

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(1135 12th St.)
P.O. BOX 737
Sparks, Nevada
89432-0737



775-358-4474 (phone)
775-313-0806 (fax)

www.StPaulsSparks.org

Blended Holy Eucharist Service 10:00 a.m.

The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Sept. 17, 2023

On ZOOM: Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/3FcKREH> Meeting ID: 824 1236 4013 Password: 308693
Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833

The Rt. Rev. Elizabeth Gardner
Bishop of Nevada
The Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff
Rector
The Rev. Mike Margerum
Deacon

Welcome to All

St. Paul's is a theologically diverse community seeking to embrace their diversity in order to live through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a place of learning and belonging for all people.

Kid's Area

Located on the south side of the church is a special area where there are some coloring materials which can be used there or at other places in the church. Please return these supplies to their baskets following worship.

Holy Communion in Your Seat

If you desire to receive Holy Communion but are unable to walk up to the altar rail, please notify an usher.

They will inform the clergy of your request, and the clergy will gladly bring Holy Communion to you in your seat.

Guests and Visitors

We are especially excited to have you here with us today. Please take the time to sign the guest book located on the Welcome Wagon near the south entrance.

If you have any questions about St. Paul's or the Episcopal Church, please don't hesitate to visit with one of our clergy, either today or during the week.

Wine, Grape Juice, and Gluten Free

We offer both wine and grape juice during Communion as well as a gluten free wafer option. The chalice with the grape juice will be identified. All chalices continue to be intinction only.

If you are in need of a gluten free Communion wafer, there is a small basket as you enter the north side of the worship space. In it you will find a stone. When it is time for you to receive Communion, hold the stone in the palm of your hand and the clergy will exchange it with a gluten free wafer.

**THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!**

We Did This Together!

It was an incredible thing we did as a community...epic... a miracle level event. We humbly asked you to give sacrificially and look what we did. We, as a community, stepped out of the boat and we walked on water. We took a few loafs of bread and a couple fish and we fed the 5,000. We did what was said to be impossible.
Funds in the bank on May 31st.
\$82,698
Funds raised since June 1st.
\$345,189
Total raised for the parking lot.
\$427,887

Helpful Hints for Receiving Holy Communion

- Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. Everyone!
- The usher will let you know when it is time for your row to go up.
- Watch the people in front of you to get the flow of things.
- Only receive bread in your palm if you are skipping the chalice.
- To receive the bread and if you want to Intinct ("dipping" the wafer into the cup of wine/grape juice) the minister will place the wafer between your thumb & pointer fingers (pinch it) then you can Intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice.
- Please do not drink from the cup. Intinction only.
- There is a designated chalice on the north side, that has **grape juice**.
- If you would like a **gluten free** wafer, get a small black stone from the basket in the back of the worship space on the north side. Present it to the clergy and they will exchange it for a gluten free wafer.

PRELUDE: "Everlasting God"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All stand in body or spirit

PROCESSIONAL SONG: "Wade in the Water"

THE GREETING

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider: O Lord our God, your Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. (Psalm 119:105)

Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory; through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS #S-277

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

2. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you,

we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

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

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider: O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All Sit

THE FIRST LESSON *Genesis 50:15-21*

Lector: A reading from the Book of Genesis

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

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

PSALM 103:8-13

Lector: We will now read a portion of Psalm 103 responsively by whole verse.

Lector: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

***People:* He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

**As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

THE SECOND LESSON *Romans 14:1-12*

Lector: A reading from the Letter of Paul
to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

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

All stand in body or spirit

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear his char - i - ty we learn;
 3 For - give we now each o - ther's faults as we our faults con - fess;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;
 5 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells God's be - got - ten Son;

1 brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love by love are we thus bound.
 2 let us with heart and mind and strength now love him in re - turn.
 3 and let us love each o - ther well in Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
 4 be his the glo - ry that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.
 5 as mem - bers of his Bo - dy joined we are in him made one.

THE GOSPEL *Matthew 18:21-35*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison *until* he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you

all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON Jon Mittelstadt, Preacher-in-training

All Stand in Body or Spirit

THE NICENE CREED (*All in unison*)

**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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.**

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

SPECIAL BLESSINGS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Let us pray for the church and for the world.
[Silence]

Leader: O God, you not only spoke through the prophets, but you speak through us now. Guide your Church in all things and help us hear your purpose and know your grace. *[Pause]*

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you. *(Psalm 102:1)*

Leader: Confirm in your truth all the baptized, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth, our Bishop, and for all clergy and teachers of the faith. *[Pause]*

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: We pray for the community of St. Paul's, that together we may continue to have the courage to be a safe place of authentic belonging for all people.
[Pause]

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: We pray for all members of the Body of Christ especially for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, Retired Clergy and Spouses of the Diocese of Nevada, and Community First Church of God, Sparks.
[Pause]

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: God of all people, grant your vision of mercy and justice to those who rule and hold positions of power on this earth. We pray especially for Joe, our president; Joe, our governor; and Hillary and Ed, our mayors. Strengthen their work and help them to promote hope and bring peace to a broken world.
[Pause]

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: Lord, you are our ultimate protection. We pray for Mark, Aden, Bradley, Alex, Suzanne, and all the men and women, both in our neighborhoods and worldwide, who with courage wake each day to keep the peace and protect humanity. *[Pause]*

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: O Holy One, bind our souls to those who suffer and keep us mindful of all innocent victims, the oppressed, despised, outcast, the sick, the dying, and for those without hope. We pray especially for those we name now, both aloud and in the quiet of our hearts.

THE PRIEST BLESSES THE PRAYER QUILTS (if there are any)

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for the nourishing relationships in our lives: We pray for those who believe differently than us, and with patience, may we learn to listen to one another. *[Pause]*

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

Leader: We remember before you Lord all who have died: receive them into the eternal joy of your heavenly kingdom. *[Pause]*

Leader: Hear our prayer, O Lord;
People: let our cry come to you.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Presider: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain completely, yet humbly, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider: Sins are things that cause separation in our lives. Let us reflect on, and confess our sins to God.
(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)

Presider: Let us pray together.

Eternal Creator, in whom we live and move and have our being; Cleanse us from our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and selfish desires; that with reverent and humble hearts we may confess our faults, trusting in your mercy, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the love of Christ.

THE OFFERTORY

During this time we make an offering to the church to help maintain its mission in Creation. It is also a time in which we fully offer ourselves to be Christ in the world around us.

If mailing in an offering, please remit to:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 737, Sparks, NV 89432

Or online at www.StPaulssparks.org:



Scan with your smart phone camera to give secure and "contact free" donations.

All Stand in Body or Spirit.

PRESENTATION SONG "All That We Have"

THE PRESENTATION

Presider: All things come of thee O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Prayer 1 EOW

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 our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues:

It is truly right, good, and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Christ Jesus and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

THE SANCTUS: "Santo"

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People and Presider:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Presider:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence

THE INVITATION

Presider: Come and be fed;
you who have much faith,
and you who are seeking more;
you who come here often,
and you who are new among us;
you who have done well,
and you who have stumbled along the way.

All of you are welcome and belong here
at Christ's table.

So come as you are,
for it is Christ who invites us to meet him here,
and these sacred gifts are for you.

*The grape juice chalice is typically served by the
Deacon. Listen for an announcement to confirm this.*

COMMUNION SONG: "Always"

COMMUNION TO THE PEOPLE

*Here at St. Paul's everyone is invited to come forward
and receive Holy Communion.*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us all stand in body or spirit as we pray
together.

People and Presider:

**Loving God,
We thank you for the gift of your son Jesus and
for the nourishment we receive from Christ's Holy
Communion.**

**Bless us with the courage to live our lives as the
Gospel tells us.**

**Bless us with the confidence to share our faith
with others.**

**Bless us with the strength to admit that we need
your help and the humility to accept it from those
you send us.**

**Propel us out into the world, but guide us back
here each week to be fed; and may our eyes and
hearts be open to you always. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Priest offers this or other blessing

Presider:

God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. **Amen. (Celtic)**

RECESSIONAL HYMN (On the back page.)

A contribution to the
Ambry Light
this week has been given to the glory of God and in
celebration for family anniversaries and birthdays
by
Shirley Reed.

A contribution to the
Altar Flowers
this week has been given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for their 37th wedding
anniversary by Peter and Barbara Papadakos.

Donate Your Old Computers

The Lion's Club is taking donations of old retired but
usable Windows computers as well as old broken trash
computer equipment. Working computers will be
repurposed for those in need and the broken ones will
be recycled.

You can bring these computers to the church for
pickup by Dick Schori. If you have questions, contact
him at richard.schori@gmail.com.

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -
 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with
 a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his
 health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.
 or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon offers a dismissal and the people respond

People:
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:
"Thrive"