

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

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

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 18, 2025**

On ZOOM: Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/3FcKREH>

Meeting ID: 824 1236 4013

Password: 308693

Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833

### 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.

The Rt. Rev. Elizabeth Gardner  
Bishop of Nevada

### 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.

### Feed the Hungry!

Due to recent federal and state cuts of \$6 million and approximately 3.5 million pounds of commodity foods, the poor and hungry of our region desperately need our help. Here are two ways you can feed the hungry in our area:

#### **The Food Bank of N. NV:**

Become a monthly contributor to the FBNN. Go to **fbnn.org**

They provide food for the hungry in Sparks and throughout Northern Nevada.

#### **The Community Food Pantry:**

You can also make a local impact by becoming a monthly contributor to the CFP. Go to **[www.thecommunityfoodpantryrenosparks.com](http://www.thecommunityfoodpantryrenosparks.com)**

### 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, mention it to the priest when you come up, and you will be offered one.

### 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.

### 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.
- When you come up for communion, the priest will place the bread on your open palm. You may then proceed to the chalice and dip (intinct) the edge of the wafer in the grape juice or wine.
- Please do not drink from the cup. Intinction only.
- There is a designated chalice on the north side, that has **grape juice**.
- 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** "Come Now is the Time"

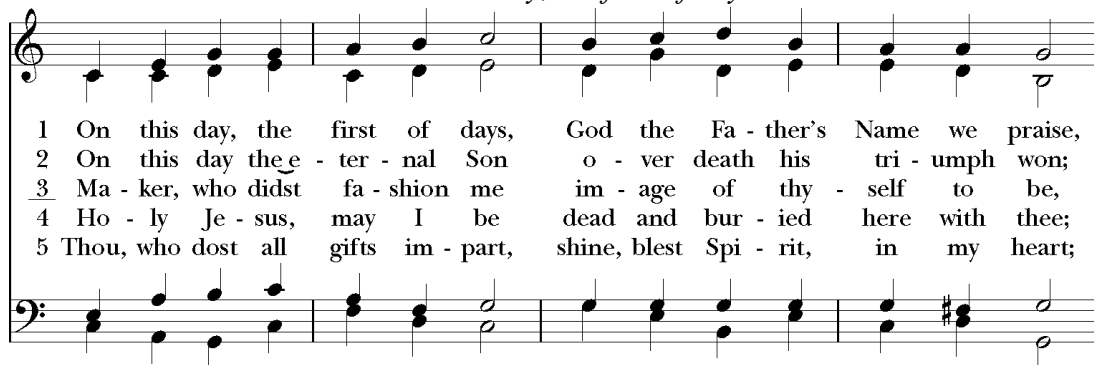
**Welcome and Announcements**

*Please stand as you are able.*

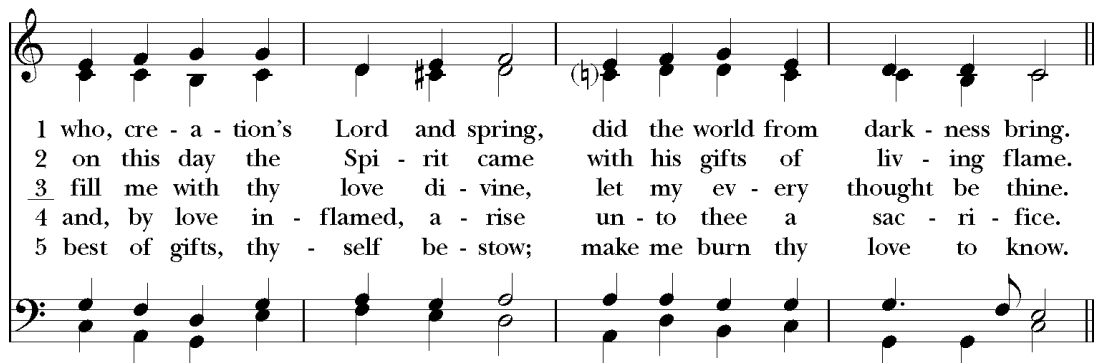
**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

*"On this day, the first of days"*

#47



1 On this day, the first of days, God the Fa - ther's Name we praise,  
2 On this day the e - ter - nal Son o - ver death his tri - umph won;  
3 Ma - ker, who didst fa - shion me im - age of thy - self to be,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, may I be dead and bur - ied here with thee;  
5 Thou, who dost all gifts im - part, shine, blest Spi - rit, in my heart;



1 who, cre - a - tion's Lord and spring, did the world from dark - ness bring.  
2 on this day the Spi - rit came with his gifts of liv - ing flame.  
3 fill me with thy love di - vine, let my ev - ery thought be thine.  
4 and, by love in - flamed, a - rise un - to thee a sac - ri - fice.  
5 best of gifts, thy - self be - stow; make me burn thy love to know.

6 God, the blessed Three in One,  
dwell within my heart alone;  
thou dost give thyself to me:  
help me give myself to thee.

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Presider:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*People:* The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

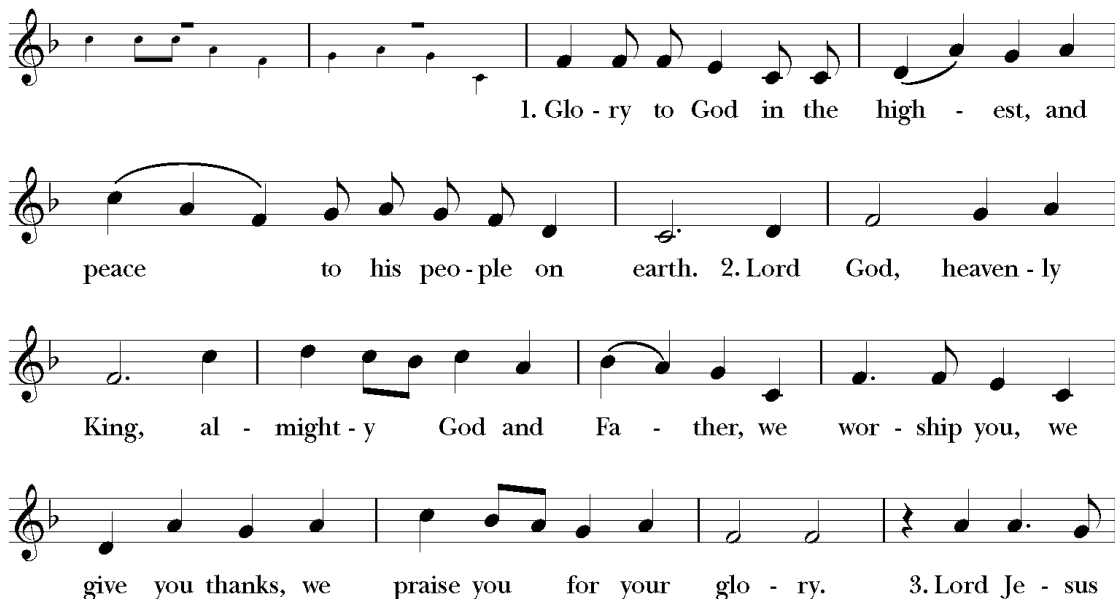
**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*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.**

**THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

#S-280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - 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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All Sit*

## THE FIRST LESSON Acts 11:1-18

*Lector:* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four

corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And

they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 148

*Lector:* We will now read Psalm 148 responsively by whole verse.

*Lector:* Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

**People:** Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.

**Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.

**He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

**Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

**Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.**

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

**He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!**

### THE SECOND LESSON *Revelation 21:1-6*

*Lector:* A reading from the Revelation to John.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And

the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "*Shout to the Lord*"

#### THE GOSPEL *John 13:31-35*

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

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*Minister:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON** Jon Mittelstadt,  
Lay Preacher in Training

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

### THE NICENE CREED (*Said in unison*)

*Please stand as you are able.*

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **GRADUATION SUNDAY**

Kevin Jones Memorial Scholarship Recipients

## **SPECIAL PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Leader:* What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us be Christ's voice in the world proclaiming the resurrection by saying:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

O God, we give you thanks for the goodness of creation, for your victory in the resurrection, and for the grace of our salvation. May the Church, as we celebrate the great 50 days of Easter, bring the light of Christ into the world as we proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We pray that the newly baptized may grow in their love of you and never lose the hope of your saving embrace, as together we proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Bring trust and understanding between the peoples of the world. Make all the nations into one household with many rooms. In the Spirit of the resurrection, we proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We pray for all who are blind to the gift of Easter; for all who journey from sickness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to comfort, from loneliness to love and especially for those we now name...

*(Pause)*

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

As we celebrate the healing power of the Spirit, let us proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for all whose lives reflect the light of Christ, and help guide us on our way as we proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

O God, guide your Church in all things and confirm in your truth all the baptized, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth, our Bishop, and for all clergy, and teachers of the faith.

We pray for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East, Holy Spirit, Bullhead City; and First Christian Church, Sparks

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We pray for Mark, Sean, Aden, Bradley, Alex, Suzanne, and the all men and women, both in our neighborhoods and worldwide, who with courage wake each day to keep the peace and protect humanity.

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

O God, increase in us the gifts of affection, compassion, and joy. Magnify our love for you and each other, so that we can see more clearly where you would have us go, as we proclaim:

*Leader:* Christ is risen!

***People:* Alleluia, Alleluia!**

## **CONCLUDING COLLECT**

*Presider:* Lord of light and life: We thank you for your loving kindness, and for shaping us through the journey of the resurrection. Accept the prayers we now offer, and give us the strength to continue the Easter celebration every day of our lives; all this we ask through Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Presider:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Offer on another some sign of Christ's peace.*

## **THE OFFERING**

*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.StPaulspark.org](http://www.StPaulspark.org):  
**Scan with your smart phone camera**  
**to give secure and “contact free” donations.**



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRESENTATION SONG “Bind Us Together”

## PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Presider:* All things come of thee O Lord.

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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Prayer A

*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:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

## SANCTUS: Praise Team

*The people remain standing.*

*Presider:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

## Presider and People:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Presider:* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **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

*Presider:* Alleluia!

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

## THE INVITATION

## COMMUNION TO THE PEOPLE

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

## COMMUNION SONGS: Praise Team

*“You Raise Me Up” & “You Are My King”*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*(Said in unison)*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

*Presider:* May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his goodness.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** (*Located on back page*)

### **Help Wanted**

Our bulletin boards are in need of “refreshing”. Do you have a talent for making a display on a bulletin board? Do you have an artistic eye for making them look interesting? If so, please contact Kathie Dixon, Junior Warden

### **Creation Care Committee**

The Creation Care Committee is sponsoring a cleanup at Ardmore Park on

**Saturday June 7th.**

The plan is to meet here at St Paul’s at 9:30 for a brief creation prayer meditation and sending forth.

Afterwards we will go to the park, do our clean up and after that enjoy a potluck.

If interested please sign up in the narthex.

### **UNITED THANK OFFERING 2025**

**MAY 4 - NOVEMBER 2**

The United Thank Offering Blue Box offers each one of St. Paul's parish members a chance to express their Gratitude for blessings large or small. By dropping pennies, dimes, dollars in the Blue Box we thank God for blessings in our lives: a loved one's birthday, a sunny day or a rainy one, a new job, for healing. "Every penny given is then given away in grant funding to missions and ministries to live Jesus' way of love."\* These funds may turn into kitchen equipment for a homeless shelter, a school in Uganda, family counselling, vans for doctor's appointments. More than 5,300 grants have been awarded for a total of \$160 million to support missions and ministries throughout the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

\*UTO The Episcopal Church

St. Paul's Gratitude Campaign will begin May 4 and May 11 with UTO Boxes featured in the Narthex and culminating on Ingathering Sunday November 2.

Any questions, please contact Kathie Dixon  
775-846-9751.

### **Mass at the Lake**

Save the date: July 19, 2025

A celebration at Galilee for the Sierra Deanery  
The team at Camp Galilee has graciously invited us to enjoy a deanery-wide play day at Camp on July 19th, and you're invited!

Camp opens for recreation at 10 AM,  
a noon lunch of burgers and hot dogs - we'll all bring salads, desserts, and drinks to share - and the bishop will be on hand to celebrate Eucharist at 1:30

More information to come!

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,  
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war  
 5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:  
 2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
 3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;  
 4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;  
 5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"  
 4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,  
 5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.  
 3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.  
 5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Minister:* Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us go forth into the world,  
 rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

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

\* The double Alleluias are specifically used during the fifty days of Easter until Pentecost.

**POSTLUDE:** Praise Team "Lord of the Dance"