

*Celebrating Christ's Presence
In a Changing World*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

10:30 am

Welcome to St. Paul's! We are so happy you are with us today. If you are new or visiting, please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate.

Today's hymns are from the blue Hymnal 1982.

Prelude *Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* Kevin Hildebrand (1973-)

Opening Hymn **The Hymnal 1982 #449 v. 1,5,6**
O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Welcome

The people stand as they are able,

Penitential Order

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant, Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence is kept.

All **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.**

Celebrant 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 Trisagion *sing 3x,*

The Hymnal 1982 #S - S102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit for the readings.

First Lesson

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel:

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

A Reading from a Letter to the Ephesians:

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand and sing,

Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #645

The King Of Love My Shepherd Is

The Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided.

So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”

Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**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

Intercessor: Let us now turn to God in prayer.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Bonnie, for this gathering, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

In the silence after each intercession, the People add their own specific prayers silently or aloud.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of the divine. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who have died, especially [N.N., and] those we name now silently or aloud.

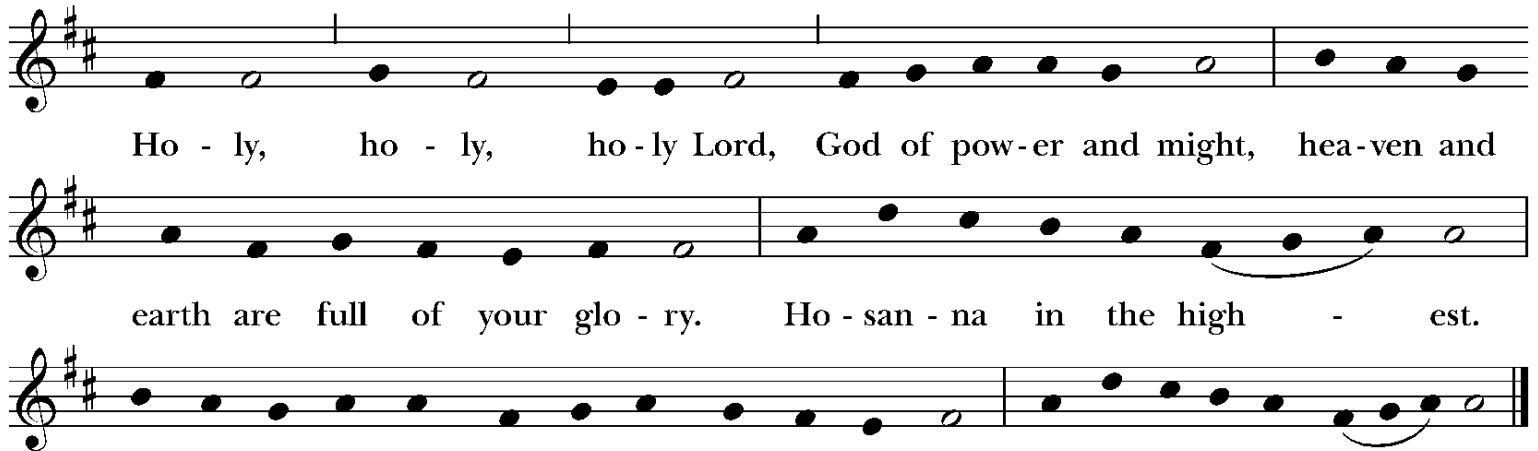
Intercessor: I ask your prayers for [N.N., and] all those who we name now silently or aloud.

Intercessor: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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:

Sanctus, The Hymnal 1982 #S -124



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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. 🛎

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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." 🛎🛎🛎

Celebrant

There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

People

A-men.

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

A period of silence is kept, after which the People sing,

Agnus dei, The Hymnal 1982 #S -161

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to Holy Communion. Gluten free bread is available. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of bread and wine, please cross your hands over your chest.

The Hymnal 1982 #328

Draw Nigh And Take the Body of the Lord

After the distribution, the Celebrant prays,

O Lord Jesus Christ, in this wonderful Sacrament you have given us a memorial of your Passion: be with those who are worshipping with us online, that as they meditate upon the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood they may perceive within themselves the fruit of your redemption and be nourished by your holy presence in their lives. **Amen.**

The Post Communion 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.

If Lay Eucharistic Visitors are Being Sent,

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Celebrant blesses the people and they respond: Amen.

The Hymnal 1982 #490

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light* John Behnke (1953-)

❖ THE AUMBRY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK to the Glory of God and IN LOVING MEORY of my wife Rose on her birthday March 6th by Harry Strait.

Worship Ministers

The Rev. Jadon Hartsuff, Celebrant; Julie Baglien Organist; Jeff Wilkinson, Choir Director; Barb Duke, 1st Reader; Garry Trammell, 2nd reader; Joe Lathrop, LEM & Acolyte; Sandra Kilian, Intercessor & LEM; Bob Duke, Kyle King & Jan Osborn, Ushers; Special thanks to our tech team & St. Paul's Choir

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Announcements

- **Please plan to attend next week's Interim Forum on March 26th,** where Natalie Magnusson will continue the discussions on the results of her dissertation on St. Paul's and Racial Justice.
- **Easter Brunch:** All are invited to attend the St. Paul's Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 9th, immediately after the 10:30 am service. Please sign up on the bulletin board with the number in your family (so we have a head count for Chef Jeremiah). Help would also be appreciated in decorating on Saturday, April 8th. If you can help with the prep and decorating on Saturday, April 8th, there is a sign-up sheet for that also.
- **Please help Mission & Outreach with their March Easter Collection** for Mama Tutu and our neighborhood children. Donations of Easter Basket related items, such as: Easter Baskets (new, gently used, small or large), Individually wrapped candies of all types, plastic eggs, Easter basket grass (plastic or paper), any small faith related items (chocolate crosses), etc. Please place your donations in the large plastic tote located in the glass narthex.
- **You are invited to make a special gift this Easter to honor or memorialize someone special.** Names will be printed on the inside cover of the Easter Sunday leaflets and the special contributions will be used to help with over \$1000 in additional costs for flowers and special musicians for Easter morning. For many this is a meaningful way to both honor loved ones and help make our Easter morning worship extra special. Please return the forms in this week's leaflet, with your special contribution maked "Easter Memorials," **no later than April 2**, by mail or in the collection plate.
- **The Search Committee** has hosted 6 small group session with one session remaining. If you were not able to join a small group and are still interested, please reach out to a member of the Search Committee.
- **The Knitting Group will be meeting at St. Paul's on Tuesdays at 6pm.** Please contact Melissa Velandra at 517-581-0805 for more info.

Come celebrate Easter with us!



**ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**309 S. JACKSON ST
JACKSON, MI 49201**

www.stpauljxmi.org

PALM SUNDAY

**APRIL 2ND · 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
WITH PALMS AND PASSION READING**

EASTER SUNDAY

**APRIL 9TH · 8:00 AM SERVICE OF LIGHT
10:30 AM FESTIVAL EUCHARIST
WITH TRUMPET, CHOIR, AND INCENSE**

HOLY WEEK

APRIL 5TH · 12:15 PM CHAPEL EUCHARIST

**APRIL 6TH · 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY EUCHARIST
OVERNIGHT PRAYER VIGIL**

**APRIL 7TH · 12:15 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
6:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Be You. Be Loved. Belong.