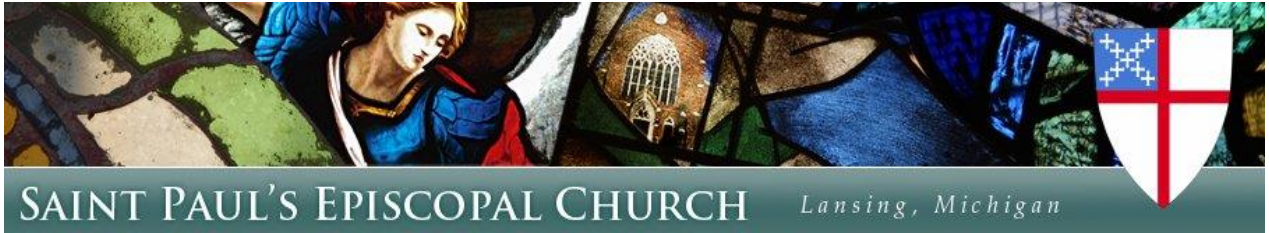




Morning Prayer Rite II
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 13, 2020

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

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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; 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

We have returned from the use of our supplemental liturgical texts to the Morning Prayer Rite II service found in our 1978 Book of Common Prayer.

MORNING PRAYER RITE II – PROPER 19
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 13, 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 HYMN “Be though my vision”

OPENING SENTENCE

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. *Habakkuk 2:20*

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

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Officiant stands and says

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 INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

Antiphon Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **Come let us adore him.**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;*
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God;*
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;*
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;*
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Antiphon Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **Come let us adore him.**

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

Psalm 114

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,*
 the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
 2 Judah became God's sanctuary*
 and Israel his dominion.
 3 The sea beheld it and fled;*
 Jordan turned and went back.
 4 The mountains skipped like rams,*
 and the little hills like young sheep.
 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?*
 O Jordan, that you turned back?
 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams?*
 you little hills like young sheep?
 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,*
 at the presence of the God of Jacob,
 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water*
 and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

At the end of the Psalm is said by all

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 14:19-31

Reader A reading from the book of Exodus.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand. The following Canticle is said by all

THE SONG OF MOSES

Cantemus Domino

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted;*
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
The Lord is my strength and my refuge;*
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him,*
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty Warrior;*
Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;*
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them;*
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might;*
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods?*
who is like you, glorious in holiness,

awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand;*
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;*
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them*
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord,*
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign*
for ever and ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

Reader A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The following Canticle is said by all

THE SONG OF THE REDEEMED

Magna et mirabilia

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done,*
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,*
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name?*

**for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you,*
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:21-35

Reader A reading from the gospel of Matthew

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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 The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
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. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

THE COLLECTS

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace to battle against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confident in the knowledge that God comforts and lifts up those who call on the name of the Lord, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

For the gift of life, O Lord, we give you thanks. Infuse the church with your light, and make us vehicles of that life-giving light. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who live with fear, anxiety and uncertainty, or illness, remembering especially those with COVID-19, those on our parish prayer list, and those we now name _____. Comfort and strengthen them, we pray, that they may know the healing power of your love. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations and all who are in positions of political authority, that they may hear your voice above all others and act in such a way that brings about healing and reconciliation. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those running for election and for those who vote. Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials that all rights may be protected and our nation enabled to fulfil your purposes. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who mourn and wonder, “O God, where were you?” May they know your presence and see how you use something that was meant for evil to bring about something that can be used for good. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our enemies, the ones for whom we would rather not pray, and for ourselves: lead us from prejudice to truth; deliver us from hatred and revenge; give us courage to overcome our fears and build bridges, that we may stand before you reconciled through Christ our Lord. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember with affection those who now rest from their labors, especially those we name before you now, on our lips or in our hearts _____. Keep us in fellowship with all your saints and bring us at last to the joy of your heavenly kingdom. O God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence in observance of September 11, 2001

The Officiant says the following prayer:

God the compassionate one, whose loving care extends to all the world, we remember this day your children of many nations and many faiths whose lives were cut short by the fierce flames of anger and hatred. Console those who continue to suffer and grieve, and give them comfort and hope as they look to the future. Out of what we have endured, give us the grace to examine our relationships with those who perceive us as the enemy, and show our leaders the way to use our power to serve the good of all for the healing of the nations. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord who, in reconciling love, was lifted up from the earth that he might draw all things to himself. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People say together

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen

Then the Officiant says

People Let us bless the Lord.
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*

CLOSING HYMN “Praise, my soul the King of heaven”

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
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
September 13, 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, Larry Gut, Delaine Counsellor, Ellie Doersam, Gail & Bill Kendall, Lynn Dayton, Herb Tanner and Stacey O'Toole.

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, McKenzie Counsellor, and Josh Cramer.

We pray this week for the following St. Paul's members & family:
Chris Davis & Lonnie Shelton, Ladd & Krista Dayton, Lynn & Laurie Dayton, and Brad Deacon.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Haven House, 121 Whitehills Drive, East Lansing 48823

We pray for our worshipping communities: St. Mary's-in-the-Hills, Lake Orion; Trinity Church, Farmington Hills; and Christ the King, Taylor.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Anglican Church of Southern America, and the Most Revd Gregory James Venables, Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church of South America & Bishop of Argentina.

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.