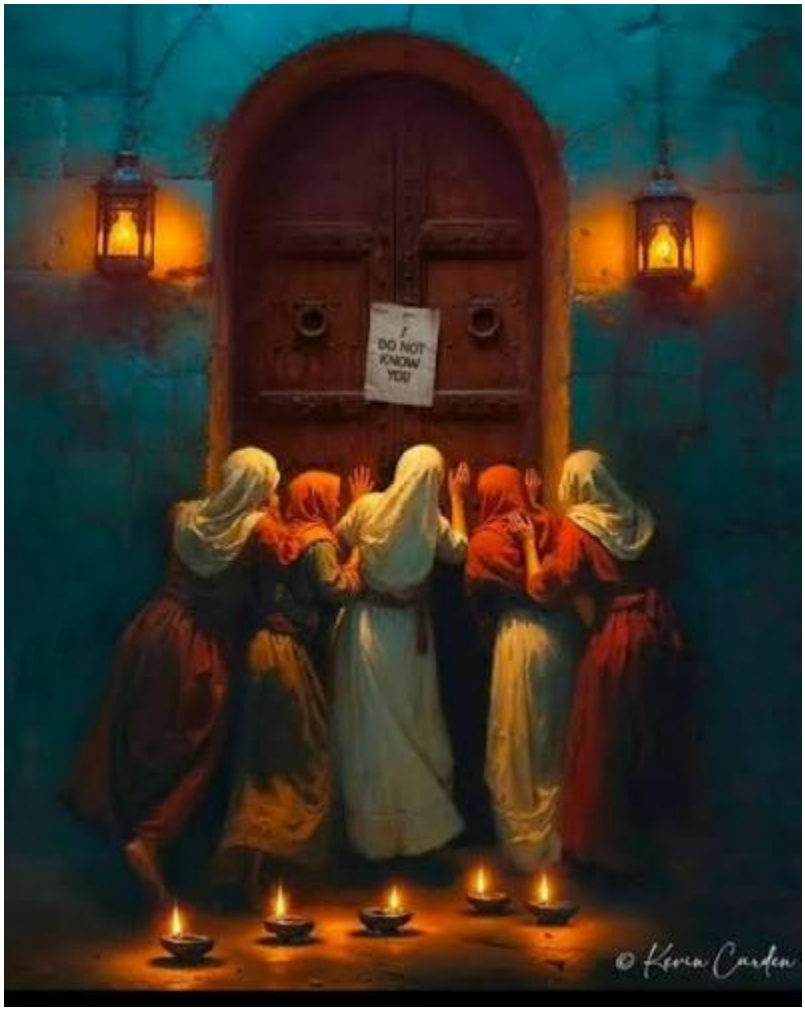


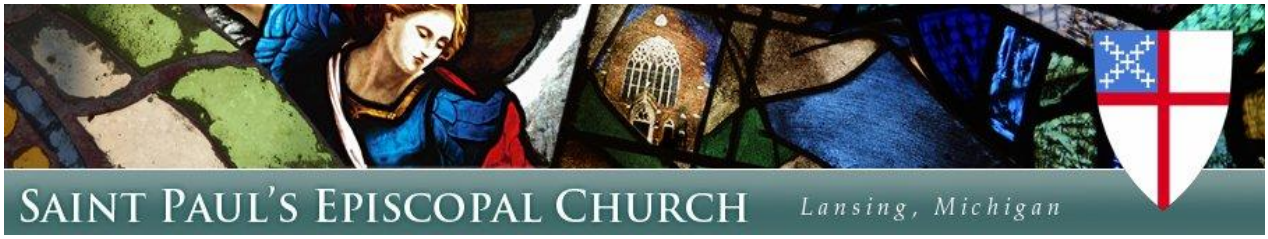
"Our Welcome"

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 Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
November 8, 2026 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. Gail Shafer, Priest Associate; Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Barbara Heany, Sunday School Director; Katie Alexander, Nursery Attendant; D'Kwon Guerrero, Sexton/Custodian; Conrad Moyer, A/V Technician.

St. Paul's Vestry: David Parks, Sr. Warden; Kelly Hackett Jr. Warden; Justin Alexander, Jane Bryce, Joshua Freeman, Jim Milne; Mark Rudd; Ann Sanders; Herb Tanner; Bobbi Tisdale; Katie Wiley; Lyn Zynda; Jeff Irwin, Treasurer; Margaret Schulte, 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 – Worship & Holy Communion

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: Please contact the Rector at 482-9454 or by email: rector@stpaulslansing.org for more information.

Church School: Our church school for elementary through middle school begins at 9:45am. Please speak to Barb Heany for more information.

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 parking after 6:00pm. The ramp will not be open on Fridays. The ramp will be open on Saturday and Sunday mornings until 9:00pm.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST– HOLY EUCHARIST
NOVEMBER 8, 2026 – PROPER 27

PRELUDE *Variations* Handel

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Creator, you made all people of every land. Today, we honor the ancestral and traditional Lands of the Anishinaabeg, the Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi people, whose home this land was for hundreds of years, and who are still here today. As we make this land acknowledgement, we confess to our part in the sin of traumatic, systemic racism and oppression in the history of this nation and in the Church--a history we are only beginning to understand. With humility, we commit ourselves to acknowledging the wrongs of the past and to building relationships with the Anishinaabeg. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN *All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine* HYMN 477



Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Engelberg*, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Descant Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

The people standing, the Officiant says

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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



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

COLLECT OF THE DAY
O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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 Joshua 24:1-3A, 14-25

Reader A reading from the book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors – Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor – lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

PSALM 78:1-7

1 Hear my teaching, O my people;*
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable;*
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us,*
we will not hide from their children.
4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,*
and the wonderful works he has done.
5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel,*
which he commanded them to teach their children.
6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn;*
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
7 So that they might put their trust in God,*
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments.

SECOND LESSON 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Lo! he comes with clouds descending* HYMN 58



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *St. Thomas*, melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. att. Vincent Francis Novello (1781-1861).

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

Then, all standing, the clergyperson reads the Gospel, first saying

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hours."

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

THE SERMON 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,
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

Through baptism, God has made us the people of hope. Our hope is in God and our help comes from God. Since God promises to make all things new, let us offer our cares and concerns to God.

Gracious Creator, ruler of the universe, we know neither the day nor the hour when the Lord Christ shall return to claim the faithful. Through your saving and sustaining grace, enable us to remain in readiness and to welcome his appearing. O God, who is our hope, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Creator, author of unity, bind your people together into one holy church. We pray for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our presiding bishop and Bonnie, our bishop; remove the barriers that separate Christian from Christian, and enable all the baptized to offer common praise to you and common witness to the world. O God, who is our hope, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Creator, source of all compassion, look with pity upon our world. Help us overcome the ravages of war, disease, hunger, and injustice; give dignity and well-being to all the human family especially those who are oppressed, homeless or ignored. Visit us with your love; grant us peace; point us to the way that leads to fulfillment and sufficiency for all. O God, who is our hope, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, protector of all life, we plead with you to grant healing and wholeness to the sick and suffering, especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently or aloud _____. Lay upon them your hand of mercy; renew and restore them, giving them cause to proclaim and praise your name. O God, who is our hope, **hear our prayer.**

Divine Creator, perfector of all life, behold the dying, who no longer await the return of the bridegroom, but rush to meet him through their death. Grant them peace at the last and welcome them into your heavenly dominion. When our last hour shall come, look not on our sins but accept us on the merits of our gracious redeemer, Jesus Christ. O God, who is our hope, **hear our prayer.**

The Officiant concludes the prayers saying

Accept the prayers of your people, O God. Assure us anew that you give heed to our cries and that you respond to our petitions according to your divine will. Through Jesus Christ our Savior we pray. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

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

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Christ the Center* Andrew Bruhn

OFFERTORY HYMN *Rejoice, rejoice believers* HYMN 68



Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

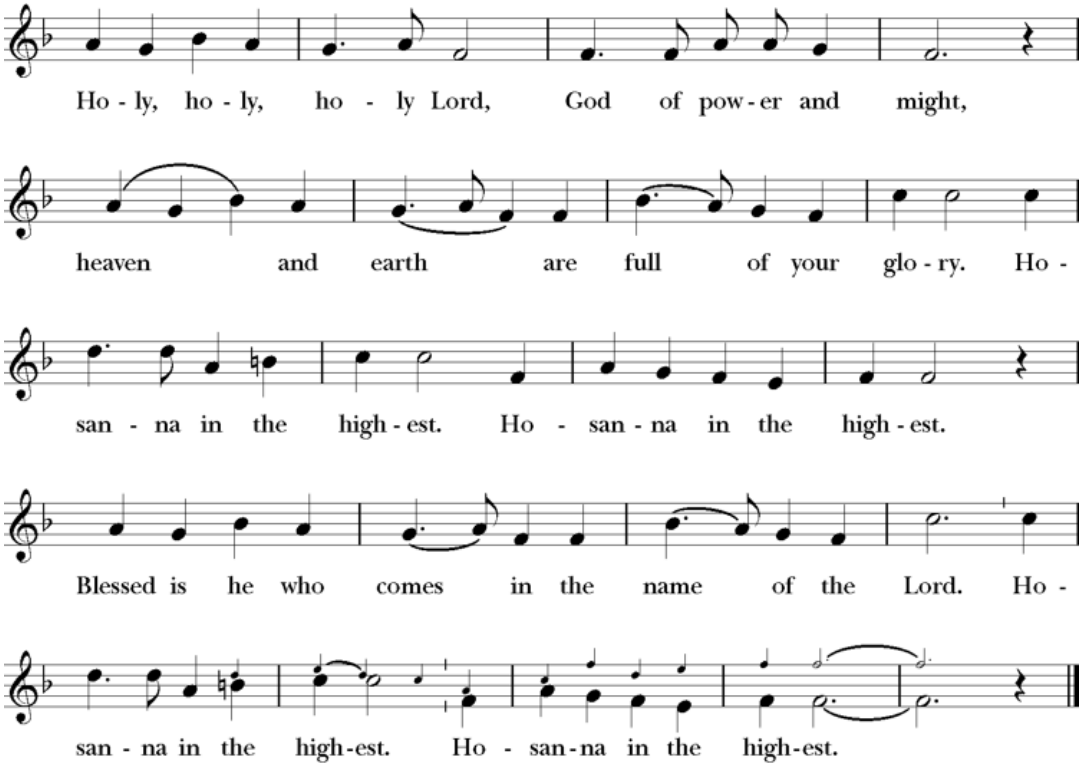
The people standing, the Officiant says

The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Officiant and People sing together

SANCTUS S125



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Officiant and people say together

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Officiant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

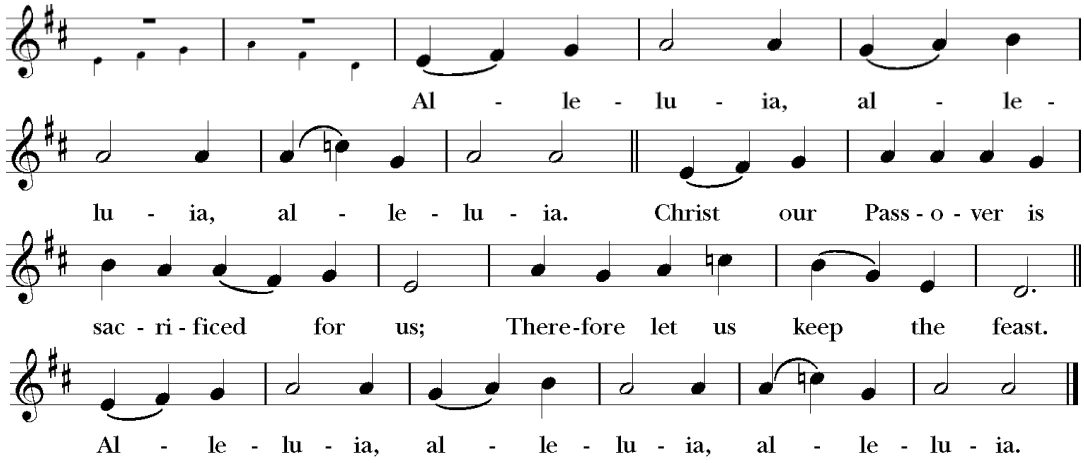
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM S155

The Officiant breaks the consecrated bread



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 ANTHEM *When Christ Broke Bread* Carol Muehlig

COMMUNION HYMN *For the bread which you have broken* HYMN 341



Words: Louis F. Benson (1855-1930), alt. Copyright © Louis F. Benson. Used by permission of Robert F. Jeffery. Music: *Omni die*, melody from *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, 1631; harm. William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895).

The Officiant and People say together:

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* HYMN 436



Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* Robert J. Powell

Assisting in today's service

Crucifer	**Jim Milne**
Subdeacon	**Jen Humphries**
Lector	**Graham Crabtree**
Prayers of the People	**Martha McKee**
Chalice Bearers	**Jen Humphries, Theresa Milne**
Altar Guild Members for the Week	**Nancy Merriman (chair), Jane Bryce, Theresa Milne**
Ushers	**Joe Lehning, Michael Hart, Mark Rudd, Eric Monaghan, Lily Monaghan**
Counters	**Martha McKee, Margaret Schulte**
Coffee Hour	**Maria Wawro**
Greeters	**Ardell Burns**
Blessing Box	**Jeff & Patty Irwin**
Recycling Team	**Bob Merriman**
Sunday School Mentors	**Barb Heany,**
Vestry Person of the Day	**Herb Tanner**

Musical selections licensed through Rite Song.

Assisting Next Sunday, November 15, 2026

Crucifer	**Greg Wortley**
Subdeacon	**Amy Wortley**
Lector	**Brad Deacon**
Prayers of the People	**Margaret Schulte**
Chalice Bearers	**Greg Wortley, Amy Wortley**
Altar Guild Members for the Week	**Bobbi Tisdale (chair), Marilyn Earley, Steven Kandow, Maria Wawro**
Ushers	**Bob Merriman, Jack Baker, Jamal Dillman-Hasso, Mike Arneson, Dani Hilliard, Patrick Prebo, Bella Rose**
Counters	**Larry Clark, Leslie Hall**
Coffee Hour	
Greeters	
Blessing Box	**Dani Hilliard & Patrick Prebo**
Recycling Team	**Bob Merriman**
Sunday School Mentors	**Barb Heany, Susan Henderson**
Vestry Person of the Day	**Bobbi Tisdale**

Opportunities For Prayer
November 8, 2026

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Melissa, Julie, Everett, Pat, Jim, Mike, Jennifer, Howard, Jon, Carol, Whitt, Laurie, Leslie, Larry, Don, and Lyn. **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: Anne Kressler, and Lyn & Jeff Kressler.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Asset Independence Coalition, 2500 S Washington Ave, Lansing 48910.

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 worshiping communities: St. Patrick's, Madison Heights; Mount of the Transfiguration, Jarabacoa, DR.

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

We pray for: Sarah Mullally**,** Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean Rowe, 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; Dick Hamlin and Gail Shafer, our priest associates; our worship ministers, St. Paul's staff and our diocesan household.

Announcements For The Week
November 8, 2026 – November 15, 2026

If Music Be the Food – Saturday, November 14th at 7:00pm: Please join us. St. Paul's will again be hosting the concert series, "If Music Be the Food". Talented students of the MSU College of Music will be performing a varied selection of music so that we might bring nonperishable food stuffs and monies to support the First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry. Help spread the word and invite everyone you know to be fed with music and spread a table of plenty for our community.

"Tabletop Saints": Our next game night is Friday, November 13th at 6:15pm. A board and card game night of fellowship and fun! Games will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorite games and invite friends**.** Please sign up in the Merrifield room so we can plan enough food and soft drinks for everyone. Children are welcome when accompanied by a parent or guardian, childcare is not provided. Parking is available in the 4Cs lot in St. Paul's designated spots, the St. Paul's lot and on the street. Please see Rachel or Ian Moore if you have any questions.

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

Thanksgiving Baskets: Mission & Outreach will again be accepting donations to fill Thanksgiving "baskets" for eight families suggested to us by Community Mental Health. There will be slips with each food item requested in the Merrifield Room. Take a slip or several slips and bring your donation to the church by November 22. Due to limited freezer space at St. Paul's, if you generously decide to donate a 14# turkey, we ask you to keep it frozen at home until pick up date. To avoid duplication and to help in planning, if someone would like to purchase additional items or an entire category, we ask you to alert someone from M&O.

Themes of Faith in the Music of Mahler: Arguably one of the most revolutionary composers at the beginning of the 20th century, Gustav Mahler is well known for his lengthy and complicated music. As a man born into a Jewish family who converted to Catholicism, Mahler expressed his thoughts regarding God, faith, love, life, death, and the afterlife in many of his pieces. Please join us in this brand-new series at St. Paul's as we spend 4 weeks with Steven Kandow looking at these themes in Mahler's first two symphonies. No knowledge of either Mahler or classical music is required to participate in these discussions. Sessions will conclude Wednesday, Nov. 11th. Dinner will be provided at 6:15 ($9 per person) with discussion beginning at 6:30. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room.

Silver Bells in the City, November 20th: Nothing beats a bag of popcorn while waiting for the Electric Light Parade to start! Free treats like that are exactly what makes Silver Bells feel like a community tradition. We will be handing out popcorn again this year. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room to join us at 4:00pm to bag popcorn and hand out bags in front of the church at 5:00pm.

Grateful Gathering Dinner, November 24th at 6:15pm. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room so we know how much food we need to prepare. We ask that you bring your favorite dessert to share. There is also a signup sheet for cleaning up.

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.

Faith & Film – December 4th at 6:15pm: *The Christmas Chronicles,* released November 2018. Kate and Teddy, who notice Santa Claus in their home and jump into his sleigh with his reindeer; however, they accidentally cause the sleigh to crash, and the presents are lost. As Christmas morning approaches, it is up to the children and Santa to save Christmas by correctly delivering all the presents on time. This is a feel-good Christmas story for the whole family. Snacks will be provided. Please sign up in the Merrifield Room.

Provide a Meal for Canterbury MSU: The signup genius is open to sign up to provide a meal for Canterbury for the fall. Please bring a complete meal (main dish, side, salad, dessert) for 6 people with a gluten and dairy free option. Please no mushrooms. Deliver to 225 M.A.C. Ave on Thursday by 6:15pm. Contact Chaplain Alex Aivars at chaplain.canterburymsu@gmail.com or 269.806.3489 for any questions.https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EAEAD28A5FDCF8-65142631-fall

Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Certification: Our Red Cross certified instructors will be holding classes December 12th in the Choir Room from 10am-2pm. This class is for anyone who wants to be certified/re-certified in adult and/or pediatric First Aid or CPR/AED. You have two weeks to complete an online portion of the class. Payment of $40 to St. Paul's Episcopal Church due at the class. Free for staff, ushers, and Sunday School mentors. See John David Hawkins or Mark Rudd for more information.

Noisy Offering through December: The City Rescue Mission of Lansing is a 501(c)3, Christian ministry founded in and still serving Michigan's capital area. Every year, thousands of children and adults find refuge and rescue thanks to the compassion of our community. Their mission is to meet physical needs for Food and Shelter to bring those with spiritual needs the Hope that is found in Jesus Christ.

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.

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

St. Paul's Recycling: 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. We are committed to reduce, reuse, and recycle at St. Paul's. See one of the Milnes or Borons for more information.

The service of Compline is offered Wednesday evenings at 9 pm on Zoom with The Very Rev. Dr. Gail Shafer, our priest associate. The current liturgy is from the Book of Common Prayer. A recording of the service will be posted to St. Paul's Facebook page. Please feel free to either join the Zoom meeting, or the service posted on Facebook. The Zoom link will be listed in the weekly email.

Evening Meeting Times & Parking Ramp Hours: All evening meetings and classes should begin no earlier than 6:15pm and end by 8:45pm for access to the parking ramp. regular parking ramp availability M-Th 6:00pm-9:00pm and Saturday & Sunday 7:30am-6:00pm.

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

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.** 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 weeks of November 1, 2026, St. Paul's received **$7,971** in contributions as follows:

Pledge Income	**$2,610**
NonPledge Income	**$620**
SP26 Lift Capital Campaign	**$4,334**
Loose Offering	**$220**
Noisy Offering	**$137**
Mission & Outreach Restricted	**$50**

This Week at St. Paul's
November 8, 2026 – November 15, 2026

Sunday, 11/8:	9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School – Hill Room
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion – Sanctuary
	11:15am	Bible Study at Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
Monday, 11/9:	6:00pm	Mission & Outreach Meeting – VanAtta Room
Tuesday, 11/10:	7:00pm	Bible Study – Zoom
Wednesday, 11/11:	12:00pm	Noon Book Study - Zoom
	6:15pm	Mahler Class w/Steven Kandow & Dinner
	9:00pm	Compline – Zoom
Thursday, 11/12:	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 11/13:		Office Closed
	6:15pm	Tabletop Saints Game Night – Merrifield Room
Saturday, 11/14:	9am-1pm	Larissa Clark Studio Recital – Sanctuary
	5:00pm	If Music Be the Food Rehearsal
	7:00pm	If Music Be the Food Concert - Sanctuary
Sunday, 11/15:	9:15am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45am	Sunday School – Hill Room
	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion – Sanctuary
	11:15am	Bible Study at Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Coffee Hour
	11:15am	Pack lunches for Punks with Lunch – Merrifield
	12:00pm	Drumming Session - Sanctuary

QR Code for giving. Scan the code with your phone to be taken to options for giving.

Plenty Good Room

On Being Invited

Growing up in Corpus Christi, Texas I spent more time fishing in the surf of Padre Island than in going to church. Our Latino family roots were in Roman Catholicism but our church was the Gulf of Mexico shoreline.

How, then, did I grow up to become an Episcopal priest?

Thinking back I will say that my life today is the result of someone taking the time to invite me to Christ's table. First invitation was to the local Canterbury group (college ministry). Next came an invitation to attend worship at Church of the Good Shepherd followed by an invitation to serve at the Diocesan camp, Camp Capers.

One after another, the invitations kept coming. Each one led me to a community which always made room for me. I found belonging in a spiritual family. They made plenty good room for me and for my family and friends. Over and over again, the graciousness of Christ was extended to me. I found fellow travelers on the spiritual journey. More importantly, I found the gifts of God within me.

I suppose that I am an Episcopal priest because of all the people along the spiritual way who invited me into communities in which there was plenty good room. Plenty good room to discover myself. Plenty good room to discover God. Plenty good room to discover and discern how God was calling me to serve and lead.

I cannot imagine any other life than the one I have now - serving as an Episcopal parish priest! I am ever grateful for all the wonderful, lifelong friendships I have made. I cannot imagine any other job that would be so wonderful, so exciting and energizing as the ministry I have today.

I am so grateful for all the invitations and all those who made plenty good room for me! TENS.org

Questions for Reflection:

Take a moment to thank God for all those who made plenty good room for you in the Church. How has that shaped who you are today?



The Rev. Ramiro (Ram) Lopez serves as rector of St. George's Church in San Antonio and serves on the board of TENS.

TENS THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP