10:16 (KJV)

King James Bible Online.org

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026  
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
THE FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL**

**415 SOUTH 18TH ST., MOUNT VERNON WA 98274-4658  
360-424-1822**

**E-MAIL: STPAULMV@COMCAST.NET  
WEBSITE: WWW.STPAULSMV.ORG**

**Welcome to St. Pauls!** We are grateful for your prayers and presence on this day in the life of the parish community. We 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.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. We use wine in the cup. Intinction, which is also known as dipping the bread in the wine, is not practiced here. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please cross your arms in front of your chest as the chalice bearer approaches. The full grace of the sacrament is received with only the bread. Gluten free is available.

We ask that those worshiping with us online reverently pray and meditate on God's grace and blessing whenever you observe the Eucharist being taken.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish peoples who have reserved treaty rights to this land, including the Skagit Tribe who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We thank these caretakers of the land, who have lived here and continue to live here since time immemorial.

### **Our Mission Statement**

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

Serving Today:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Presider:	The Rev'd David Walker
Preacher:	Michael Rader
Deacon:	The Rev'd Dennis Taylor
Music Director:	J.J. Cully
Cantor:	Sandy McDougall
Eucharistic Minister:	Mary Ann Taylor
Eucharistic Visitors:	Acacia McDermott & Mary Ann Taylor
Acolyte:	Acacia McDermott
Greeters:	Ron & Pat Kostanich
Lectors:	Alec McDougall & J.J. Cully
Counters:	Carole Boss & Acacia McDermott

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list. Please email Acacia McDermott at [redwoodam@proton.me](mailto:redwoodam@proton.me)

*Cover image [https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-10-16\\_Inspirational\\_Image/](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-10-16_Inspirational_Image/)*

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TELECOIL ASSIST AVAILABLE.



HEADPHONES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE,  
PLEASE SEE A GREETER.

# The Holy Eucharist - Rite II

## Opening Bell

Welcome and Announcements..... *Presider*

Prelude ..... Come Christians Let Us Sing ..... Arr. Labenske

**Opening Hymn** ..... Gather Us In

1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - tr'y, we are the old who  
 3. Herewe will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some hea - ven

van-ished a - way, See in this place our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a - way. But here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the King - dom, now is the day.

Gath - er us in the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in the  
 Gath - er us in the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and

blind and the lame. Call to us now and we shall a - wak - en,  
 proud and the strong. Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,  
 bread that is you. Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own. Gath - er us in - all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

## Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier

**People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

## The Collect for Purity

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.*

**Hymn of Praise .....** .....S280

*In the Front of the Blue Hymnal*

## The Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

*Presider and People:*

**O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Please be seated.*

### A Reading From Acts 26:9-21

Paul said to King Agrippa, "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

"With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles - to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

"After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me."

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

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

### Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8



### Chanted Verses:

1. May God have pity on us and bless us; May he let his face shine upon us  
So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.
2. May the Nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity;  
The nations of the earth you guide.
3. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!  
May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him.

## **A Reading From Galatians 1:11-24**

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ; they only heard it said, "The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy." And they glorified God because of me.

**Lector: The Word of the Lord.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn** ..... Take My Life and Let it Be ..... Hymn 707

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew 10:16-22

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

Jesus said to the twelve, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

The Sermon ..... Michael Rader

*Please stand as able.*

## **The 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:  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

**Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People Form VI

Deacon: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our presiding bishop, and Philip, our bishop, and all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

Leader: Let us pray for the search process for our congregations;

**Eternal Guide, please watch over our steps as the congregations of Resurreccion and Saint Paul's walk the path of selecting a new rector. Guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose a spiritual leader and pastor for us – a leader who will care for your people and prepare us for our ministries. We ask that you bless them with insight, faithfulness, patience, and joy, so that they may truly hear your voice during their decision-making. Open the hearts of those who feel called to embark on this journey to an unfamiliar place, and walk with us as we trust in this process together. For the wonder of your love, Amen.**

Deacon: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence.*

*Presider speaks an Absolution.*

## **The Peace / La Paz**

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you. / La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes.

**People: And also with you. / Y con tu espíritu.**

*If you are worshiping with us virtually, use the chat function to “say” peace to your fellow parishioners, or text/email someone with whom you would like to share the peace of Christ.*

## Celebrations and Thanksgiving of Life

**Offertory.....Changed My Name .....St. Paul's Choir**

*Your gifts are much appreciated.*

*If you are joining this live stream, you may mail your offering/pledge to 415 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274. You can also make payments online at [www.stpaulsmv.org](http://www.stpaulsmv.org)*

### Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen**

## The Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer A

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to come forward for communion or blessing. Gluten free wafers are available. The assembly is invited to stand as they are able for the Eucharistic Prayer.*

*Intinction, also known as dipping the bread in the wine, is not practiced here. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please cross your arms in front of our chest as the chalice bearer approaches. The full grace of the sacrament is received with only the bread.*

Presider: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to God.**

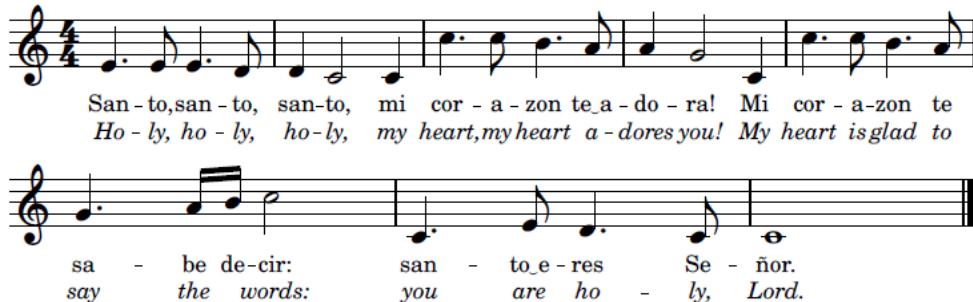
Presider: Let us give thanks to the One who created us.

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

Presider: 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 the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



San-to, san-to, mi cor-a-zon te-a-do-ra! Mi cor-a-zon te  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, my heart, my heart a-dores you! My heart is glad to  
sa-be de-cir: san-to e-res Se-ñor.  
say the words: you are ho-ly, Lord.

Presider: Oh God, you are holy and gracious: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, our Rock and our Foundation.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 he 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Presider and People: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Presider: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal Reign.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Most Blessed One, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The image shows musical notation for the Lord's Prayer. It consists of four staves of music in G major, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written below each staff, aligned with the corresponding musical notes. The music is simple, using mostly quarter and eighth notes.

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven hal - lowed be your Name, your king - dom come,  
your will be done on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.  
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil For the king-dom the pow - er,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. a - men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

## Fraction Hymn

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Those present are invited to receive Holy Communion. You can approach the altar after the invitation by the Presider. Those with us online, during these next moments of meditation, wherever you are, receive God's gifts to you. We share spiritual communion today.*

**Communion Hymn.....One Bread, One Body**

Chrous

One bread one body one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless And  
we, though many Through-out the earth Last time fine  
we are one body in this one Lord

we, though many Through-out the earth Last time fine  
we are one body in this one Lord

1. Gen - tile or Jew, Ser - vant or free,  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown, D.C.

wom - an or man no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Verses

wom - an or man no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

## Sending out of Eucharistic Visitors

*The Deacon sends forth the Eucharistic Visitors*

Deacon: We who are many are one body

**People: Because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Deacon: In the name of God and of this congregation we send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**People: As you have been fed, now feed others in the name of Christ.**

Deacon: Our prayers go with you, go in peace. Amen.

## Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

**People and Presider:** God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Blessing

**Closing Hymn.....** I have Decided to Follow Jesus

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de -  
2. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be -  
3. Though none go with me, still I will fol - low, though none go

-cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low  
-hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -  
with me, still I will foll - low, though none go with me, still I will

Je - sus, no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
-fore me, no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
fol - low, no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

## Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude.....Hosanna (Praise Rising) ..... Arr. Labenske

The Right Reverend Philip N. LaBelle, Bishop 206-325-4200 <https://ecww.org/>  
*The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia*

The Reverend David Walker 509-995-6582 [rector@stpaulsmv.org](mailto:rector@stpaulsmv.org)  
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The Reverend Dennis Taylor 360-661-1551 [deacon2rn@comcast.net](mailto:deacon2rn@comcast.net)  
*Deacon / Faith Community Nurse*

J.J. Cully [music@stpaulsmv.org](mailto:music@stpaulsmv.org)  
*Organist and Music Director*

St. Paul's Office 360-424-1822 [stpaulmv@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulmv@comcast.net)  
*David Lorente, Parish Administrator*

If you would like to receive our e-news, please send a message to [stpaulmv@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulmv@comcast.net).

# Announcements and Opportunities

Take this page home with you to update your calendars.

Welcome to our guests: We are so glad that you are worshipping with us today! Please put your name and contact information in our guest book so that we may get to know you

## **Coffee Hour**

Coffee hour today is hosted by Carolyn's Guild in honor of the celebration of The Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, our patron saint. Stop in after worship for a potluck.

You can also sign up on the clipboard to host future coffee hours. It doesn't have to be elaborate, just cookies and coffee are great! Contact Melissa Bird 306.622.1008 if you have questions.

## **Altar Flowers**

The Altar flowers this morning are from Don and Arlene Zimmerman.

Sign up on the clipboard in the Parish Hall to bring flowers to enhance our worship space. Contact Jen McCabe if you have questions, 209.251.3220.

## **SonShine Crafters!**

The SonShine Crafters meet the first and third Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm in the church. Please join us for craft projects and fellowship. Bring a project, an idea, a friend. All are welcome.

## **Art in the Narthex**

The art in the narthex is Needlepoint by Susan Sanderson. Thanks so much for sharing with us.

Do you have art you would like to display in the narthex? Religious or otherwise, we enjoy seeing what parishioners enjoy in their homes. It does not have to be your own artwork. It can be fiber, glass, paint, sculpture or whatever medium. Contact Val Aadsen (360-298-3675) for scheduling.

## **Unneeded Glasses**

In the hallway there is a box from the Lion's Club in Mount Vernon for you to donate your unneeded glasses. They are collected and given to those who need glasses. Additionally, the Lion's Club will pay for glasses for those who need them and cannot afford them. Let David in the office know if you know of such a need in our community.

## **Other things to do to participate in our community**

Check out the whiteboard in the narthex for other interesting events and happenings in the area.