



“Our Welcome”

In the light of God’s unconditional love, we respect the dignity of every human being by welcoming and supporting all persons whatever their race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, health status, marital status or stage of spiritual journeying. We invite you to explore, investigate, and grow in your faith and become a part of our shared journey with God.

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY January 24, 2021 -- Ante-Communion

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Office: 517-482-9454

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
www.stpaulslansing.org



This Sunday we will utilize a service known as Antecommunion.

What is ‘Antecommunion’?

The prefix *ante-* means ‘before’, so the service of Antecommunion is the Service of Holy Communion before, or leading up to and excluding, the actual celebration of Communion. Basically from the Organ Voluntary to the Offertory, this is the non-sacramental part of the Communion liturgy. The only difference is that Antecommunion is done on purpose, and ends with a few different prayers, making this specifically the Service of Antecommunion rather than the Service of Holy Communion

Why would anyone do this?

Antecommunion is a uniquely Anglican practice. Early in our church tradition, provision was made for the celebration of Holy Communion every Sunday and major Holy Days of the year, *but*, people were not used to such frequent reception of Communion, and despite the Reformers’ best efforts, the average English believer still only came to the Holy Table once a month at best. The priests, however, were still expected to fulfill the liturgical demands of the Book of Common Prayer, and so provision had to be made for situations in which there was a Service of Holy Communion offered but no communicants prepared to receive Holy Communion.

Now that Anglicans almost the world over are accustomed to weekly Communion, this “need” for Antecommunion is no longer common. If your parish priest is unexpectedly sick on a Sunday morning, then a Deacon or Lay Minister could lead an Antecommunion service instead, since it’s almost identical to the regular Communion service.

St. Paul’s Staff: The Rev. Karen C. Lewis, Rector; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Mr. Brandon Blanchard, Sexton; Ms. Ciera Hart, 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.

Please prepare yourself for worship. Find a space where you can be comfortable and undisturbed for awhile. Perhaps have a small cross and/or a candle placed on a small table by you.

Take a moment to be still and think of all those who will be joining you this morning in prayer.

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 24, 2021

PRELUDE **My Shepherd Will Supply My Need** Aaron David Miller

The people standing, the Officiant says

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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,
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.**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Reader A reading from the book of Jonah.

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 62:6-14

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits;*
truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor;*
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people,*
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath,*
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath,*
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;*
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,*
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord,*
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Reader A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:14-20

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Now after John (the Baptist) was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As God is moved by the sincerity of our repentance, so too God is pleased by the faithfulness of our prayers. Let us offer our prayers to God, saying: In your mercy, hear us, Lord.

You have called us, O God, to follow you. Give us the grace to listen to your call, to lay aside the things of this world, and to follow you. In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You have sent us, O God, into the world to tell the story of your love and faithfulness. Give us a holy zeal for the proclamation of the gospel in this place and in all the world. In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You have called, O God, those whom will lead our communities and nation. Grant the President and Vice President and their administration strength and courage to make decisions based on justice and equity. May they cooperate with your work to build communities of peace throughout the world. In your mercy, **hear us Lord.**

You have called, O God, persons of varieties of gifts to serve your church. Bless, we pray, the ministries of Michael our presiding bishop and Bonnie our bishop; the ministries of musicians and artists, scholars and writers, pastors and teachers, that their work enrich our common life and offer us a glimpse of the life to come. In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

You gave life, O God, for us and for all people. We remember before you those who are battling COVID-19 and those who care for them; we pray especially for those on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently or aloud _____; we remember those who mourn and those who have died. As you have reached out to us in love, so inspire us to be present to those we have named before you. In your mercy, **hear us, Lord.**

Hear our grateful hearts as we thank you for the blessings of your kingdom, especially our family and friends. In your mercy, **hear us Lord.**

The Officiant concludes the prayers saying

As we are faithful in prayer, O God, so make us faithful in following you, that loving and serving you all the days of our lives, we may know the joy of the resurrection and may look with longing for your coming in power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us 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.**

THE COLLECTS

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, send down upon those who hold office in this Country the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lead On O King Eternal

Charles Callahan

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

January 24, 2021

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Margaret (Peggy) Richardson, Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Sebastian Cuesta, Clint Hogue, John Hawkins, Julie, Van Anderson, Marian Boulus, Nancy Rudd, Meadow Rawlins, 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 & Stacey O'Toole, Brian Baker, Margo Rudd, Barb Webb, Carol Wilson, Barb Heany, Jim Ewing, Jerry Simpson, and Jane Bryce.

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: Peter & Nancy Sheldon; Dorothy Shillinglaw; Jerry & Carol Simpson; and Maggie Smith.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Capital Area District Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

We pray for our worshipping communities: Holy Name, Carreton, DR; Church of the Redeemer, Barahone, DR; and St. David's, Southfield.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Church of Bangladesh.

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.

2021 Vestry Candidates

Diane L. Clark

I was born in Mason, Michigan and grew up on the family farm west of Holt, Michigan. I attended the Grovenburg School, a mile north of our farm for kindergarten through fourth grade. Starting with the fifth grade, I attended and graduated from the Holt Public Schools. I attended Michigan State University for two years, majoring in Elementary Education and working as a student library assistant in the Science section of the Main Library. At the end of those two years, I married and was hired on the library staff as a senior clerk, a position that I held for two years, resigning shortly before my son, Jim was born. Four years later and after adding Larry to our family, I returned to a similar position in the Science section of the MSU Library. After nearly two years, I transferred to the Physics-Astronomy Library at MSU as a principal clerk, a position that I held until I retired from MSU twenty years later. During my years at MSU, I completed a B.A. in Elementary Education at MSU and a Master of Information and Library Studies at the University of Michigan, going to school part time while working full time.

As a child, I attended and later joined the Grovenburg Methodist Church, as part of the fourth generation of the North family in attendance there. After my marriage, I transferred my membership to the Robbins United Methodist Church where we raised our family. After moving to Lansing, I attended the Plymouth Congregational Church for several years and then attended the Mayflower Congregational Church for a time, before returning to my home church, the Grovenburg United Methodist Church, remaining there until it closed. At that time, I began attending St. Paul's Episcopal Church, joining my son, Larry and his family and my sister, Jane Bryce there. I started visiting St. Paul's when my Granddaughter Emma was singing in the Children's Choir and have attended almost every 4 pm Christmas Eve Service since that time. I have been a member of the choir of every church that I have attended.

While a member of the Grovenburg UMC, I attended various classes offered at the district level and attained the level of Certified Lay Servant in the United Methodist Church and I held several positions on the Administrative Council of the local church. I am interested in being a member of the Vestry at St. Paul's, because I want to be involved in the continuing mission of the church in its service to and care of its members and the community.

Susan Henderson

I began attending St. Paul's with my husband, Chris Couch, and our children, Graham and Hannah, in December 1985. The early years were spent in large part supporting the youth choirs and teaching Sunday School, first and second grade and later, high school with Deb McMartin-Finkel. I currently sing in the adult choir and am a member of Mission and Outreach Ministry. This will be my second time serving on the vestry. At LCC, I teach foundational English classes to help students succeed in their college-level courses.

Graham Crabtree

Graham and Amy Crabtree are lifelong members of the Episcopal Church, and have been happily married for 41 years. They became members of St. Paul's in 1997 with their children, Elizabeth, James and Dan, after moving to Grand Ledge from the Detroit area in 1991, followed by shorter periods of attendance at Trinity Church in Grand Ledge and St. David's in Delta Township. Graham is an attorney specializing in civil appellate practice at Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap, P.C. Before joining the Fraser firm, he was employed as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Oakland County from 1980 to 1991 and as Majority Counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the Michigan Senate from 1991 to 1996.

Graham participated in worship at St. Paul's as a member of the adult choir for a number of years before serving his first term as a member of the vestry from 2004 through 2006, and has continued to serve as a Lector for the Sunday services.

Martha Seaman McKee

It feels like I have come full circle to serve on the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church as I was baptized in this church in December of 1947. My parents, John Seaman and Martha O'Brien were married in this church in 1939, as were my sister, Elizabeth Seaman Tenney, and my brother, Jack Seaman. My grandmother, Beatrice Madrigal O'Brien, served on the altar guild here for most of her adult life, and my aunt, Beatrice Herrmann Powers, was a lifelong member, as is her daughter, Susie Herrmann Brewster. So though my membership here at St. Paul's is not long, my familial attachments run deep.

I grew up at All Saints Episcopal Church and served two terms on the vestry there in more recent years. I also served on the vestry at St. James Episcopal Church in Birmingham, including serving as Junior Warden and as Senior Warden.

Currently, I live in Bath Township with a Norwich Terrier, Rudy, and a black cat, Peanut, who likes to put in an appearance during Zoom meetings.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S January 24, 2021 – January 31, 2021
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Sunday, 1/24:	8:00am	Ante-Communion Service – Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour - Zoom
Monday, 1/25:	6:30pm	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, 1/26:		
Wednesday, 1/27:	12:00pm	Noon Book Study – Zoom
	7:00pm	Wednesday Evening Bible Study – Zoom
Thursday, 1/28:	1:30pm	Those Living Alone – Zoom
Friday, 1/29:		Office Closed
Saturday, 1/30:		
Sunday, 1/31:	8:00am	Ante-Communion Service – Online
	11:30am	Annual Meeting - Zoom