

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

9:30 A.M. EUCHARIST

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



HEARING LOOP
Switch hearing aid or CI to
t-coil or request headphones

TELECOIL ASSIST AVAILABLE

HEADPHONES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

PLEASE SEE A GREETER FOR ASSISTANCE

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 ask that those worshipping 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 reserve 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.

Prayer For The Search Of The Next Rector

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.

Serving Today:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Presider and Preacher:	The Rev'd David Walker
Music Director:	J.J. Cully
Eucharistic Minister:	Mary Ann Taylor
Eucharistic Visitors:	Mary Ann Taylor & Acacia McDermott
Acolyte:	Daniel Dempsey
Greeters:	Daniel & Laura Dempsey
Lectors:	Sharon Rader & Debby Bloom
Counters:	Sharon Johnson & Sue Shepherd

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

Page 13 image: <https://jamesjackson.blog/2024/10/16/day-289-whats-up-with-matthew-105-6/>

The Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Unless otherwise noted, the Presider speaks the regular type, the People respond boldly.

Opening Bell

Welcome Presider

Prelude Be Thou My Vision arr. Tornquist

Opening Hymn How Can I Keep From Singing?



1. My life flows on in end-less song A -
2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I
3. What, though my joys and com-fort die, The
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A



bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion. I hear the real though
hear that mu - sic ring - ing; It sounds and ech - oes
Lord, my sav - ior liv - eth. What though the dark - ness
foun - tain ev - er spring-ing. All things are mine since



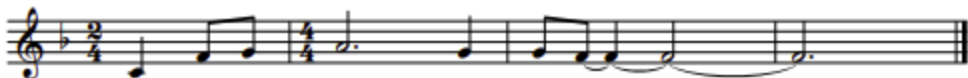
far - off hymn That hails a new cre - a - tion.
in my soul; How can I keep from sing-ing?
gath - er 'round? Songs in the night it giv - eth.
I am his; How can I keep from sing-ing?



No storm can shake my in-most calm, While to that rock I'm



cling - ing. Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth,



How can I keep from sing-ing?

Opening Acclamation

Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures 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.**

Gloria.....**S280**

In the front of the blue hymnal

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Presider and People: Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please be seated.

Lector: A Reading From Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31



1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
In your Justice rescue me. Into your hands I commend my spirit;
You will redeem me, O Lord, O faithful God.
2. For all my foes I am an object of reproach, a laughingstock to my neighbors, and a dread to my friends;
They who see me abroad flee from me. I am forgotten like the unremembered dead; I am like a dish that is broken.
3. But my trust is in you, O Lord; I say, “You are my God.
In your hands is my destiny; rescue me from the clutches of my enemies and my persecutors.”
4. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your kindness.
Take courage and be stouthearted, all you who hope in the Lord.

Lector: A Reading From 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn O Love of God Hymn 455

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 14:1-14

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon The Rev’d. David Walker

The Nicene Creed

All stand as you are able

**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

Deacon: Let us offer our petitions, adoration and thanksgivings unto the Lord responding to the bidding “Patient and loving God,” with “Hear the prayers of your children”.

Blessed God, we pray for your Holy Church. We pray for Sean, our presiding bishop; for our own bishop, Philip; for Dennis, our Deacon; for David, our interim priest; and for our next Rector. Please watch over and encourage our Vestry as they care for and lead us, especially during this time of discernment and transition. In our own diocese we pray for Christ Church, Anacortes, and St. Paul’s, Bellingham; and for our companion congregation of La Iglesia de la Resurreccion. And in the Anglican Communion we pray for people of the Church of North India. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Patient Creator, we ask you to grant the President, our Congress, courts and State Governors the courage to lead our country with fairness and dignity for all, regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, or religion. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Loving God, we pray also for all victims of violence and discrimination throughout the world, especially remembering those trapped and suffering by the wars in Iran, the wider Middle East, and in Ukraine; have mercy on their souls and grant healing to the physically and emotionally wounded, and to those many doctors, nurses and ministers who tend to them. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Lord our God, be patient with us as we struggle to come to grips with strife and hostility within our own country. Help us to accept that everything is not black and white. Help us to listen, and to sometimes just be silent. Keep us strong – yet always compassionate. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Precious Lord, we praise you for this loving, giving community of St Paul’s. Help us to patiently care for one another – without judgment. Help us to love and care for our cold, hungry, unhoused neighbors. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Merciful Lord, we ask for your healing and mercy upon ourselves and upon our brothers and sisters who are living in pain, anxiety and distress. Today we pray especially for:
_____. Please offer your own prayers either silently or aloud.

Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Gracious God, we thank you for our families and friends, near and far. Thank you for calmer weather, occasional sunshine to warm our bodies, and for our beautiful spring flowers. We thank you for the food on our tables and for safe places to rest our heads at night. Let us never take for granted any of your precious gifts. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

Patient and loving God / **Hear the prayers of your children**

Tender Father, please welcome into your gentle hands the souls of our loved ones who have left this world to be with you instead. Hold us tenderly as we remember the treasured gifts they were to our lives. Patient and loving God, **hear the prayers of your children.**

For whom or for what else do we pray?

Almighty Creator, you sent your precious Son to live among us and to teach us how to forgive and accept one another. You love each of us, in spite of our daily failings. Grant that we may do likewise to our brothers and sisters. Through your blessed Son we pray. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

If you are worshipping 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 Thanksgivings

Offertory Alleluia - Estes 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. 18th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98274. You can also make payments online at www.stpaulsmv.org

Doxology - Sung to the Tune of “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer B

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 for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Presider: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift our hearts 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 every- where to give thanks to you, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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, 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: 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. Through Mary's Holy Child, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. 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, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Presider and People:

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Dear One; 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with Saint Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ, 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 is yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever. Amen.

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

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

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Hymn.....S164

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

Chorus

One bread one bod-y one Lord of all,
one cup of bless - ing which we bless And
we, though man - y Through-out the earth
we are one bod - y in this one Lord

Last time fine

Verses

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.

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.

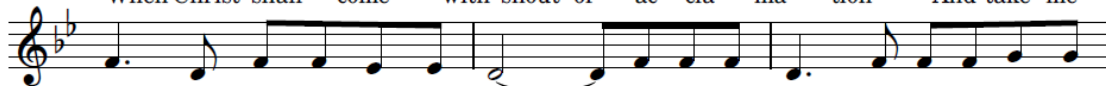
Presider and People: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming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

Blessing

Closing Hymn.....How Great Thou Art



O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
When thru the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
And when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r thru - out the un - i - verse dis - played! Then sings my
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin!
- ra - tion And there pro - claim, my God how great Thou art!



soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my



soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

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 Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble *with* Alleluia! Alleluia! Arr. Tornquist

The Meaning of the Vestments Worn in the Liturgy

Celebrating the Eucharist – A Practical Ceremonial Guide for Clergy and Other Liturgical Ministers, pp 56, 57
Patrick Malloy

“People often ask what the various vestments in the liturgy mean. Quite simply, the stole is the only vestment that functions primarily to convey meaning: that the wearer is ordained. The other vestments, like most of the elements of the liturgy, *do* something rather than *mean* something. They add festivity, solemnity, and dignity to the rite, but they do not mean anything per se. They are ritual clothing and have much more in common with formal wear or party clothes than they do with signs. Because people want the vestments to mean something, however, they have often found what they have sought.

The result is liturgical allegory: imposing a meaning on a liturgical event or artifact that is not inherent in the thing itself. The ninth-century liturgist Amalarius of Metz is recognized as one of the most prolific of all the liturgical allegorists. Amalarius devised elaborate schemas in which virtually every object and every action in the liturgy was given a hidden meaning, including the vestments. Series of prayers, based upon allegories, were composed to accompany the donning of each vestment. The amice, for example, which was put on the head like a kerchief and then pushed down around the neck, was usually allegorized as the helmet of salvation. The chasuble became the yoke of salvation, since it was put over the shoulders, and so forth.

If such allusions foster the devotion of the minister as he or she vests, they serve a good purpose. Pastorally, however, it is counterproductive to imply that the liturgy is made of arcane codes. The liturgy is an experience of the Mystery, not a confrontation with a puzzle. In the actions of the worshipping community, a genuine encounter with God is possible. The liturgy is, in itself, an occasion of grace. It is not a stand-in for something else or a reminder of something that is not there. To suggest that the assembly should not first of all experience the essential characteristics of the objects and gestures of the liturgy but should think of something else instead (what other thing this object or this action really means) vitiates the evocative potential of the liturgy. It suggests that the liturgy is a reminder of another time and place, not an encounter with the Holy, revealed in created reality in the here-and-now.”

**St. Paul's
Episcopal Church**



Mount Vernon, WA

**SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

415 SOUTH 18TH ST.,
MOUNT VERNON WA 98274-4658
360-424-1822
E-MAIL: STPAULMV@COMCAST.NET
WEBSITE: WWW.STPAULSMV.ORG

All music used during this service is licensed for online streaming through OneLicense.net #A-725912

The Right Rev'd Philip N. LaBelle, Bishop	206-325-4200	https://ecww.org/
<i>The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia</i>		
The Rev'd David Walker	509-995-6582	rector@stpaulsmv.org
<i>Interim Rector</i>		
The Rev'd Dennis Taylor	360-661-1551	deacon2rn@comcast.net
<i>Deacon / Faith Community Nurse</i>		
J.J. Cully		music@stpaulsmv.org
<i>Organist and Music Director</i>		
St. Paul's Office	360-424-1822	stpaulmv@comcast.net
<i>David Lorente, Parish Administrator</i>		

If you would like to receive our e-news, please send a message to stpaulmv@comcast.net.