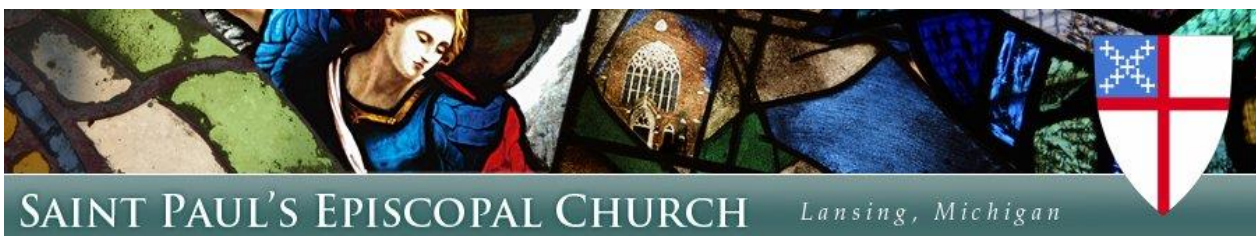




Morning Prayer Rite II
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - July 12, 2020

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
www.stpaulslansing.org

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
Office: 517-482-9454



St. Paul's Staff: The Rev. Karen C. Lewis, Rector; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Ms. Jackie Womble, Christian Formation Director; Mr. Christopher Hart, Interim Sexton; Ms. Ciera Wilson, Nursery Attendant; Ms. Kathy Vogel, Wedding Coordinator.

St. Paul's Vestry: Maria Wawro, Sr. Warden; Sue LeDuc, Jr. Warden; Jack Baker, Jane Bryce, Michael Hart, Jennifer Humphries, Bob Merriman, Dave Parks, Libby Richardson, Margaret Schulte, Gloria Sutton, Jeff Irwin, Treasurer, Sally Boron, Secretary.

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER

During the summer, we will be using a supplemental liturgical text entitled *Enriching Our Worship* for Morning Prayer. The Episcopal Church initiated the development of supplemental worship texts in response to the need to be more inclusive in language and scripture readings; and to reflect the diversity of the Church. Morning Prayer was the first such service to be provided in 1998. Changes included many new canticles (particularly those voices of women in the Hebrew Scriptures (such as the Song of Hannah); and the use of inclusive language (non-gender).

In creating the supplemental texts, the commission was guided by the following:

“All liturgical texts are rich in what they say about God but also what they say about ourselves in relationship with God. This is at the heart of any theological reflection upon the experience of liturgical prayer. Who does the text say God is, who does it say we are, and—most importantly—what does this mean for us? These questions form the basis upon which the community can explore how these prayers speak in the hearts, minds, and spirit of the community of faith.

The task for the Church is not merely to translate but to find the voice of prayer in the heart, spirit and mind of the people praying.

It is the hope that the whole Church will begin to have prayers which expand the breadth and depth of the Church's prayer life.”

MORNING PRAYER RITE II – PROPER 10

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – JULY 12, 2020

Saint Paul reminds us that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39). For the time being, we are physically separated from one another; yet, our community will continue to strive to be loving, joyous and inclusive. All you need to participate in this time of prayer is found in this bulletin.

OPENING SENTENCE

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth.

John 4:24

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Officiant and People say together

**God of all mercy
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 that enslaves us,
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 Officiant says

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

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People **And your glory all the day long.**

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Then follows an Invitatory Psalm, the Officiant and People saying together

PSALM 67:1-5

Antiphon Day by day we bless you; **we praise your name for ever.**

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Antiphon Day by day we bless you; **we praise your name for ever..**

Then follows the appointed Psalm. The People sit for the psalm.

PSALM 119:105-112

105 Your word is a lantern to my feet*
and a light upon my path.
106 I have sworn and am determined*
to keep your righteous judgments.
107 I am deeply troubled;*
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,*
and teach me your judgments.
109 My life is always in my hand,*
yet I do not forget your law.
110 The wicked have set a trap for me,*
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;*
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes*
for ever and to the end.

At the end of the Psalm is said by all

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 25:19-34

Reader A reading from the book of Genesis

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand. The following Canticle is said by all

A SONG OF HOSEA

HOSEA 6:1-3

**Come, let us return to our God,*
who has torn us and will heal us.
God has struck us and will bind up our wounds,*
after two days revive us,
On the third day restore us,*
that in God's presence we may live.
Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord,
whose justice dawns like morning light,
its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
God's justice will come to us like a shower,*
like spring rains that water the earth.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

Reader A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do; by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The following Canticle is said by all

A SONG OF OUR ADOPTION

Ephesians 1:3-10

**Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
for you have blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ,*
that we should be holy and blameless before you.
You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ,*
according to the good pleasure of your will,
To the praise of your glorious grace,*
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.
In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,
the forgiveness of our sins,
According to the riches of your grace*
which you have lavished upon us.
You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight,*
the mystery of your will,
According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ,*
as a plan for the fullness of time,
To gather together all things in Christ,*
things in heaven and things on earth.**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Reader A reading from the gospel of Matthew

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

The following is said by all

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

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. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant Hear our cry, O God.
People **And listen to our prayer.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People pray together

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

SUFFRAGES

V. Help us, O God our Savior;
R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.
V. Look upon your congregation;
R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.
V. Declare your glory among the nations;
R. And your wonders among all peoples.
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

THE COLLECTS

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lest the Word of God return empty to the heavens, let us turn our hearts to the needs of others and plant the seeds of justice, saying: In mercy, hear us.

For the Christian churches throughout the world; for Michael our presiding bishop and Bonnie, our bishop; that together we may harvest compassion in an abundance of mercy, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

That leaders of government both here and abroad, will attend to Christ's call of peace, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

For farmers, harvesters and migrant workers, and for an end of injustice toward those who work the land, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

That people of the earth may honor and respect the natural resources of the planet, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

For those with COVID-19 and those who care for them; for all the sick especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently or aloud _____, that the reign of God will bring healing to all human life, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

For those who are oppressed; for the victims of racism and acts of prejudice and for those who work towards equality for all, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

For fertile soil of faith, that God's word will be planted in our hearts so that we may share the good news with all whom we meet, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

For all who have died and for those who mourn, that God give them eternal rest, we pray: In mercy, hear us.

The Officiant concludes the prayers by saying the following

Blessed are you, O God, for the word of your mouth. In your mercy, listen to all who call to you in faith. Let your word find root in our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus, who lives with you in the power of the Spirit, forever. Amen.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People say together

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.
Amen.**

Then the Officiant says

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant concludes with the following

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between

 preserving their health or making their rent

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those

 who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

 let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbor.

Amen.

Author unknown

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

July 12, 2020

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Margaret (Peggy) Richardson, Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Sebastian Cuesta, Clint Hogue, John & Grace Hawkins, Julie, Van Anderson, Marian Boulus, Nancy Rudd, Meadow Rawlins, Thomasina Canty, Anna Hayward, Harvey Clark & Mary Armstrong, Michelle Levenick, Norma Lindholm, Audrey & David, Pat Bellinger, Joanne Boulton, Claudia Hamlin, Ronda Peters, Erica, Marta & Venancio, Mike Jacobs, Rick Wendorf, Chris Krupka, Paul Doersam, Jason Thomas, Robert Madrigal, Joy Brewer, William Gabel, Pat Seger-Krawczynski, April Cruz, Karlene Bach, Sally Boron, Pam & John Irwin, Kate Johnson, Doug, Jeff Waters, David Hemingway, Max Pierce, Michael Crouch, Terry Bryce, Sherry Sutton, Danielle Laurion, Michael O'Toole, Penny, Peggy, Karen Clarke, Eric, Amy Crabtree, Judy Manson, Patricia McMartin, Doug Boor, Craig, Odie, Leonard, Sarah, Lyn Zynda, Larry Gut, Delaine Counsellor, Ellie Doersam, Gail & Bill Kendall, and Lynn Dayton.

We pray and remember those in the Military, and those who are serving in dangerous areas: Brendan Moody, Zachariah Reeves, Zachary Bellinger, Conrad Laurion, Alex Van Koevering, Tyson Carter, Amy Peryea, Suzette Bauman, John Bellinger, Doug Laurion, Erika Harkness Wilson, and McKenzie Counsellor.

We pray this week for the following St. Paul's members & family:

Mary Jane Wilson, Jackie Womble, Greg, Amy, & Willie Wortley, and Lyn Zynda.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Capital Area United Way, 330 Marshall St. #203, Lansing, MI 48912

We pray for our worshipping communities: St. Simon's, San Marcos, DR; Holy Faith Church, Saline; and St. Titus', Jimani, DR.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, and the Most Revd Allan Migi, Archbishop of Papua New Guinea.

We pray for: Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church; Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bonnie A. Perry, our bishop; Karen C. Lewis, our rector; our worship ministers, and staff at St. Paul's.