

Love one
♥ ANOTHER ♥
as I have
LOVED
you
-JOHN 15:12

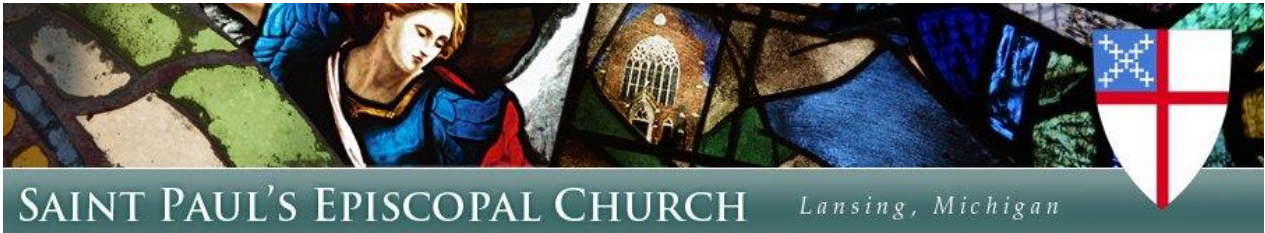
"Our Welcome"

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 Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 5, 2024
Holy Eucharist**

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; The Rev. Canon Dr. W. Richard Hamlin, Priest Associate; The Very Rev. Dr. Donna McNiell, Associate for Liturgy and Pastoral Care; The Rev. Gail Shafer, Priest Associate; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Ms. Barbara Heany, Sunday School Director; Ms. Katie Alexander, Nursery Attendant; Mr. D'Kwon Guerrero, Sexton/Custodian; Mr. Conrad Moyer, A/V Technician.

St. Paul's Vestry: Steven Kandow, Sr. Warden; Jane Bryce, Jr. Warden; Larry Clark; Joshua Freeman; Leslie Hall; Bob Merriman; David Parks; Margaret Schulte; Bobbi Tisdale; AJ Walilko; Maria Wawro; Amy Wortley; Jeff Irwin, Treasurer; Sally Boron, Secretary

Visitors and Guests: Please fill out a visitor card and give it to an usher or place it in the offering box. As you are leaving, we would like you to take a moment to sign one of the guest books located by the church doorways.

Opportunities for Worship – Sundays: 10:00am

Parish Office Hours Monday - Thursday: 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Closed on Fridays.

Phone: 517-482-9454 E-mail: office@stpaulslansing.org

Visit our website: www.stpaulslansing.org

For Parish activities and information please check the information table in the Merrifield Room.

Baptism or Marriage: If you would like more information please contact the Rector at 482-9454 or by email: rector@stpaulslansing.org.

Church School: Our church school for elementary through middle school ages begins at 9:45am. If you would like more information, please speak to Barb Heany.

Nursery Care is available in the Nursery in the Music Wing near the Choir Room.

Parking in the Roosevelt Parking Ramp: The Roosevelt parking ramp behind St. Paul's is available for evening and weekend parking. The ramp will open at 6:00pm weekday evenings. On the weekend the ramp will open on Friday at 6:00pm and remain open until 11:00pm on Sunday. If the arms are down after 6:00pm, please press the red button on your left (labeled assistance) as you enter the parking ramp.

All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry into the sanctuary or into any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 5, 2024

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

I sing the almighty power of God

HYMN 398

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.
and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,
while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Forest Green*, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

The people standing, the Officiant says

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.

The people sing together

GLORIA

S278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
 might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
 on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are invited to sit for the readings and the psalm

FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:44-48

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song,*
 for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm*
 has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory;*
 his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,*
 and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands,*
 lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp,*
 with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn*
 shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,*
 the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands,*
 and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
 when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world*
 and the peoples with equity.

Reader A reading from the first letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

God is love

HYMN 577

Refrain

God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.

1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
 2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
 3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,

Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
 let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
 when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.

Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Then, all standing, the clergy person reads the Gospel, first saying

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

THE SERMON

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

God gives what is good. Let us pray that this goodness of God flow through us into the world.

O God, your love is in motion. We praise the strength of your love. Where there is hunger, raise up your love. Where there is hurt and persecution, empower your love. Where there is false prophets, proclaim your love. Where there are lies, speak your love. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

Where nations are angry and plot harm against one another, especially in the Middle East, bring your love. Where governments lie and deceive, bring your love. Where powers cripple and destroy what you have made, bring your love. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

Where churches alienate one another, bring your love. Bless this community with such faithfulness that your job may be in us and that our joy may be complete. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, increase our affection. Increase our compassion. Show us those we do not see. Especially we pray for those who are ill or struggling; for those on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently or aloud _____. We pray for those who are hungry and homeless; lost, isolated or in need of assistance. Magnify our love. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

Accept our grateful thanksgivings as we lift up our voice, rejoice and sing, especially for this community, families and friends. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust to your never failing care those who have died. Let our faith in you witness to the victory that conquers the world. O God, giver of love, **hear our prayer.**

The Officiant concludes the prayers saying

O God, we thank you for the power of divine love and for the presence of your love in one another. Guide us all finally into that greatest love who is Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God Be in My Head

Robert G. Farrell

OFFERTORY HYMN

Brother, sister, let me serve you

HYMN 124VF

1 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
 5 When we sing to God in hea - ven, we shall find such
 6 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as

Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each o - ther
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er
 Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 of Christ's love and a gon - y.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Words and Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham © 1977 Scripture in Song (admin. Integrity Music/ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people standing, the Officiant says

Christ is risen!

People

The Lord is risen indeed.

Officiant

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them up to the Lord.

Officiant

Let us give thanks to God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Glorious God, we give you thanks and praise, for on this day creation sings, Christ is risen from the dead! He has burst forth from the tomb to break the tangles of despair and death. You brought your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land, and you brought your Son from the depth of death to the glory of resurrection life. Love is come again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Officiant and People sing together

SANCTUS

S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

All embracing God, we give thanks for Jesus, the risen Lord of life, who rose victorious from the grave and made the whole creation new. He broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed, then he poured out his life in death that we might live in love. Joy and gladness are our song, redeeming God, for in your conquest of death, we see the destiny of every hope in you.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 he 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.

Recalling his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine, and our lives in thanks and praise. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit upon the whole earth, that we may proclaim the good news to all the world and rise together as children of your new creation.

Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God, where death and pain are no more and you dwell with us forever. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you eternally in songs of pure unbounded praise. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

S155

The Officiant breaks the consecrated bread

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © GIA Publications, Inc.

INVITATION

Officiant The gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All God's people are cordially invited to God's table, including children. Gluten-free wafers are available: please indicate to the priest that you require this alternative. We will be offering wine from the common cup to those who wish to receive in this manner. The chalice bearer will thoroughly wipe the space from which you drank prior to offering the cup to the next communicant.

Another alternative to receiving the wine from the common cup is through intinction. The priest will place the wafer in your hand; the chalice bearer will pick up the wafer, dip it into the wine, and replace it on your palm. No one is allowed to intinct with their own hand/fingers. This safe guards all who use the common cup. If you wish to receive communion in only one kind (bread), know that you have received full communion.

Those who are not baptized or those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. The ushers will guide you. If you are unable to come forward and wish to receive communion in your pew, please let one of the ushers know.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let thy Blood in mercy poured

HYMN 313

1 Let thy Blood in mer - cy poured, let thy gra - cious
 2 Thou didst die that I might live; bless - ed Lord, thou
 3 By the thorns that crowned thy brow, by the spear-wound
 4 Wilt thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i -

Bo - dy bro - ken, be to me, O gra - cious Lord,
 cam'st to save me; all that love of God could give
 and the nail - ing, by the pain and death, I now
 tence I give thee; thou art my ex - alt - ed King,

Refrain
 of thy bound-less love the to - ken.
 Jes - us by his sor - rows gave me. Thou didst give thy -
 claim, O Christ, thy love un - fail - ing.
 of thy match-less love for - give me.

self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925). Music: *Jesus, meine Zuversicht*, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662); harm. after *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Officiant and People say together:

Almighty God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ you broke the power of death and opened the way to eternal life. As the empty tomb stands witness to his triumph over death, make your church to be a bold testimony to his enduring victory in life, that all we do may proclaim to the world, "He is risen, indeed!" Through Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Receive the good news: Christ is risen from the dead.

Tell the good news: the power of death shall no more oppress us.

Live the good news: we are free to love as he has loved us.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaims

HYMN 535

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
 and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
 All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Paderborn, melody from *Catolisch-Paderbornisches Gesang-buch*, 1765; harm. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).

DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Assisting in today's service

Crucifer	Marti Narezo
Subdeacon	Jack Baker
Lector	Graham Crabtree
Prayers of the People	Deb McMartin-Finkel
Chalice Bearers	Leslie Hall, Jamal Dillman-Hasso
Counters	Katie Alexander, Greg Wortley
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Melissa Blood (chair), Carrie Freeman, Marti Narezo
Ushers	Melissa Blood, Justin Alexander, David Parks, Debbie Parks
Coffee Hour	Henrie & Liam Parks
Greeters	Greg & Amy Wortley
Recycling Team	Jim Milne
Sunday School Mentors	Isaac Francisco, Susan Henderson
Vestry Person of the Day	Bobbi Tisdale

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

Assisting next Sunday, May 12, 2024

Crucifer	Jim Milne
Subdeacon	Leslie Hall
Lector	Susan Kendall
Prayers of the People	Larry Clark
Chalice Bearers	Justin Alexander, Jen Humphries
Counters	Martha Seaman McKee, Margaret Schulte
Altar Guild Members for the Week	Sue Le Duc (chair), Jane Bryce, Nancy Merriman, Theresa Milne
Ushers	Joseph Lehning, Michael Hart, Mark Rudd
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	Joseph Lehning
Recycling Team	Mark Rudd
Sunday School Mentors	Barb Heany, Jack Baker
Vestry Person of the Day	Jane Bryce

**Opportunities for Prayer
May 5, 2024**

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Joanne, Mike, Pat, Melissa, Tom, Marion, Sebastian, Ron, Hannah, Kate, Dezmon & family, Mable, Sue, Sarah, Abigail Jordan, Heather, David, and Annika. **Due to privacy concerns, we will now be posting first names only on our prayer list.*

We pray this week for the following St. Paul's members: Norma Lindholm, and Kirk & Barbara Lindquist.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Sparrow Volunteer Services Dept, 1215 E Michigan Ave, Lansing MI

We pray for our downtown church community: Cathedral Church of St. Mary; Central United Methodist Church; Christ Community Church; and First Presbyterian Church.

We pray for our worshipping communities: St. Michael's, Grosse Pointe Woods; St. Barnabas', Chelsea; St. Joseph's, Boca Chica, DR.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil.

We pray for: Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael B. Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Bonnie A. Perry, our bishop; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; Karen C. Lewis, our rector; Donna McNiell, our associate for liturgy and pastoral care; Dick Hamlin and Gail Shafer, our priest associates; our worship ministers, St. Paul's staff and our diocesan household.

**Announcements for the Week of
May 5 - May 12, 2024**

Eucharistic Visitor Training: We will have a second training today at 11:30am - 1pm, lunch will be provided. Those who participated in our December training AND those who would like to be trained are welcome. Eucharistic Visitors are licensed parishioners who take communion to those who cannot come to church and visit those who are sick. In Matthew 25:6 Jesus says when we visit those who are sick it is as if we are visiting him. One of our privileges in the Body of Christ is visiting one another when we need support. It is a simple but important ministry and only takes an hour or two a month. If you have questions call or email Donna+ at canterburymisu@gmail.com 517-366-1342.

Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Certification: Our Red Cross certified instructors will be holding classes in May, June, August, October & November in the Choir Room from 10am-3pm. This class is for anyone who wants to be certified/re-certified in adult and/or pediatric First Aid or CPR/AED. Please check the schedule and sign up in the Merrifield Room. Questions? Please contact John David Hawkins h012T@comcast.net.

Mission & Outreach: It's time to register!! We are making bunk beds with Sleep In Heavenly Peace on Saturday, May 11. No experience necessary. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room AND register with SHP. Go to <https://shpbeds.org/chapters>, Michigan, MI-Lansing, Volunteer Now, May 11, 2024, Let's make sure no kid sleeps on the floor in our town! We continue to collect the following items: toilet paper and canned veggies for First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry; gently used clothes for Fretail; gently used bath towels and blankets for Punks with Lunch. Thank you!

Potluck Set Up on Saturday, May 18th at 10:00am. Sign up in the Merrifield Room.

Mark your calendars! Pentecost is May 19th. We will have a potluck following the service so sign up and plan on bringing your favorite dish. We will have a chance to converse about summer service hours and other items. We will also engage in a process known as Living Room Conversations to discuss elections, trust, etc. **Sign up for clean up too!**

What is Autism? Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. According to the Centers for Disease Control, autism affects an estimated 1 in 36 children and 1 in 45 adults in the United States today.

We know that there is not one type of autism, but many. Autism looks different for everyone, and each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges. Some autistic people can speak, while others are nonverbal or minimally verbal and communicate in other ways. Some have intellectual disabilities, while some do not. Some require significant support in their daily lives, while others need less support and, in some cases, live entirely independently.

St Paul's welcomes all to our worship and community life. It is our hope that all will find this a safe place to worship and develop a relationship with God. April is Autism Awareness Month, and we give thanks for those in our community who live with autism. Our goal is to create a sensory room in the Sunday School wing for anyone who will need a safe and calming space for those with autism who may need it.

Noisy Offering: Our Noisy Offering recipient will be the House of Promise for the months of April-June. House of Promise provides women survivors of sexual abuse and sex trafficking a safe place to heal and recover from the destructive patterns of abuse. They do this through training, counseling, and helping young girls/women relearn basic skills so they can rebuild their lives and reintegrate into society. Please visit their website for more information: <https://www.thehouseofpromise.com/>.

The Ingham County Racial Equity Task Force and the Housing Trust Fund are sponsoring community conversations to gather feedback from community members and other stakeholders about housing needs and priorities, and to provide information about the current state of affordable housing in Ingham County. All Ingham County residents are welcome to attend this community conversation. **It will be held from 6 - 7:00pm on May 15th at The Fledge 1300 Eureka Street.**

Recycle ink cartridges: Bring your used ink cartridges into the parish office for recycling and help reduce our paper costs. We get discounts on office supplies and paper through the Staples recycling program.

The Ingham County Home Buyers Crew, a collaboration of the Housing Trust fund and the Ingham County Land Bank, and many other local housing partners and financial institutions, collaborate to direct home buyers to resources that help make homeownership more attainable and accessible. More information and the partner list is on the Home Buyers Crew site on www.tr.ingham.org. Please pass this info along if you know of someone who might benefit from this group.

Coffee Hour sign up: We need two family units per week to bring treats, serve & provide cleanup for coffee hour following the 10:00am services. There are signup sheets in the Merrifield Room. Sign up with a friend or extended family. If no one signs up, we will not have coffee hour.

Reminder: Please schedule all meetings with the office in advance. We want to assure you that there is a space for you to meet and that someone will be available to open the building. **Please** notify the office if you have a **cancellation** to ensure building and staff security.

Bulletin: Please submit information by noon on Tuesday, in writing or by e-mail, to office@stpaulslansing.org to ensure accuracy.

Blessing Box: Sign up in the Merrifield Room to fill the Blessing Box for a week.

Here at St. Paul's – We Recycle: Please sign up in the Merrifield Room to take some of the recycling either to your home bin or to a recycling drop off center. Since 2018 St. Paul's has been using compostable plates, cups, and cutlery for coffee hour and meals. The cups and cutlery we use are made of cornstarch! On those occasions when we can't use compostable materials, we have a separate collection bin for rinsed plastic to be recycled. Please use these supplies when you host coffee hour or any event with food. We are committed to reduce, reuse, and recycle at St. Paul's. See one of the Milnes or Borons for more information.

Altar flower requests: There are openings for the upcoming Sundays for altar flower dedications. Flowers are always given to the glory of God, and then in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a person or occasion. Dedications and **\$120** payment must be received in the church office no later than the Monday before the date of the dedication. **More than one dedication can be made if you and a friend want to share the cost of the flowers. If we don't have \$120 (\$60 for the summer) per week for flowers, there will be no flowers.** Altar Flower forms available on the signup table, or you can email your dedication to office@stpaulslansing.org.

Please sign up to be a Greeter: One of the faith outreaches we have at St. Paul's is the Sunday morning greeters. We can extend our faith by welcoming our fellow parishioners and visitors each week. Remember that you are the first face they will see as they enter the church. A welcoming hand and face always lift our spirit, what a way to start a day and you play an important part in that.

- **Signup sheets are in the Merrifield Room** – Need two greeters at the back door.
- Be at the back door 20 minutes before the service.
- Greeters should remind parishioners to pick up their nametags and ask visitors to fill out the guest book located in the cloister outside the chapel and to join the parish after the service for coffee and fellowship in the Merrifield Room.

Contributions Last Week: For the week of April 28, 2024, St. Paul’s received **\$6,661** in contributions as follows:

Pledge Income	\$5,805
Operating Income	\$520
Music Program Restricted Gift	\$100
Memorial Restricted Gift	\$200
Loose Offering Restricted	\$36

<p>This Week at St. Paul’s May 5 - May 12, 2024</p>
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Sunday, 5/5:		Canon Hamlin Away/Noisy Offering 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship & Holy Communion 11:15am Coffee Hour - Merrifield Room 11:30am Eucharistic Visitor Training - VanAtta Room
Monday 5/6:	2:30pm	Canon Hamlin Away Staff Meeting
Tuesday, 5/7:		Canon Hamlin Away
Wednesday, 5/8:	12:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Canon Hamlin Away Noon Book Study - Zoom Jim Wallis/Christian Nationalism - Dinner Jim Wallis/Christian Nationalism Guest Speaker
Thursday, 5/9:	7:00pm	Canon Hamlin Away Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 5/10:		Canon Hamlin Away Office Closed
Saturday, 5/11:	9:00am 12:30pm	Canon Hamlin Away Sleep in Heavenly Peace - Build a Bed Helen Deliyanne Memorial Service - Private
Sunday, 5/12:	9:00am 9:45am 10:00am 11:15am 11:30am	Mother’s Day Canon Hamlin Away Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Worship & Holy Communion Coffee Hour - Merrifield Room Eucharistic Visitor Training - VanAtta Room