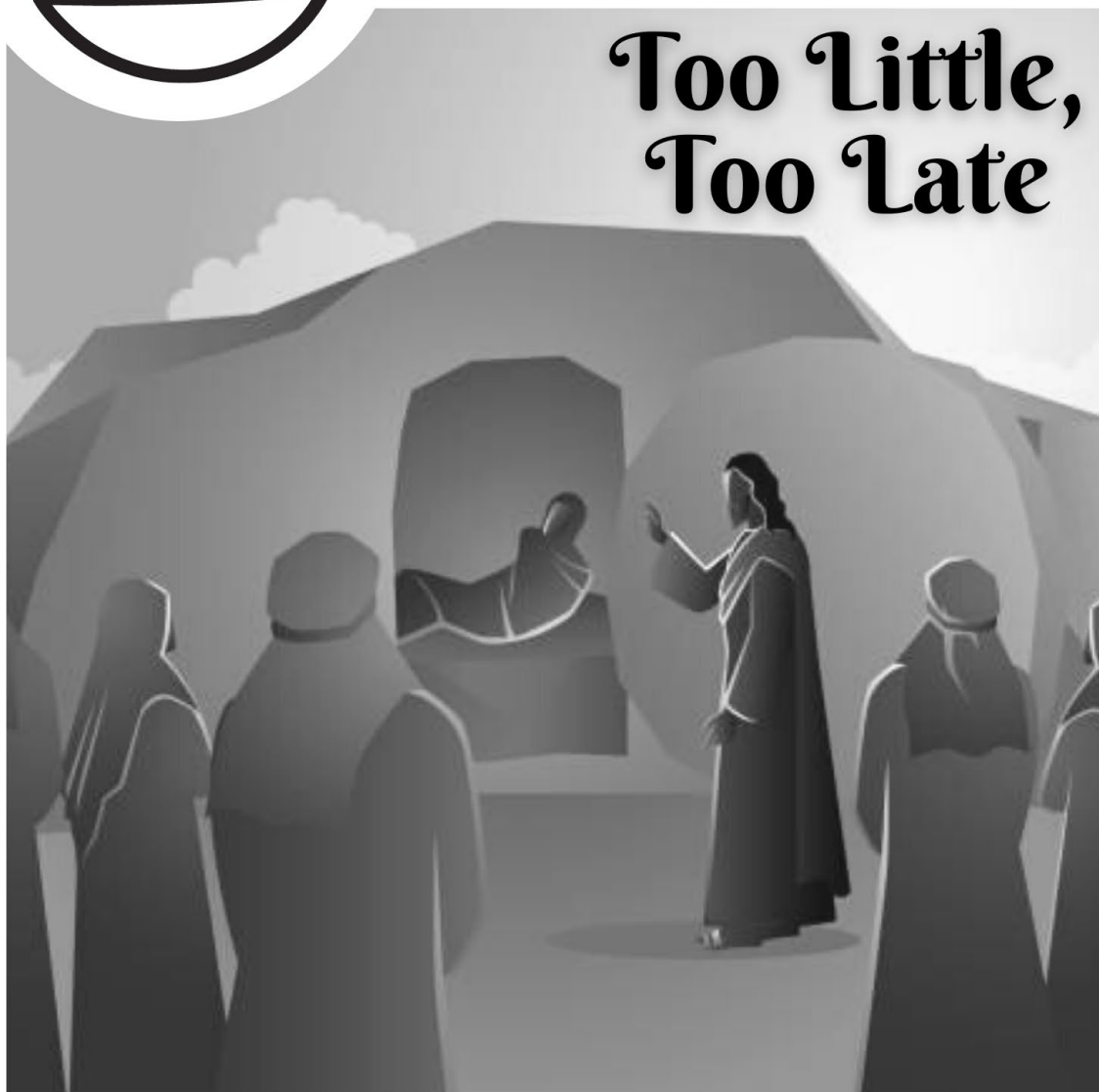




St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

Too Little, Too Late



March 26, 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 26, 2023

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Welcome to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we invite and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe. Announcements and helpful information can be found on the pages following the order of worship.

Gathering for Worship

(* - please stand in body or spirit)

Announcements

Lay Leader

Prelude (10:30 AM only)

II. Kyrie

W. A. Mozart/Mills

Call to Worship (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Leader: How precious, how fragile, how short is life!

All: Our lives are but a breath.

Leader: The Divine brings us into being,

All: weaves our lives together,

Leader: and ushers us into eternal rest.

Blessed are the Sacred rhythms of life and holy are these tasks:

All: to be alive; to pay attention; to honor the fleeting with awe and care.

*Hymn #128 (9:00 & 10:30) He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

Opening Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Compassionate Spirit, our hearts break for all that we have lost. We are

disoriented by grief — personal and global. The love we carry for our departed loved ones feels like it has nowhere to land. We refuse to harden our hearts by swallowing our cries.

God With Us, guide us in the ways of soulful mourning. Move with us through the flow of grief. Ground us in the shared experience of sorrow. Console us with hope for connection and joy even amidst loss. Amen.

Naming of Names & Intercessory Lenten Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

You are invited to speak aloud the names of persons whom you wish our prayers to support. You are also invited to submit a written prayer request for yourself, others, or the world by coming forward to place it in our wooden prayer bowl. Please feel welcome to kneel at the chancel rail during this time of prayer.

Pastoral Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

The Lord's Prayer (10:30 AM only)

The United Methodist Hymnal, #895

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, forever. Amen.

Anthem (10:30 AM only)

Lord of the Dance
Sanctuary Choir

Don Hart

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.

Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame, the holy people said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high
And they left me there on a cross to die. (*Refrain*)

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (*Refrain*)

Proclamation of the Word

John 11:1-22 (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

¹Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²(This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same

one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.”

⁴When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.”

⁸“But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?”

⁹Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. ¹⁰It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.”

¹¹After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”¹²His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” ¹³Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

¹⁶Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

Moment of Silent Reflection (9:00 & 10:30)

John 11:23-45 (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

²⁸After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” ²⁹When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

³²When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴“Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied.

³⁵Jesus wept.

³⁶Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”

³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” ⁴⁰Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #314 (9:00 & 10:30)

In the Garden

Sermon (9:00 & 10:30)

“Too Little, Too Late?”

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Response to the Word

Invitation to Giving (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Offerings by check may be made out to St. Paul's UMC. Scan the QR code to see one-time and recurring online giving options at stpaulsk.org. Thank you for supporting all of St. Paul's efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory (10:30 AM only)

In the Garden

Wilbur Held

*Doxology #95 (9:00 & 10:30)

OLD 100TH

*Prayer of Dedication (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion (9:00 AM only)

The Invitation (9:00 AM only)

The Great Thanksgiving (9:00 AM only)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation and concludes:

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues the thanksgiving and concludes:

L: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

P: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor continues and concludes:

L: All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

P: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (9:00 AM only)

The United Methodist Hymnal, #895

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, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread & Cup (9:00 AM only)

All St. Paul's communion bread is gluten-free.

Prayer after Receiving (9:00 AM only)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn #707 (9:00 & 10:30)

Hymn of Promise

*Benediction and Dismissal (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Postlude (10:30 AM only)

Fugue in a minor, BWV 543b

J. S. Bach



NEXT WEEK: APRIL 2, 2023 – PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM livestreaming through stpaulsk.org

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

9:00 AM – 20 10:30 AM – 82 online – 77 Total: 179

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers today are given by **Bill Butz**
in loving memory of **Bill Gibb**.



Sources and Licensing Information

Prelude: *II. Kyrie* from *Requiem*, K. 626 by W. A. Mozart, arr. Marvin Mills. Streamed by permission of the arranger.

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: M Barclay and Rev. Molly Bolton, [enfleshed.com](https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/ordinaryworshipsettings/), <https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/ordinaryworshipsettings/>. Used by permission.

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought. Words: Joseph H. Gilmore (1862). Music: William B. Bradbury (1864). Public domain.

Anthem: *Lord of the Dance*. Words: Sydney Carter. Music: 19th century Shaker tune adapted by Sydney Carter. Choral setting by Don Hart. Copyright 1963 and 1999 by Stainer & Bell, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

The Holy Bible, New International Version (NIV), Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

In the Garden. Words & Music: C. Austin Miles (1913). Music adapt. Charles H. Webb (1987). Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House & Abingdon Press (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.

Offertory: *In the Garden* by Wilbur Held, from *Six Gospel Hymn Preludes*, copyright 1999 MorningStar Music Publishers. Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* (OLD 100TH). Words: Thomas Ken (1674). Music: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois (1551). Public domain.

Hymn of Promise. Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth (1986). Copyright 1986 Hope Publishing Co. Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.

Postlude: *Fugue in a minor, BWV 543b* by J. S. Bach. Public domain.

Cover art and all graphics designed by St. Paul's staff with [canva.com](https://www.canva.com), granting non-exclusive perpetual use rights without citation unless otherwise noted.



Postludes during Lent

Marvin Mills, organist

Though J. S. Bach was revered as the leading organist of his time, he was seen as old fashioned in his compositional style. This was partly due to his use of older forms, but particularly to the emergence of a new style (the style gallant) which signaled the end of the Baroque and the beginnings of the Classical Period. This new style moved away from a contrapuntal (linear) method of composing, as exemplified by Bach, to a more homophonic (vertical) one. The music of Bach represents the apex of the Baroque Period; synthesizing national (Italian, French, and German) and regional (North and South

Germanic) influences into a crystalline style which yields outward display while achieving intense contemplation.

Bach's prelude and fugue compositions reached a unique peak of refinement and brilliance during his time as court organist in Weimar (1708-1717). The fugal form can be traced back to the Middle Ages where canons and simple imitative parts evolved in works that were often interchangeable vocally or instrumentally. By the middle Renaissance the fugue had become a distinct form, attesting to the skill of a composer in his crafting of the counterpoint between voices.

Why focus on fugues in minor keys during Lent? The conversational nature of fugue engenders reflection and study, an apropos posture during the season. The tonality of minor keys provides ample opportunity to explore a richer harmonic palette.

Soli Deo Gloria!



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements – News of events and activities at St. Paul's are shared through our Weekly News message. Read the latest message at stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news.

Welcome Visitors! – Thank you for joining us. **Restrooms** including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office and down the hall near the water fountain. **Large print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary and ushers can provide headsets. **Attendance pads** in the pews provide a space to share your name and, if you wish, contact information so we may welcome you. **Masks** are optional in almost all St. Paul's spaces. You can read more at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Today: Confirmation Classes – *register today!* These classes will meet Tuesday nights this Spring and are designed for students in grades 7 & 8 interested in becoming full members of St. Paul's and the UMC. Register by April 2 or contact Mr. Micah Smartt to discuss schedules. Use the registration form stpaulsk.org/community/youth or email msmartt@stpaulsk.org.

Today: Sunday School & Nursery – *Sunday, March 26.* Students in Grade 5 and younger begin Sunday School in the Chapel at 10:30 AM, then move to their classrooms. Childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the Nursery during 10:30 service. Families in worship who need a break are welcome to use the Octagon or the "busy bags" at the Welcome Desk. For email updates, contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Today: Palm Sunday Children's Choir – *Sunday, March 26, 11:45-12:30.* Singers in grades K-5 are invited to prepare a Palm Sunday song. We will present our music in worship on April 2. Join us today or register at <https://tinyurl.com/329xydzs>.

This Week: “After the Sermon” – Ready to think more deeply about Sunday’s Scripture reading? Reflection questions by Jim Holland will be posted on the church Facebook page and in the Weekly News email starting this week, and you are invited to share your thoughts with Jim directly by emailing hollandjim1357@gmail.com.

This Week: Yarn Ministry – *Monday, March 27*. Knit, crochet, or craft along with friends, in person in the Library at St. Paul’s this month! Contact Karen Codner: kdc811@gmail.com.

This Week: Zoom Lent Study – *Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 PM*. The Wednesday Bible Study group is currently following a six-week Lent study, “Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, & Outlaws.” For more info or receive the Zoom link, contact Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org.

This Week: Pancake Breakfast – *Saturday, April 1*. The UMM-led community breakfast will be serving pancakes and other breakfast foods, 8:00-10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Read more at stpaulsk.org/community/pancake-breakfast.

Next Week: Hope in the Shadows – *Thursday, April 5, 7:30 PM*. Our Sanctuary Choir and chamber musicians will present a moving Holy Week experience on Maundy Thursday including communion, hymns, soloists, music and text reflecting Christ’s journey to the cross, sacrifice, and the hope in the shadows to which we cling. Visit stpaulsk.org/worship/music.

Next Week: Stations of the Cross – *April 3-7, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM and 5:00-7:00 PM*. This self-guided Stations of the Cross event will be open during Holy Week in the Octagon. Read more at stpaulsk.org/worship/lent-and-easter or contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Next Month: Easter Eggstravaganza – *April 9*. Children in Grade 5 and younger will enjoy an Egg Hunt following 10:30 AM worship on Easter. Bring your own basket or bag. Free, but register to help us plan: stpaulsk.org/community/children. Volunteers and stuffed plastic egg donations welcome! Contact Dr. Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org or 301-933-7933 ext 104.

Next Month: UMC 101 Class – *Sundays, April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 21; 12:00-1:00 PM*. Each week will cover a different part of what makes the UMC unique. Open to everyone - new folks and those looking for a refresher. Snacks will be provided. All you need to bring is yourself! No signup necessary. Email Pastor Joey with any questions, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Next Month: Registration for VBS – St. Paul’s is partnering with Bethesda UMC for VBS at their location (8300 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda MD), June 19-23! Registration is now open! Read more about the “Hero Hotline” VBS theme and find camper/volunteer registration at stpaulsk.org/community/children or contact Meg Baker: mbaker@stpaulsk.org.

ONGOING

Hunger Ministry – This signature ministry serves over 100 households monthly with pantry staples and grocery store cards. Please donate non-perishables in the bins in the Narthex. (Please note, we can't give out expired food or glass containers.) To find the list of most-needed food items and other ways to help, visit stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry.

SPY News – *Sundays, 4:30-6:00 PM*. All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join St. Paul's Youth for fun and fellowship. Questions? Contact Mr. Micah Smartt (msmartt@stpaulsk.org).

Still Wednesday – *Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 PM*. Gather in-person most Wednesdays in the Sanctuary for quiet prayer and contemplative, creative reflection. Contact Kenzie Raulin at 301-237-1520 or Kenzie@krdesign.net.

Prayerwaves – *Wednesdays, 10:00 AM*. All are welcome at this time of prayer by conference-call over the phone. Dial 425-436-6326, then use the access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Daily Breath – *Wednesdays, 9:00 AM*. Enjoy about 10-20 minutes of sharing, prayer, or music led by St. Paul's clergy, staff, or volunteer leaders. Go to facebook.com/stpaulskensington.

Taste & Sing – *Third Tuesday of each month, 12:00-1:00 PM*. Come to the Octagon for a casual hymn-sing, short program exploring the stories behind some of our worship songs, and lunch. No musical expertise necessary!

Tuesday with Friends – *Third Tuesday of each month, 11:00 AM*. This group, open to all men and women, meets for fellowship and lessons. Contact Ginny Hagberg: 301-770-7624.

Lydia Circle – *First Wednesday of each month, 2:30 PM*. Ladies interested in joining the Lydia Circle sisters should contact Susan Schwarz at susan10748@aol.com or 301-339-8242.

2-Year Read-Thru-the-Bible – Find the reading plan at stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education.

Altar Flowers in 2023 – The flower chart for 2023 is now available in the church office.

UMM Driver Service – Volunteer drivers are listed on the office bulletin board and are available to take adult St. Paul's members to medical appointments around the county.

Stephen Ministers – We offer a listening ear to those going through a difficult situation or life change. Contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org) or Virginia Bickford (301-598-5496).

Sipping Ministry – Coffee and treats are offered following worship whenever a group, family, or class volunteers to sponsor this time of fellowship. Contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) to find available dates.



St. Paul's Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen
pallen@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason
joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation

Dr. Meg Baker
mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Director of Communications and Administration

Dr. Erin Bone Steele
stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

Director of Music

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen
tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Organist

Mr. Marvin Mills
mmills@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Youth and Design

Mr. Micah Smartt
msmartt@stpaulsk.org

Facilities Manager

Ms. Tracey Furman
tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Facilities Maintenance

Mr. Marco Palma

Assisting with Worship

Tech Team

John & Biljana Regan
John Stephens & Thomas Stephens

Lay Readers

Deanna Hodgson - 9:00 AM
Peggy Graham - 10:30 AM

Usher Coordinator

Nathan Bazawada

Lay Leader

Marge Higgins

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Appointments Encouraged
