

# 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, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

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

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.



## The Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Opening Bell

Welcome.....*Presider*

Announcements .....*Member of Vestry*

Prelude..... Come Ye Thankful People Come ..... Elizabeth Mahoney, pianist

Land Acknowledgement.....*Presider*

*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 Nation 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.*

### **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.**

### **The Word of God**

*Please stand as able.*

Opening Hymn.....Blessed Be the God of Israel



1. Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free;  
2. He from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has given;  
3. On pris - on - ers of dark - nes the sun be - gins to rise,



he vis - its us and re - deems us he grants us li - ber - ty.  
a Sav - ior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.  
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes.



The pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease; God  
Be - fore him goes his her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way, the  
He guidesthe feet of pil - grims a long the paths of peace. O



shall ful - fil his pro - mise and bring his peo - ple peace.  
pro - phet of sal - va - tion, the har - bing - ger of Day.  
bless our God and Sa - vior with songs that nev - er cease.

### Opening Acclamation

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

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

### The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Hymn of Praise

Gloria..... Hymn S280

*In the front of the Blue Hymnal*

### The Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

*Presider and People:*

**Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Word

Lector: A Reading from Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46: 1-3, 5-7, 9-11



Canted Verses:

1. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
2. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
3. Come now and look upon the works of the lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Lector: A Reading from Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn.....Jesus, Remember Me**



Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Luke 23:33-43

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

The Sermon ..... The Reverend Vicki Smaby Wesen

*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 Form VI

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

*Silence*

*The Intercessor reads regular type, the **People** respond **boldly***

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

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

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

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

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

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

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

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

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

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

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

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Let us pray for the search process for our congregations;

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

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

*Silence may be kept.*

***Presider and People***

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

*Presider speaks an Absolution.*

## **The Peace / La Paz**

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

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

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

## **Celebrations and Thanksgiving of Life**

Offertory ..... Gaudeamus Hodie, arr. Natalie Sleeth ..... St. Paul’s Choir

*Your gifts are much appreciated.*

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

## Doxology

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

## The Holy Communion Eucharistic Prayer A

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

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

*Please stand as able*

**Presider:** May God be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Presider:** Lift up your hearts.

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

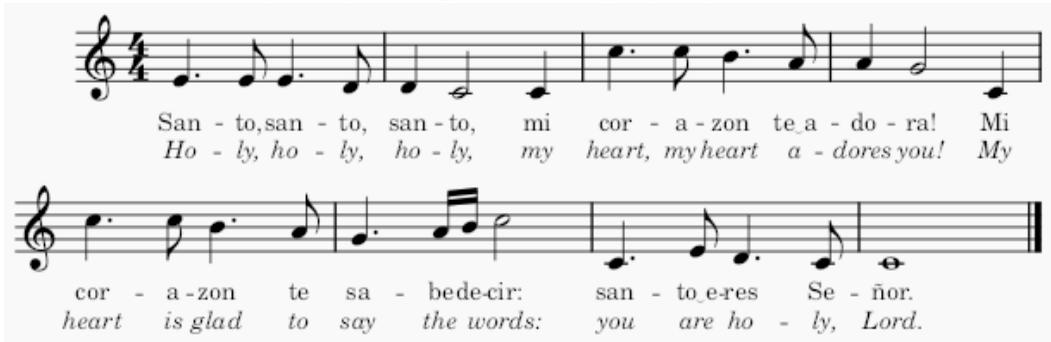
**Presider:** Let us give thanks to the One who created us.

**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, the 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:



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 - bede - 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, our 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.

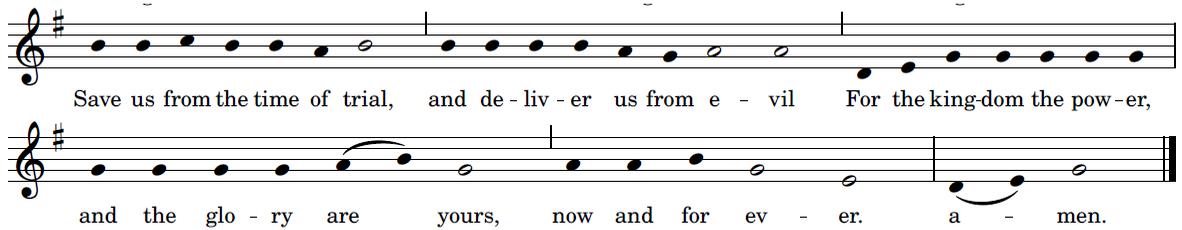
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all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

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

Continued next page



Save us from the time of trial, and de-liv-er us from e-vil For the king-dom the pow-er,  
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for ev-er. a-men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia, Christ Our Passover is sacrificed for us:

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

### Fraction Hymn



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

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 Hymn.....Jesus the Lord

Refrain

Je - sus Je - sus. Let all cre-

- a - tion bend the knee to the Lord.

Verse 1

1. In him we live, we move and have our being; In him the Christ, in  
to Refrain

him the king! Je - sus, the Lord.

Verses 2, 3

2. Though Son, he did not cling to god - li - ness; but  
3. He lived o - be - dient - ly his Fa - ther's will ac -

emp - tied him - self, be - came a slave! Je - sus, the Lord.  
- cept - ing his death, death on a tree!

**Sending out of Eucharistic Visitors:**

*The Deacon sends forth the Eucharistic Ministers:*

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

Deacon: 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 Hymn..... Crown Him With Many Crowns ..... Hymn 494**

### Dismissal

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

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

Postlude ..... Come Thou Almighty King

Serving Today:

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Presider and Preacher:	The Reverend Vicki Smaby Wesen
Deacon:	The Reverend Dennis Taylor
Music Director:	J.J. Cully
Musician	Elizabeth Mahoney, piano
Eucharistic Minister:	Dan Niven
Eucharistic Visitors:	Acacia McDermott & Shelly Powell
Acolyte:	Acacia McDermott
Greeters:	Don & Arlene Zimmerman
Lector(s):	Susan Sanderson & Dan Niven
Counters:	Carol Boss & Acacia McDermott

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list.

Please email Acacia McDermott [redwoodam@proton.me](mailto:redwoodam@proton.me).

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Cover image: <https://revpacman.com/2022/11/23/christ-the-king/>

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# Announcements And Opportunities

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.

## **Congregational Meeting**

There will be a short congregational meeting on December 14 immediately following the service for the purpose of nominations for vestry and delegates to convention.

## **Altar Flowers**

The flowers in the sanctuary today are brought to you by Julie Hagen in thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, and her son Michael's birthday.

## **Coffee Hour**

Please sign up on the clipboard in the Parish Hall to host a coffee hour. Take Advent-age of this opportunity to share – we have all of December open. Questions? Contact Melissa Bird 360.622.1008

## **Coats for Kids in Mount Vernon Schools**

Coats are being collected November 13-30 for children in the Mount Vernon Schools. Bring your coat donation to the church and we will see that it gets delivered on December 1<sup>st</sup>. See the newspaper announcement in the Narthex or speak with Cathey Frederick for more details.

## **Life Planning Sessions**

The Faith Community Nurses of St. Paul's are inviting you and your friends to a series of conversations on Life Planning. These are designed to help you and your family make informed decisions regarding your health care as you age. These will be held during the first three Wednesdays of Advent, starting December 3 with a soup supper beforehand. See the notice on the white board for more information on topics and speakers. An RSVP is requested so there is enough soup!

## **Stewardship Letters and Pledge Cards.**

Stewardship letters and pledge cards have been mailed. Be sure to look for yours, and prayerfully consider how you will respond. Please turn them in on or before December 7<sup>th</sup> which will be our Ingathering Sunday. Extra pledge cards are available if you have misplaced yours.

## **Women's Work International Market**

Saturday, November 29 there will be a Women's Work International Market at the Mount Vernon Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Ave, from 10am to 4pm. Come and enjoy local and imported gifts from many cultures and an opportunity to chat with the artists.

**Continued next page**

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### **From the Profile Committee**

The vestry has appointed and charged the profile committee to create a document to aid in the search for our new rector. Over the past weeks we have been working to do that. We have gathered the very useful information you provided at the two parish meetings this Fall, but we need additional information. To assist in this effort, we have developed a questionnaire that we will be handing out to all parishioners beginning on November 30.

While it is optional to fill out the questionnaire it will be very useful to have your input in seeking the next rector for our parish.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to any of us, we are always willing to listen.

Profile Committee Members:

Rod Chandler - 303-513-9051

Roger Emerson – 360-202-9946

Sandy McDougall – 360-630-9405

Susan Sanderson – 360-421-6789

Judy Smith – 360-770-8919

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

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.

TELECOIL ASSIST AVAILABLE.



HEADPHONES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE,  
PLEASE SEE A GREETER.