

# 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.or](http://www.StPaulsSparks.or)

## Blended Holy Eucharist Service 10:00 a.m.

Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

February 2, 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

### 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.

### St. Paul's Girls Weekend

When: **April 25th - 27th**

Cost: \$200. per person

Where: Camp Galilee

Who: Women of all ages and their friends are invited.

Please contact Tia Mittelstadt at [tia.mittel@gmail.com](mailto:tia.mittel@gmail.com) or

775-722-3329; or

Erin Anderson at

[erin@trinity.ai.com](mailto:erin@trinity.ai.com) or

775-250-2699.

### St. Paul's Men's Retreat 2025

What: 3 days, 2 nights, 5 great meals, sun, fellowship, kayaking, tall tales, games, hiking, reading, more tall tales, whatever...it's your weekend.

Where: Camp Galilee

When: **August 22nd to 24th**

Cost: \$233.00 per person

Please contact

Dick Stufflebeam

[Realstuff775@charter.net](mailto:Realstuff775@charter.net).

### 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.

A contribution to the **Altar Flowers** this week has been given to the glory of God in celebration of our birthdays by Roger & Robin Towne

**Prelude: "Lifesong"**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*All stand in body or spirit*

**Processional Hymn**

*"God of the prophets, bless the prophets' heirs"*

#359

1 God of the pro - phets, bless the pro - phets' heirs! E - li - jah's  
 2 A - noint them pro - phets! Teach them thine in - tent: to hu - man  
 3 A - noint them priests! help them to in - ter - cede with all thy  
 \*4 A - noint them kings! Yea, king - ly kings, O Lord! A - noint them  
 5 Make them a - pos - tles, her - alds of thy cross; forth may they

1 man - tle o'er E - li - sha cast: each age for thine own sol - emn  
 2 need their quick - ened hearts a - wake; fill them with power, their lips make  
 3 roy - al priest - hood born of grace; through them thy Church pre - sents in  
 4 with the Spi - rit of thy Son: theirs not a mon - arch's crown or  
 5 go to tell all realms thy grace: in - spired of thee, may they count

1 task pre - pares, make each one strong - er, no - bler than the last.  
 2 el - o - quent for right - eous - ness that shall all e - vil break.  
 3 word and deed Christ's one true sac - ri - fice with thank - ful praise.  
 4 ty - rant's sword; theirs by the love of Christ a king - dom won.  
 5 all but loss, and stand at last with joy be - fore thy face.

<p><b>The Greeting</b>  <i>Presider:</i> Blessed be God:      Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  <i>People:</i> <b>And blessed be God's Kingdom,      now and for ever. Amen.</b></p> <p><b>The Collect for Purity</b>  <i>Presider:</i> 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. <b>Amen.</b></p> <p><b>Song of Praise:</b> <i>"I will Celebrate"</i></p>	<p><b>The Collect of the Day</b>  <i>Presider:</i> The Lord be with you.  <b>People:</b> <b>And also with you.</b>  <i>Presider:</i> Let us pray.  <i>Presider:</i> Almighty and everliving God, we humbly      pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day      presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you      with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord;      who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one      God, now and for ever. <b>Amen.</b>  <i>All Sit</i></p> <p><b>The First Lesson Malachi 3:1-4</b>  <i>Lector:</i> A reading from the Book of Malachi.</p>
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Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**The Psalm** 24:7-10

*Lector:* We will now say a portion of Psalm 24 in unison.

**Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.**

**"Who is this King of glory?" \***

**"The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle."**

**Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.**

**"Who is he, this King of glory?" \***

**"The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory."**

**The Second Lesson** Hebrews 2:14-18

*Lector:* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*All stand in body or spirit*

**Gospel Acclamation:** "Thy Word"

**The Gospel** Luke 2:22-40

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

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

*Minister:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon:** Susan Palwick,  
Licensed Lay Preacher

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

*All stand in body or spirit*

**The Nicene Creed**

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

**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 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: Diocesan Vestries and Parish Annual Meetings; The Anglican Church in the Province of the West Indies, and Grace Tabernacle Church of God in 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 reflect on and 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 now make an offering of the gifts we have been given and also 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](http://www.StPaulssparks.org):



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

### The Offertory Anthem

**The Presentation Song:** "Bind us Together"

### 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:

### The Sanctus #S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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: "Here I am Lord" & "Breathe"**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

*Presider:* Let us all 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 #556:** *Located in the Hymnal 1982*

### **The Dismissal:**

*The Minister offers the dismissal  
and the people respond: People: Thanks be to God.*

**Postlude: "Jesus is a Rock"**