

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, JANUARY 28, 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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The Holy Eucharist - Rite II

WELCOME to St. Paul's! 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. The majority of the liturgy is printed in the bulletin; however, you will find the hymns in the Blue 1982 Hymnals in the back of the pews. Hymns that start with "S" are found at the beginning of the hymnal.

Our worship service takes place here and online; it is also being recorded for later viewing. Feel free to greet one another as is your custom as you gather. When we are ready to start, our Angels Aloft will sound an opening bell. This signals those gathered that our service is now being recorded. Please maintain quiet and turn your attention to our opening activities at this time.

Opening Bell

Welcome

Celebrant

Announcements

Member of Vestry

Prelude

Land Acknowledgement

Celebrant

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish peoples who have reserve treaty rights to this land, especially the Skagit Tribe who has stewarded this land throughout the generations.

*We thank these caretakers of this land, who have lived, and
continue to live, here since time immemorial.*

Mission Statement

1 *Presider and People:*

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

Please stand as able.

Opening

All Creatures of Our God and King

Hymn 400

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

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

Gloria

Hymn S280

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.

The Collect

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth:
Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please be seated.

A reading from Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: With your help, O God, we will listen and live.

Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

A Reading from 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: With your help, O God, we will listen and live.

Please stand as able.

Gradual

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Hymn 674

Presider: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark 1:21-28.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Vicki Johnson

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.

The Prayers of the People

Eucharistic Minister: 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 Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Melissa our Bishop and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Confession and Absolution

Deacon or Presider: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Presider and People:

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.

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

Your gifts are much appreciated.

If you are joining this live stream, you may mail your offering/pledge to 415 S. 18th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98274. You can also make payments online at www.stpaulsmv.org

Flowers are given today by the Salazar Family.

Offertory

“Here I Am, Lord”

The St. Paul’s Choir

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

Please stand as able.

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, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Presider and People:

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Presider: O 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, Jesus 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, 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, Most Holy God, 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 are yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever. ever. AMEN.

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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

The Fraction Song:

Se - ñor y Je - su - cris - to, Hi - jo del Dios vi - vo. Se - ñor y Je - su - cris - to, Hi -
 Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the li - ving God, Lord Jesus Christ, Son
 jo del Dios vi - vo. O - ten mi - se - ri - cor - dia de no - so - tros pe - ca - do - res. O -
 of the li - ving God; O have mer - cy on us sin - ners, O
 ten mi - se - ri - cor - ida de no - so - tros pe - ca - do - res.
 have mer - cy on us sin - ners.

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.

Please be seated.

Those present, are invited to receive Holy Communion.

*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

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Hymn 581

Sending out of Eucharistic Visitors:

The Presider sends forth the Eucharistic Minister with a blessing:

Presider: We who are many are one body

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

Presider: 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.

Presider: Our prayers go with you, go in peace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Hymn 690

Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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. 18th Street

Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Serving Today: 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Presider:	The Rev. Paul Moore
Deacon:	Rev. Vicki Johnson
Eucharistic Minister:	Acacia McDermott
Greeters:	Elizabeth Tucker, Sherri Greenleaf
Lector(s):	Sherri Greenleaf, Sandy McDougall
Eucharistic Visitors:	Sherri/Acacia
Counters:	Carol Boss, Acacia McDermott

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: Maggie Bird, Tony Smith, Joe Thomas, Carol Boss, Margie Lauer, Sue Shepherd.

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list.
Please email Penny Worrell at penny.worrell@gmail.com.

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Announcements for January 28, 2024

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 better.

E-news!

To receive our weekly reflection and electronic news bulletin filled with insightful and inspiring messages (or just what the good Lord filled us with that day), please send an email to stpaulmv@comcast.net, or fill out a request in the Parish Office, or drop a note in the offering plate.

2024 Lenten Devotional Book

Jen is putting together the Lenten devotional book, and she is looking for people to write reflections. The title for this year's book is "Hope to Carry On", and the theme is hope. If you are writing a reflection for her, please get it to her this week. If you have questions, please call her at 209-251-3220 or email her at jennifer.e.mccabe@gmail.com.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

We will be having a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 13th. There will be a sign-up sheet for it in the Parish Hall.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th this year. We will have Imposition of Ashes at 6:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. with no Communion. A bilingual Communion service with Imposition of Ashes will take place at 6:00 p.m.

Acolyte Training

The next acolyte training has been scheduled for February 3rd at 2 p.m. It will be one hour long.

Paths to Understanding

Pastor Terry Kylo, formerly of this parish, has written a book called, *Go and Do Likewise*, and there are several interesting Zoom conversations in honor of the book's launch. The first one, *The Meaning of Monotheism and Challenges We Face*, is taking place on January 30th. Details on the conversations and how to register are in your email newsletter.

Where are we on the Liturgical Calendar? – Epiphany!

With the First Sunday in Advent, we begin one of two major cycles of the Church year: Advent-Christmas-Epiphany (the Incarnation Cycle). The other major cycle is Lent-Holy Week-Easter (the Paschal or Resurrection Cycle). In our liturgies, seasonal changes in scripture readings, liturgical texts, music and practice, along with colors and ornamentation, reveal each season's meaning within the overall shape of the cycle of which it is a part.

Advent means “arrival” and “coming.” Advent’s readings weave together the three comings of Christ: in the past, in history, as a baby born in Bethlehem; in the future, at the end of all history, to bring in God’s kingdom; and in the present, today and every day, in the Word and Bread and Wine of the Eucharist, in friend and stranger, in the ordinary moments of living, in our hearts. Advent is a season of waiting and expectation, hoping and yearning, looking for, preparing for, the coming of Christ.

At Christmas, God’s promise of salvation is revealed in the birth of Jesus. The unlikely and wondrous gift is given—Incarnation! – God’s Word made flesh. And the Word God has spoken in Incarnation is Love. Christmas is a season of amazement and celebration of Emmanuel, God’s Love come among us in Christ.

Epiphany means “appearance, manifestation.” We hear stories of God revealed in Jesus, God in a human being made manifest. The season begins with the visit of the magi to the manger on the Feast of Epiphany and the baptism of Jesus on the first Sunday after. It ends with the vision of Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop, shot through with the glory of his divinity. Epiphany is a season of growing revelation and realization of what Advent points to and Christmas makes reality – that over 2,000 years ago, in the little town of Bethlehem, in a baby in a manger, God’s grace, mercy, justice and peace came into the world in human form and lived among us as one of us. And human possibilities and potential were forever changed.

Long ago, God spoke to us through the prophets, but now God has spoken to us by a Son. May we be blessed in our Advent preparations, Christmas celebrations and Epiphany discoveries, drawn ever more deeply into the mystery of God in Christ.

The liturgical color of green is used on vestments, representing the green things of God’s earth and referring to growth of the spirit of God within us in response to His coming at Christmas.

Welcome to Saint Paul's!

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. 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.

Everyone 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, please cross your arms across your chest. Non-gluten bread is also available. Please inform us if this is your preference. We ask that those worshipping with us online reverently pray and meditate on God's grace and blessing whenever you observe the Eucharist being taken.



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