

# 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, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023**  
**THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
415 SOUTH 18TH ST., MOUNT VERNON WA 98274-4658  
360-424-1822

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# The Holy Eucharist - Rite II

**W**ELCOME 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.

**O**ur 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

<sup>1</sup> *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

Come Down, o Love Divine

Hymn 516

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.

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.

**Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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 Ezekiel 33:7-11.

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:33-40

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*  
which you make to those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve my life.

**A Reading from Romans 13:8-14.**

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as able.*

**Gradual**

**Take Up Thy Cross**

**Hymn 675**

Presider: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew 18:15-20.

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

The Sermon

The Rev. Keith Axberg

*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 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 Thanksgiving of Life

*Flowers this Sunday are given in memory of Lloyd Cooley for his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday by the McCabe and Cooley families.*

*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](http://www.stpaulsmv.org)*

Offertory

Amazing Grace

Hymn 671

## 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:

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: 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:*

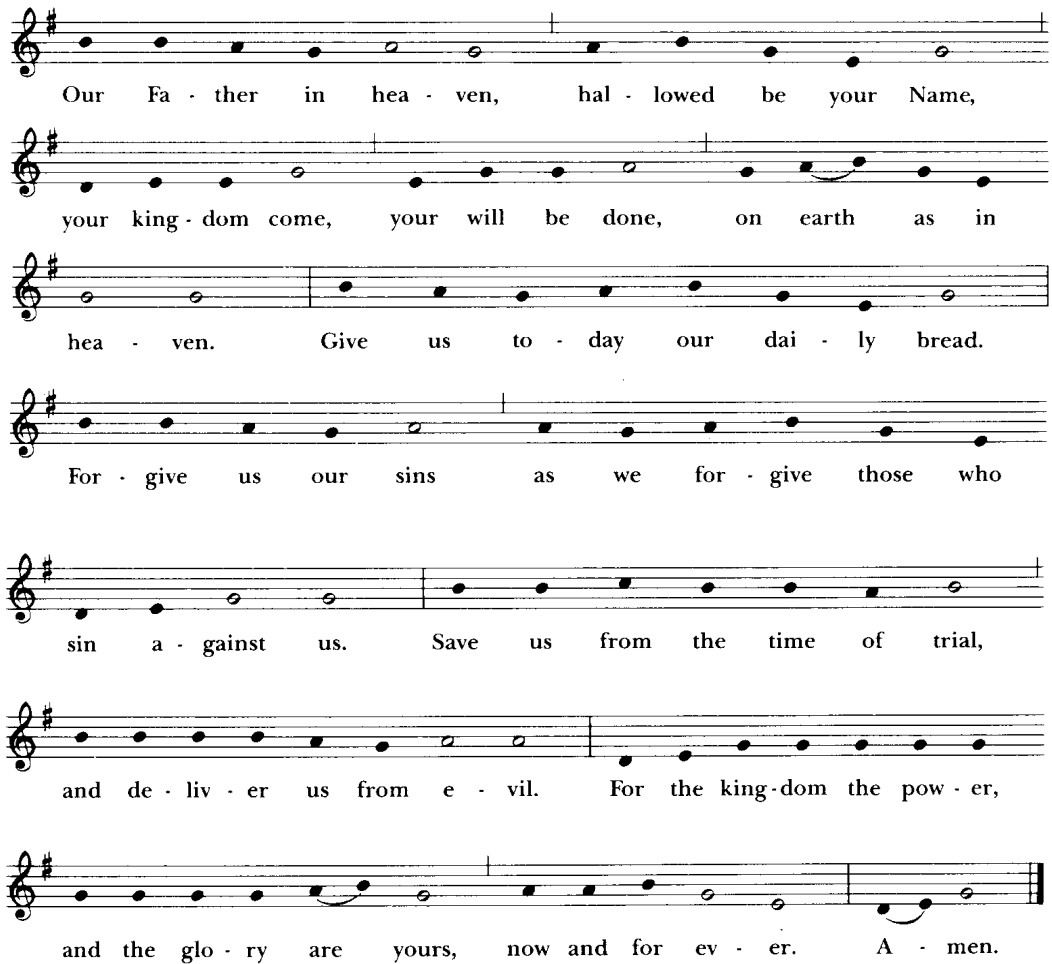
**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

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.

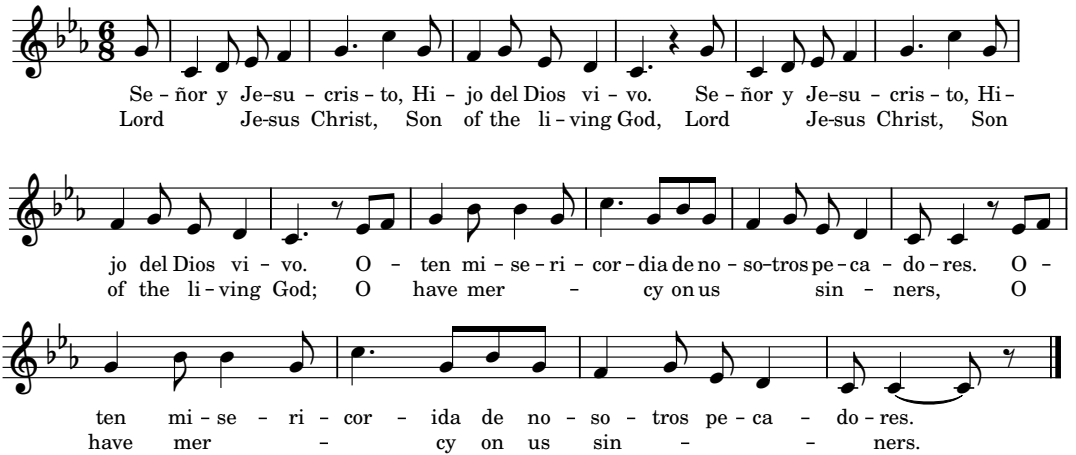
Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:



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 Je-sus Christ, Son of the li - ving God, Lord Je-sus 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.*

**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**



## 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.**

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*Offertory - Thank you for giving!*

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

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

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

Presider:	The Rev. Keith Axberg
Deacon:	Rev. Dennis Taylor, Rev. Vicki Johnson
Eucharistic Minister:	Penny Worrell
Greeters:	Don & Arlene Zimmerman
Lector(s):	Ashley Sweeney, Carol Treston
Eucharistic Visitors:	Sherri G/Acacia
Counters:	Elizabeth Tucker, Margie Lauer

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](mailto:penny.worrell@gmail.com).

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Cover image: <http://fralfonse.blogspot.com/2010/08/matthew-1815-20-if-your-brother-sins.html>

## Announcements for September 10, 2023

**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.

### *Opportunity knocks!*

On Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> the Three B's (Brushes, Buckets & Brooms) will gather at 9am for about an hour to pull weeds, cut back ivy and blackberry vines, trim bushes and tidy up the church yard. This will be our last effort before the seasons change and the rain begins. If you can join us to help, please confirm with Margie Lauer (435.248.9336) or Carol Boss (360.399.7927). Thank you!

### *Volunteers and donated items needed for church Rummage sale on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>:*

There is a sign up sheet located on the credenza in the Parish Hall for volunteers to sign up to help with the upcoming rummage sale. Donations of all household items are requested, including kitchen items, bedding, clothing, books, games, furniture, tools, craft items etc. or whatever is gathering dust and no longer needed/wanted in your home! Items will be stored in Father Paul's office. Please mark your own prices on the items and the sale volunteers will adjust as necessary. Items to be donated can be brought and stored in Father Paul's office. Please bring items on Sundays and Lauren Wright or Elizabeth Tucker will assist you to store the items. We will also be at church for sale set up on Friday, September 22nd (time to be determined and announced) to work on set up and can receive items at that time.

We are also requesting volunteers to assist at the rummage sale, to help set up on Friday 22nd (time to be determined and announced) and then on Saturday 23rd. The sale time will start at 9:00 am and end at 4:00 pm followed by take down of items and moving unsold items into a trailer to donate to charity. More details will be provided to those who volunteer to help with the sale. If you have more questions, please email Lauren Wright at [lgwright99@yahoo.com](mailto:lgwright99@yahoo.com) or by phone 360-424-8364, or speak directly to me or Elizabeth Tucker at church.

Thanks for helping to make our rummage sale a success!

## *Welcome to Saint Paul's!*

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

**E**veryone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. We use real wine in the cup. If you wish to receive only a blessing, simply cross your arms in front of you as the priest approaches. If you do not want to drink from the chalice, 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.



The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia	206-325-4200	<a href="https://ecww.org/">https://ecww.org/</a>
The Reverend Paul Moore <i>Rector</i>	254-368-6475	<a href="mailto:padrequiteno@gmail.com">padrequiteno@gmail.com</a>
The Reverend Dennis Taylor <i>Deacon / Faith Community Nurse</i>	360-661-1551	<a href="mailto:deacon2rn@comcast.net">deacon2rn@comcast.net</a>
St. Paul's Office <i>Parish Administrator</i> <i>Bookkeeper</i>	360-424-1822	<a href="mailto:stpaulmv@comcast.net">stpaulmv@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:spbookkeeper@comcast.net">spbookkeeper@comcast.net</a>

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