



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026, 10:00am
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
StPaulsSparks.org

Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you're welcome to participate fully in all that we do here. We invite you to say the words in bold throughout the service. Restrooms are outside the sanctuary and down the hall. Turn right at your first opportunity. You're invited to join us for coffee and fellowship after the service in the parish hall. If it's your first time worshipping with us, please fill out the Connect Card in the foyer. Be sure to leave your mobile number if you'd like a text from Mother Hannah.

Announcements & Welcome

The Processional

*1 As those of old their first fruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield;
so we today our first fruits bring,
the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind, and heart, and hand.*

*2 A world in need now summons us
to labor, love, and give;
to make our life an offering
to God that all may live;
the Church of Christ is calling us*

The Acclamation & Collect

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Gloria

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,*

Hymn #705 "As those of old their first fruits brought"

*to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed by Christ-like love;
all life in Christ made new.*

*3 With gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best to thee
to serve thy cause and share thy love
with all humanity.
O thou who gavest us thyself
in Jesus Christ thy Son,
help us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.*

Hymn #S-280

*you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most
High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the
glory of God the Father, Amen*

Let us pray. (A moment of silence for prayer.) Trinity of love, inviting us to abide in you; may we follow the Spirit of truth through desert wild and city street, rutted field and snowbound height,

battleground and market square, that your demanding love might speak to the heart of the manifold world; through Jesus Christ, our Brother. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (17:22-31)

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 66:7-18

We will say the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

7 Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of God's praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

15 I called out to God with my mouth, and God's praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; God has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his love from me.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Acclamation

*Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;*

Hymn #516 "Come down, O Love divine"

*O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:15-21)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation Continued

*And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;*

*for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.*

The Sermon

Silent reflection after the sermon.

The Rev. Hannah Wilder

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: 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

If you're celebrating a birthday, an anniversary, or traveling, you are invited to come forward for prayer. For healing prayer, please see the ministers at the back of the church during communion.

Mother's Day Prayer

For Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Birthday

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand. Comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful. Raise them up if they fall. And in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Holy Spirit, Bullhead City. Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

In our Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Church of Pakistan. Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change to your church, O God, that we might serve you with courage and grace. Awake, O Church, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change to your world, O God, that all might know the goodness of your love. Awake, O World, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change to our nation, O God, that each person might respect and honor the other. Awake, O People, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change for the suffering, O God, that they might know your saving help. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list including: Deni Kreek, Pat and Mike Entwistle, Jeannine Funk, Teri Yuill, Kristy Witcher, Linda Kennedy, Ellen Jacobsen, LeeAnn, Joyce, Dawn, Kerry, and those we now name (*pause*). Awake, O Sorrowful, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change to the departed, O God, that they might forever grow in your likeness. We pray for those who have died, including Connie Maffie, and those we now name (*pause*). Awake, O Saints, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Bring newness and change to our hearts, O God, that we might grow larger in faith and hope. Awake, O Soul, rise from death, **And Christ will give you life!**

Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, for Christ has burst forth from the tomb, making all things new. Rise and live, says the Lord. This day God has made for life and joy! Amen! Alleluia! **Alleluia! Amen!**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Feel free to greet one another with whatever sign of peace (handshake, fist bump, nod, etc.) is comfortable for you.

Communion Instructions & Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

The Offertory

“Down to the River to Pray”

Your gifts sustain our mission and ministry. Thank you for being generous. You may place your gifts in the offering plate as it comes around. Or you can point your phone camera at the code to the right and follow the instructions to give online. We especially appreciate automated giving, and help with covering fees. When the offering is brought to the front, we stand and sing together:



The Presentation Song

“Doxology”

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below*

*Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Prayer Over the Offering

All things come of thee, O Lord, **and of thine own have we given thee.**

The Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer B, Inclusive Language

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to the One who created us. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, the Maker 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 Christ's death he has destroyed death, and by Christ's 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!***

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

Through Mary's Holy Child, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. You have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Dear One; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with St. Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever. **AMEN!**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is 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 forever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**
These are the gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please be seated. Follow the directions of the ushers. If you need gluten-free wafers, please say “gluten free” to the priest. If you prefer not to receive communion, you may still come forward for a blessing; please cross your arms over your chest. Let an usher know if you would like communion brought to you in your seat.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray. *(A pause for silent prayers.)* **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

The priest gives a final blessing to which we respond, **Amen.**

The Recessional

Hymn #344 “Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing”

*1 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace:
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.*

*in our hearts and lives abound:
ever faithful, ever faithful
to thy truth may we be found;*

*2 Thanks we give and adoration
for thy Gospel's joyful sound:
may the fruits of thy salvation*

*3 so that when thy love shall call us,
Savior, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us,
glad thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with thee in endless day.*

The Dismissal

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Permission to reprint, perform and stream the music in this service has been obtained from RiteSong, CCLI #2874630.
Biblical interpretation from the New Revised Standard Version.*

Announcements

Welcome to St. Paul's We're so glad you joined us for Easter! You're invited to the coffee hour after the service in the parish hall, which is down the hallway from the narthex (entryway) and to the left. If you're new here, please fill out a yellow Connect Card. We would love to get to know you. You can place the card in the offering plate as it goes by, or hand it to an usher. Welcome!

Learn About Healing Prayer

Offering healing prayer during communion is a quiet, powerful way to share God's presence and care. On Sunday, May 17, after church, Sybella Pope-Sears will lead a training to help you get started. She'll walk through the basics, offer practical guidance, and help you feel more confident in offering prayer with compassion and grace. All are welcome.

Installation & Induction on Pentecost Bishop Elizabeth would like to install and induct Mother Hannah as our new rector on Sunday, May 24, at 10:00am. If you feel so moved, you may wear red to symbolize the movement of the Holy Spirit. Plan to stay afterward for a special coffee hour. This is a good opportunity to invite your friends to church.

Do you speak a language other than English? We need you on Pentecost, May 24!

Like the first Pentecost in Jerusalem, we will hear part of the reading from the book of Acts in different languages on Sun., May 24 when Mother Hannah is installed as our rector. You don't have to go up front, just stand and read in your language while others are doing the same. If you speak a language other than English and would be willing to help, you can sign up by going to the following link: bit.ly/pentecostlanguages (It opens a preview of the page, and you click to continue to the sign-up form.) Or... scan the following QR code with your phone's camera and click the link that pops up. Rev. Rick will contact you by email with your reading and other information. Questions? See Rev. Rick after the service.



Faith Night at the Aces Friday, May 29, 6:35pm. Gates open at 5:30pm. Come out and support the Reno Aces as they take on the Sacramento River Cats! Tickets are \$22/person and include a hat. Bring the whole family and enjoy fireworks, hot dogs, the ballgame, one of America's greatest pastimes. Purchase tickets online: gofevo.com/event/Stpauls43 Questions? Contact Kathie Dixon: 775-846-9751.

St Paul's Men's Retreat, June 12 - 14 - Join us for a weekend in nature and with each other at Camp Galilee in Lake Tahoe. \$230 per person. All who identify as men are welcome. For more information or to sign up, contact Dick Stufflebeam: 775-313-3217 or realstuff775@charter.net.

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