

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 First Sunday After the Epiphany Jan. 12, 2025

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 Very Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff
Rector

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.

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 are 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.

Prayers for Healing and Laying on of Hands

On Sundays when a Healing Minister is present, they will offer special prayers for healing immediately after receiving Communion. They will be located at the stools on the south wall in the back of the church. All prayers are kept confidential.

Guests and Visitors

We are especially pleased 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.

Annual Parish Meeting

January 26th at 10:00 a.m.

On Sunday, January 26th we will have our annual parish meeting blended into our 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Every member is HIGHLY encouraged and/or expected to attend. We hope you will join us. **This will be Fr. Kirk's final service as Rector of St. Paul's.**

A FAREWELL PARTY

Please join us in wishing Fr. Kirk and Tricia a fond farewell as they prepare to move to Norman, Oklahoma where Kirk will be the new rector at St. John's Episcopal Church.

Where: St. Paul's Parish Hall

When: Jan. 17, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP appreciated but not required to
Margaret.bouzek@gmail.com

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.
- 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, either say gluten free to the clergy distributing the bread, or you can get a small black stone from the basket in the back of the worship space on the north side. Present it in the palm of your hand to the clergy and they will exchange it for a gluten free wafer.
- If you desire Holy Communion but are unable to walk up to receive it, 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.

Prelude: "By the Rivers of Babylon"

Welcome and Announcements

All stand in body or spirit

Processional Hymn

"Songs of thankfulness and praise"

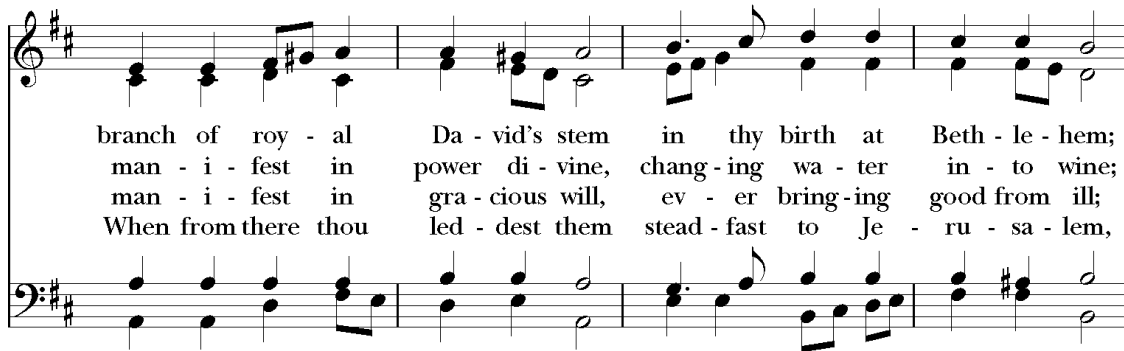
#135



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

The Greeting

Presider: Blessed be God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's Kingdom,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Presider: 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.**

Song of Praise: "You are My King"

The Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider: Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

All Sit

The First Lesson *Isaiah 43:1-7*

Lector: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 29

Lector: We will now say Psalm 29
responsively by whole verse.

Lector: Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: **Ascribe to the Lord the glory
due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.**

And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The Second Lesson *Acts 8:14-17*

Lector: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation: "I will call upon the Lord"

The Gospel *Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

Presider: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Rick Millsap, Priest
A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

All stand in body or spirit

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider: Let us all stand in body or spirit and affirm our faith in God.

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, sons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Special Prayers and Blessings

The Prayers of the People: Form III

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: **That we all may be one.**

Leader: We pray especially on this day for: Epiphany, Las Vegas; The Church of the Province of West Africa, and Church of Christ, Sparks.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader: We pray for: Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Elizabeth, our Bishop; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: We pray for all those who have died, especially those we now name.

(Pause)

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader: We pray for Mark, Sean, 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.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Blessing of the Quilts *(If there are Quilts to bless, they are done at this time.)*

Concluding Collect

Presider: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Stand/Kneel/Sit

Presider: Sins are things that cause separation in our relationships with God and each other. Let us confess our sins to God.

(Pause for personal reflection.)

Presider: God of all mercy,

People and Presider:

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 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.

The Absolution

(a reminder of God's grace and forgiveness)

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.

Offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory Sentence

The Presider offer this or other offertory sentence.

Presider: Let us make an offering of the gifts we have been given and make an offering of ourselves to God.

During this time we make an offering to the church for its mission and 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

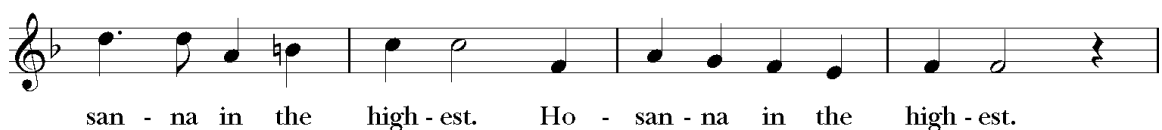
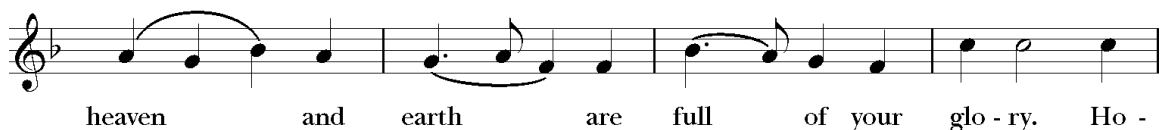
Or online at www.StPaulssparks.org:



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

The Offertory Anthem

The Sanctus
#S-125



The Presentation Song: "Give a Little Bit"

The Presentation

Presider: All things come of thee O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving: Prayer C

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.

Presider: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: By your will they were created and have their being.

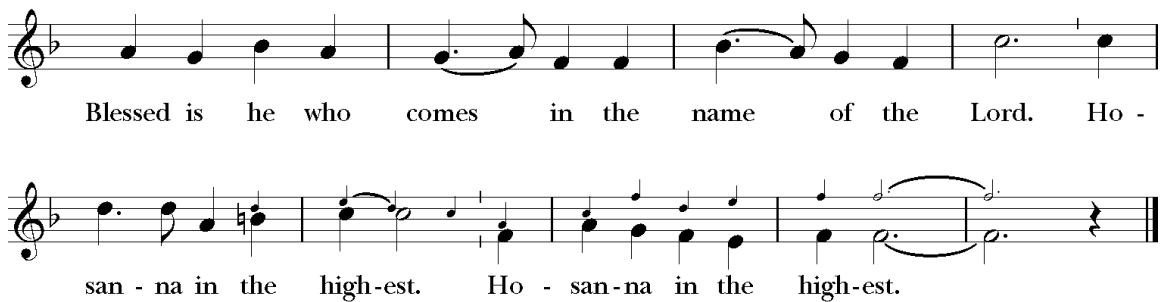
Presider: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Presider: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Presider: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



Presider: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***People:* We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Presider: Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***People:* Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Presider: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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

A period of silence is kept.

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

***People:* We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

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.

Communion to the People

If you are new to receiving Holy Communion, there are some helpful hints on the front page.

Communion Song: "El Shaddai"
"Above all Power"

Post Communion Prayer

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

People and Presider:

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members
of the Body of your Son,**

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing (*This or some 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. (source: Celtic)

Recessional Hymn

"How firm a foundation"

Verses 1-3 #637

Descant

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,
 1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;
 1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
 2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
 4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,
 1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

The Dismissal

The Minister offers the dismissal and the people respond:

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Greater"

Returning Financial Pledge Cards

If you haven't already returned your financial pledge card for 2025, please do so **today**.

There are some blank cards in the Narthex.

You can place it in the offering plate.

Having your pledge card helps the Vestry set next year's budget. Thank you!

Friday Bible Study with Zoom Option

Special Note

The Friday Bible Study is on a break.

We will not meet the remainder of January. We hope to resume our Bible study on Friday, February 7th.

Laundry Love

Laundry Love is taking a hiatus for 3 months / the foreseeable future.

Seeking Members of the Vestry

There will be three slots to fill during the coming Vestry election during the January 26th annual parish meeting. Since Fr. Kirk is leaving St. Paul's, the role of the Vestry will shift a bit, taking on more of the everyday operations and vision of the church.

We are seeking members to serve on the Vestry who have good listening skills, are a team player, and are willing to roll up their sleeves and do the work of this important ministry.

The position of Vestry is a three-year term. During the next three years, the Vestry will work with Bishop Elizabeth to select our next Rector.

Do you have the gifts to help us both keep St. Paul's the unique Christian community it is and help guide the congregation to where the Holy Spirit might be calling us to go?

The canonical requirements to service on the Vestry are you must have your baptismal information recorded at St. Paul's, you must have been Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church, you must be an active member in good standing and have given financially to the church.

If you would like to help lead St. Paul's during this transition, please complete the following questions on this Vestry Nomination Form and email them to our Sr. Warden, Margaret Bouzek at margaret.bouzek@gmail.com by January 15th.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 Vestry Nomination Form
 2025-2027 Term

Name: _____

What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?

What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?

What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?

Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?