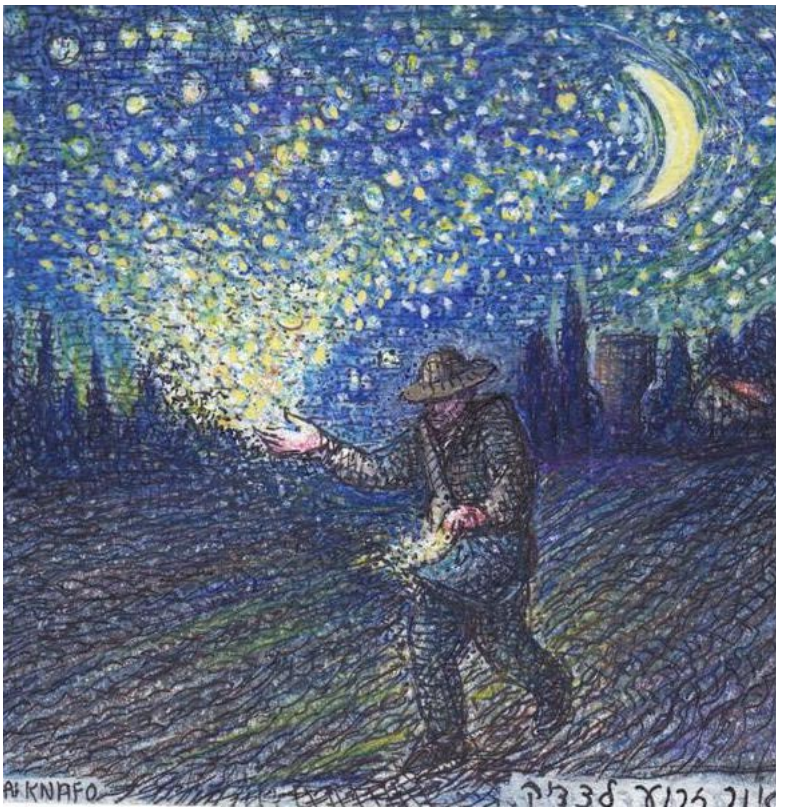
Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

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



Sunday, July 16, 2023
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

415 South 18th St., Mount Vernon WA 98274-4658
360-424-1822
E-mail: stpaulmv@comcast.net
Website: www.stpaulsmv.org

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.

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 *"Ivory Palaces"* arr. Bergerson

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

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.

Opening Hymn **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

Please stand as able.

Presider: Blessed be God, Earth Maker, Pain Bearer, Life Giver.
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.**

Canticle 20 **Glory to God** **Hymn S-280**

The Collect

Presider: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please be seated.

A Reading from Isaiah 55:10-13.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65:9-14

Let the val-leys shout for joy and sing.

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it / very plenteous; *
the river of God is / full of water.
—/ You prepare the grain, *
for so you pro/vide for the earth. [ANTIPHON]

You drench the furrows and / smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and / bless its increase.
You crown the / year with your goodness, *
and your paths over-/flow with plenty. [ANTIPHON]

May the fields of the wilderness be / rich for grazing, *
and the / hills be clothed with joy.
May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys / cloak themselves with grain; *
let them / shout for joy and sing. [ANTIPHON]

Tone III.2

A Reading from Romans 8:1-11.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able.

Gradual **Breathe on Me, Breath of God** **Hymn 508**

Presider: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew 13:1-9,18-23.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up
quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon **The Reverend Paul Moore**

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,
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

Offertory (vocal solo) "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" *by Lyn Murray*

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.

Please stand as able.

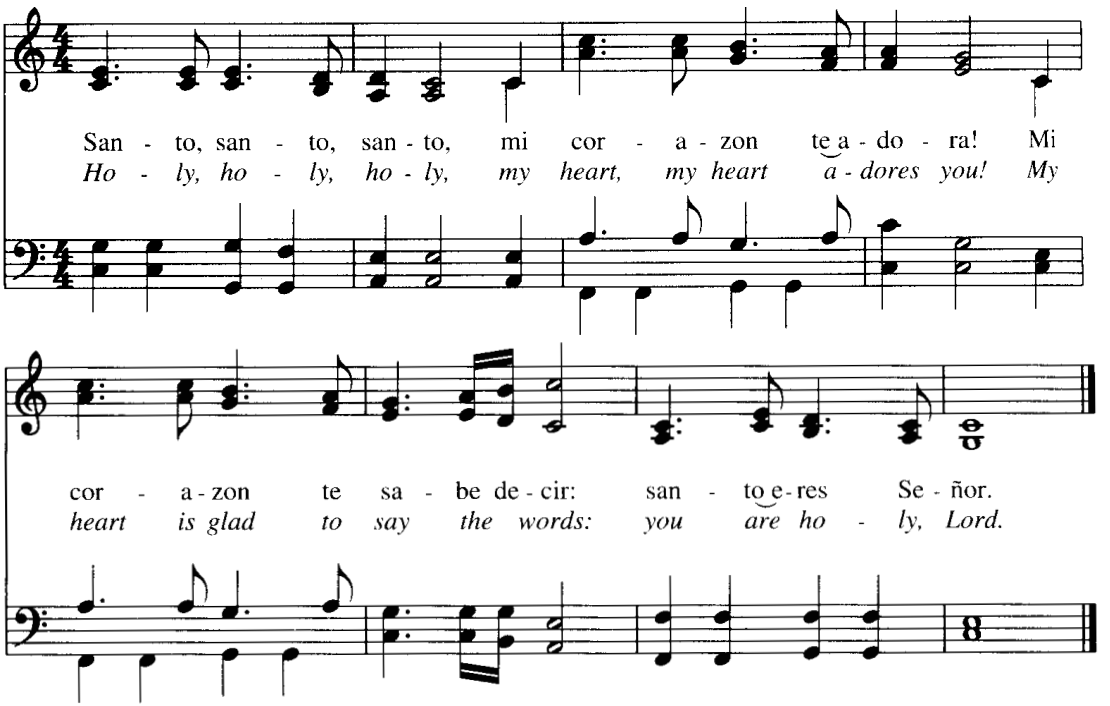
Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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:



Presider: Holy and gracious God: 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, the God and Father of all. He 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:

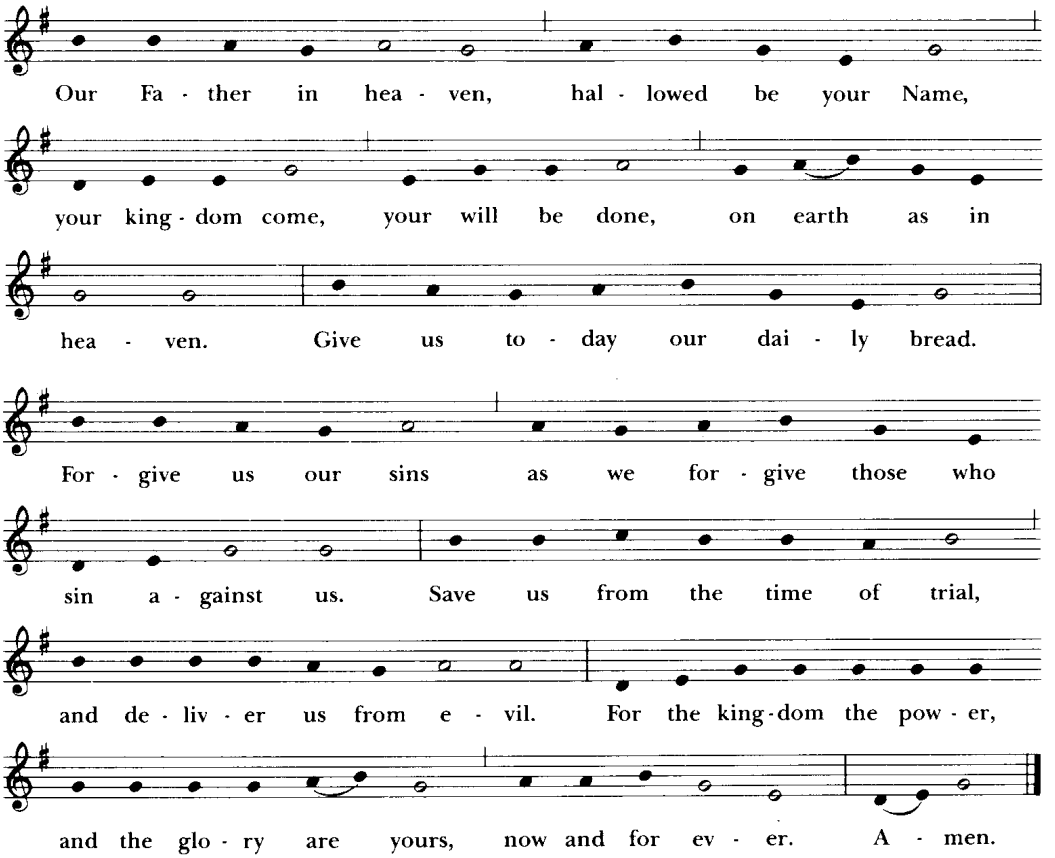
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Presider: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Loving God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 kingdom.

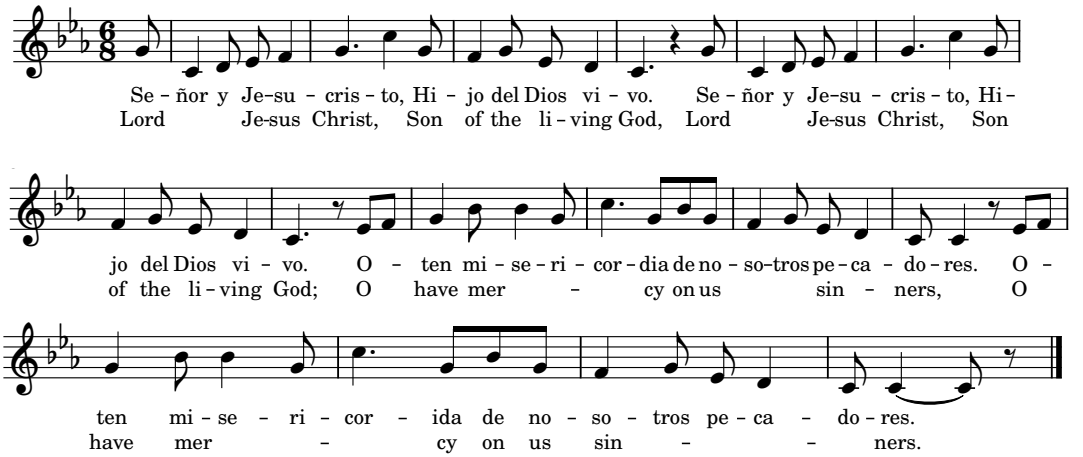
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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



The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Song:



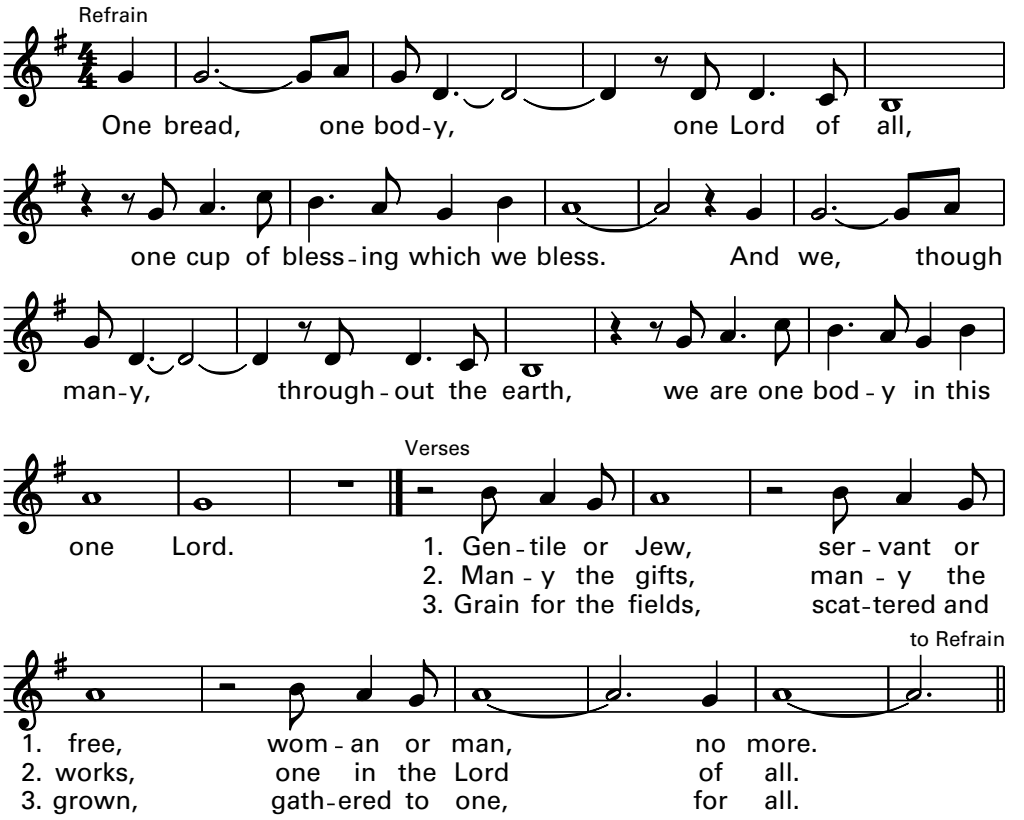
Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Please be seated.

Those present, are invited to receive Holy Communion. You can approach the altar at the direction of the usher.

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 **One Bread, One Body**



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 **Be Thou My Vision** **Hymn 488**

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.

You are invited to please be seated and enjoy this morning's final musical selection:

Postlude "My Savior's Love" *arr. Swaim*

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 Reverend Paul Moore
Deacon:	Rev. Dennis Taylor, Rev. Vicki Johnson
Music Director:	David Sloat
Eucharistic Minister:	Andy Schuh
Greeters:	Michael & Carol Boss
Lector(s):	Marilyn Allen, Jen McCabe
Eucharistic Visitors:	Mary Ann/ Carol T
Counters:	Bonnie Schuh, Marilyn Allen

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, Bonnie Schuh, Joe Thomas, Darcy Wells, 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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Cover image: *https://interruptingthesilence.com/2017/07/16/a-sower-went-out-to-sow-a-sermon-on-matthew-131-9-18-23/*

Upcoming Summer Bilingual Services:
Bilingual services with Resurrección have changed times. We will now meet at 10:30 a.m. The next two bilingual services are July 30th, and August 20th (Mass on the Grass at Schuh Farms). Both are followed by a potluck.

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

The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia	206-325-4200	https://ecww.org/
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The Reverend Dennis Taylor *Deacon / Faith Community Nurse*	360-661-1551	deacon2rn@comcast.net
David Sloat *Organist and Music Director*	713-834-4335	dsloat617@msn.com
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Bookkeeper		spbookkeeper@comcast.net

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