



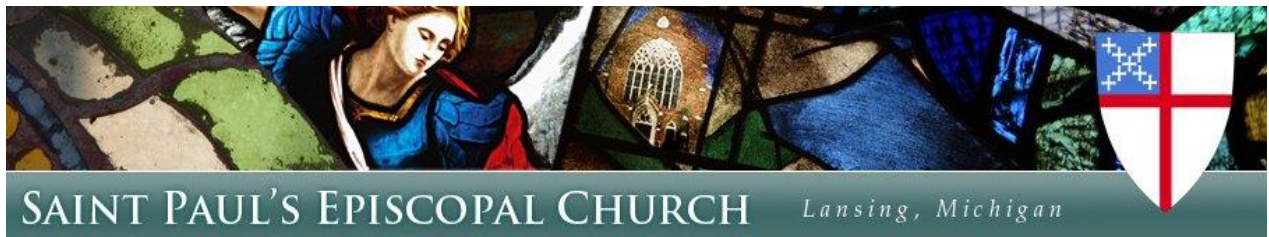
“Our Welcome”

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 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT February 28, 2021 – Morning Prayer Rite II

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

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



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: Dave Parks, Sr. Warden; Sue Le Duc, Jr. Warden; Jack Baker, Jane Bryce, Diane Clark, Graham Crabtree, Michael Hart, Susan Henderson, Martha Seaman McKee, 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.

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER

During the time of this pandemic we will continue to offer Morning Prayer Rite II on-line via our Facebook page, web-site and YouTube channel. Prior to the publication of the 1978 *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), Morning Prayer was the worship service we used regularly. Many congregations offered Holy Communion once a month and Morning Prayer on the remaining Sundays. With publication of the 1978 BCP, our pattern of worship moved to Holy Communion every Sunday of the month unless a priest was not present. Thus, Morning Prayer was seldom used and much of its beauty forgotten until now.

MORNING PRAYER RITE II
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – FEBRUARY 28, 2021

PRELUDE

Prelude on When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Neil Harmon

The Officiant begins the service inviting everyone to join in a moment of holy silence. Then,

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

The Officiant says

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us bow our heads in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

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 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.**

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

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,*
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,*
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Then follows the appointed Psalm. The People pray it together

PSALM 22:22-30

- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

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

GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader A reading from the book of Genesis

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." God said to Abraham, "As for Sarah your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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 4:13-25

Reader A reading from the Paul's letter to the Romans.

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations) – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead

(for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him" were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

The following Canticle is said by all

A SONG OF PENITENCE *Kyrie Pantokrator*

**O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven,*
 God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
 and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth,*
 with all their vast array.
All things quake with fear at your presence,*
 they tremble because of your power.
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure,*
 it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
O Lord, you are full of compassion,*
 long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
You hold back your hand;
 you do not punish as we deserve.
In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners,*
 that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart,*
 and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned,*
 and I know my wickedness only too well.
Therefore I make this prayer to you:*
 Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
Do not let me perish in my sin,*
 nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent,*
 and in me you will show forth your goodness.
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy,*
 and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises,*
 and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 8:31-38

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

All stand. 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

The people stand or kneel.

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.**

The Suffrages follows

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. We praise your Name for ever.
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. For we put our trust in you.
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. And we shall never hope in vain.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend 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

Jesus Christ intercedes for us at all times. Together let us remember and pray to God through Christ, saying: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For the church, especially Michael our presiding bishop and Bonnie, our bishop, that the fasting of these forty days may clear away much that is needless and so open our eyes to the bright glory of the cross, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For our world, that all living creatures may find goodness on the earth, our home, where life and death may both be God's blessing, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For the nations, for peacemakers, for all the world's peoples, for the governing authorities in every city and state, and for the wealthy and free to uplift the poor and oppressed, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For all whom we avoid, those we consider ungodly, the outcasts and beggars, the downtrodden, for our enemies, and for an end to our hardness of heart, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For all who are ill, lonely, struggling and isolated; for those on our parish prayer list and for those we now name either silently or aloud _____; for those struggling with COVID-19 and those caring for them; and for the dying, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For hearts to do what is good and right and true, and for humility before Christ, that we may never murmur against you, O holy God, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For those who have died and now rest in their Creator's arms, we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

The Officiant concludes the prayers saying,

All this we ask O God, in the name of Christ, who died and rose for us, and whose coming in glory we await. Accept our prayers and praises, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

A 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Then the Officiant says

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant concludes with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown

Michael Burkhardt

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

February 28, 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, 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 for those who have died: Ralph Kendall, father of Susan Kendall. Ralph died Sunday, February 21, 2021; and Terry Bryce, member of St. Paul's. Terry died Friday, February 26, 2021.

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: Camren Wilson & Carlie Money; Mary Jane Wilson; Greg, Amy & Willie Wortley; and Lyn Zynda.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Alano Club, 220 Howard St., Lansing, 48912.

We pray for our worshipping communities: St. Luke's, Santiago, DR; Trinity Church, Farmington Hills; and St. John's, Howell.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Anglican Church of the Central American region.

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.

<p style="text-align: center;">THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S February 28, 2021 – March 7, 2021</p>

Sunday, 2/28:	8:00am	Morning Prayer – Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour – Zoom
Monday, 3/1:		
Tuesday, 3/2:	7:00pm	Lenten Series - Zoom
Wednesday, 3/3:	12:00pm	Noon Book Study – Zoom
	7:00pm	Wednesday Bible Study – Zoom
Thursday, 3/4:	1:30pm	Those Living Alone – Zoom
	7:00pm	Choir Meeting – Zoom
Friday, 3/5:		Office Closed
Saturday, 3/6:		
Sunday, 3/7:	8:00am	Morning Prayer – Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour – Zoom