

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Priest – The Rev. Jason M. Miller

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February 23rd, 2025 – Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

10:00 AM Bulletin

Thank you for joining us today!

If you are new or visiting, please fill out a card from the pew and place it in the collection so that we may follow up.

Coffee and conversation take place after the service in the parish hall. Follow the hallway at the right front of the church to the right and past the kitchen.



There are three bathrooms located in the hallway between the church and the parish hall.



Please be advised that we livestream our church services online through various electronic means such as Facebook and YouTube. These broadcasts provide valuable information to visitors to our site and those planning to attend our services in person. We may use any recorded media in materials produced by and for our church.



*Would you like to donate - but don't have cash or checks? Text any dollar amount to **84321** to give and help support our mission.*

Congregational responses are in bold type.

Serving Today

Officiant	The Rev. Jason M. Miller
Organist	Rob Boccaccio
Music Director	Kerrykate Abel
Readers	Tiffany Matthews, Mike Elkan
Acolytes	Seth Brown, Zak Miller

Notices

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Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing.

🎵 Hymn 657 vv 1,2 – “Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling”

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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 your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

🎵 Hymn 135 v. 1 – “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

The Collect of the Day

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People : **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11,15

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you

and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'”

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

The Response

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

Please remain seated and pray the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.

Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

Take delight in the Lord, and he shall give you your heart's desire.

Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, and he will bring it to pass.

He will make your righteousness as clear as the light and your just dealing as the noonday.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.

In a little while the wicked shall be no more; you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

The Lord will help them and rescue them; he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in him.

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

The Sequence Hymn

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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The Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Please rise in body or in spirit.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God.
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop and all Bishops and other ministers.
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Lu Ess, Mona Gaddis, Malinda Gay, Marje Hagberg, Barbara Harrison, Susan Lee, Gail Michaels, Anna Moran, Sue Petherick, Linda Ryan, Toni Spence, Guy Walser, Kim Walser, Norman Zaccagnino, Jim and Kathy Zigrossi
and those we now name aloud or silently in our hearts.

Time is given for the people to name those for whom we pray

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom;

Silence or the people may add their own petitions

Lord let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**
Please greet one another with a visible sign of God's peace.

Announcements

Please be seated for a brief list of announcements.

Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness offer our gifts to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing.

🎵 **Hymn 581 vv.1,2,3,6 – “Where Charity and Love Prevail”**

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing.

🎵 **The Doxology – Hymn 380, verse 3**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him 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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

"Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly," an-gel hosts are sing-ing. "Ho-ly, ho-ly,
"San-to, san-to, san-to," can-tan se-ra-fi-nes. "San-to, san-to,

ho-ly is the Lord our God. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is God, the Lord of
san-to, Dios es el Se-ñor. San-to, san-to, san-to es fuer-te nue-stro

might. Your glo-ry fills the heav-ens, your glo-ry fills the
Dios. Tu glo-ria lle-na los cie-los, la tie-rra lle-na es-

earth." Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na is our song.
tá." Ho-sa-na en las al-tu-ras, ho-sa-na la can-ción.

Words: based on *Isaiah 6:3*, English paraphrase Bert Polman, 1985.
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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: **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

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 beloved children; 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray, **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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Please come forward to receive communion one row at a time. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms when approached with the bread.

Communion Music

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

♪ Hymnal 593 vv1,2,3 – **“Lord Make Us Servants of your Peace”**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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