



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

A photograph of several green palm fronds held by a hand against a clear blue sky. The fronds are long and feathery, with some showing signs of wear or damage. The hand is visible at the bottom right, holding the stems of the fronds.

Palm Sunday

April 2 , 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM

PALM AND PASSION SUNDAY

ORDER OF WORSHIP

APRIL 2, 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)

The Palms (Les Rameaux)

Jean-Baptiste Faure

Mollie Weikert, soprano

Scott Weikert, bass baritone

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

Lay Reader

Leader: : The end of our journey is near.

All: We see the towers of Jerusalem; we hear the shouts of the crowd.

Leader: We still have a distance to travel.

All: But the parade has begun. Let's rejoice and shout "Hosanna!"

Leader: Keep your eyes fixed on the road.

All: We march into Jerusalem with joy!

*Hymn #278 (9:00 & 10:30)

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Opening Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Creator God, we praise you, for your Love rules over our lives with grace and beauty, creating us anew each moment. We thank you, for your Christ rules over us in humble tenderness, healing and redeeming us.

We open our hearts to you, for your Spirit rules us from within with power, filling us with compassion. Grant that we will always turn to you alone for our salvation, and for the gift of life.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in your name! Peace on earth, and glory in the highest! Grant us your salvation, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anthem (10:30 AM only)

Blessed Is He
Children's Choir

Meg Baker

Refrain: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! (*repeat*)
Hosanna, hosanna, sing praises to our King!
Hosanna, hosanna, he comes in the name of the Lord!

He will reign from sea to sea, his kingdom will have no end
He will set the captive free, and make us whole again. *Refrain.*

Children's Message (10:30 AM only)

Dr. Meg Baker

Prayer of Confession (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

God of all peoples, across all times, we come before You confessing that at times we hear what we want to hear. We listen for stories and scriptures and songs that affirm our view of the world and that we are on the right side.

We confess that at times we have misheard and distorted the words passed down to us, believing we have the truth and others do not. We recognize that throughout history those with power and privilege have twisted accounts to shape their worldview, scapegoating and demonizing others.

Forgive us, O God, for our pride, our selfishness, and our greed. Forgive us for the times we have demonized and scapegoated groups of people. Forgive us, most of all, for the ways we have minimized Jesus's own identity as a Middle Eastern Jewish man under the oppression of the Roman Empire, and the ways we have forgotten our own places of power and privilege.

Call us into accountability to tell the truth of our shared history as Christians, and as followers of one who died for us all. We confess and pray, God of all the nations. Amen.

Blessing and Assurance (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. All of the times you have felt rejected, discarded, minimalized, and left out — you are God's cornerstone. You are God's beloved and are wondrous in God's view. Know your worth, that you are loved beyond measure.

Christ is the cornerstone of Your life. Build your foundation upon Christ's love for you, a love so strong that death could not stop it — and know that you are forgiven, loved, and restored. 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. Dr. Patricia Allen

*Hymn #297 (9:00 & 10:30)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Proclamation of the Word

Matthew 26:14-35 (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

¹⁷On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.' " ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples, ²¹and while they were eating he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²²And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night, for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

³²“But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.” ³³Peter said to him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” ³⁴Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” ³⁵Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem (10:30 AM only)

Hosanna!
Sanctuary Choir

Craig Courtney

Hosanna to the royal son of David’s ancient line!
His natures two, his person one, mysterious, divine.

Refrain: Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna we sing;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna to Jesus Christ the King.

The root of David, here we find, and offspring are the same:
Eternity and time are joined in our Immanuel’s name. *Refrain.*

Blessed he that comes to sinful man with peaceful news from heaven!
Hosanna of the highest strain to Christ the Lord be given. *Refrain.*

Let morals ne’er refuse to take Hosanna on their tongues,
Lest rocks and stones should rise and break their silence into songs. *Refrain.*

Sermon (9:00 & 10:30) “Heart to Hearts: The Truth Can Hurt”

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Response to the Word

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

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

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)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Wilbur Held

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

OLD 100TH

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

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion (9:00 & 10:30)

Responses at 9:00 AM worship will be spoken.

Responses at 10:30 AM will be sung using the United Methodist Hymnal starting on p. 17 (Musical Setting A).

The Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

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: (Hymnal p. 17) 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: (Hymnal p. 18) 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: (Hymnal p. 18) Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

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 & 10:30)

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving (9:00 & 10:30)

**Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself
to us. Grant that by this grace we may participate always in the life, death, and
resurrection of Christ. Fill us with the Spirit of Christ, that as we behold his
love, his suffering, and his death, we may be moved to live lives of non-violent
love and self-giving, to do justice, and to rely wholly on your life-giving grace.
In the name of the crucified and risen Christ, amen.**

Sending Forth

*Hymn #288 (9:00 & 10:30)

Were You There

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

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude (10:30 AM only)

Carillon

Marcel Dupré



WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

April 6, 2023 – Maundy Thursday: 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

April 7, 2023 – Good Friday: 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

April 9, 2023 – First Service of Easter: 7:00 AM in Clum-Kennedy Park

April 9, 2023 – Easter: 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM livestreaming through *stpaulsk.org*

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

9:00 AM – 26 10:30 AM – 110 online – 53 Total: 189

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers today are given by **Karen Corddry Bricken**

in loving memory of her father **Charles Corddry** and son **Philip Charles Bricken**.



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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 – *registration deadline 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 at stpaulsk.org/community/youth by April 2 or contact Mr. Micah Smartt to discuss schedules.

Today: Sunday School & Nursery – *Sunday, April 2.* Children will be in worship with their families in the Sanctuary; there are no Sunday School classes today. Children’s “busy bags” are available at the Welcome Desk, and care for infants and toddlers is available in the Nursery during the 10:30 service. Families with young children who need a break are welcome to make use of the Octagon room opposite the Sanctuary doors. For email updates, contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

This Week: “After the Sermon” – Reflection questions about Sunday’s Scripture, posed by Jim Holland, can be found in the Weekly News email and at stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education. Share your thoughts with Jim: hollandjim1357@gmail.com.

This Week: Zoom Lent Study – *Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 PM.* The Wednesday Bible Study group is finishing our 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: Hope in the Shadows – *Thursday, April 6, 7:30 PM.* Our Sanctuary Choir and chamber musicians will present a moving musical 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.

This Week: Good Friday – *Friday, April 7, 7:30 PM.* This part of Holy Week commemorates the crucifixion and death of Christ. The service will feature music selected by organist Marvin Mills and works of art selected by Grace Graham to aid in contemplation and prayer.

This Week: Stations of the Cross – *April 3-7, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM and 5:00-7:00 PM.* This self-guided program in the Octagon honors the ancient story of Jesus’ earthly journey and death

while reflecting ways this narrative speaks to us and our world today. Read more at stpaulsk.org/worship/lent-and-easter or contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Next Week: Easter Sunday – *Sunday, April 9.* The First Service of Easter will be held at 7:00 AM outdoors in the garden-like setting of Clum-Kennedy Park. (Parking is available in the lot between Johnson's flowers and Old Town Market on Kensington Parkway.) Please bring your own chairs as needed, and dress for whatever the weather might bring. Both the 9:00 & 10:30 AM services will be held in the Sanctuary of St. Paul's UMC and will include the Sanctuary Choir and brass. The 10:30 service will also include music from the Joyful Ringers bell ensemble and will be livestreamed at stpaulsk.org for those who prefer to worship at home.

Next Week: 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 your registration helps us plan; use the link at stpaulsk.org/community/children. Volunteers and stuffed plastic egg donations are encouraged! 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

This Month: Registration for VBS – *Register by April 30.* 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.

Next Month: Piano Recital – *May 7, 12:00 PM in the Sanctuary.* Young people who have been taking lessons and are interested in performing in a recital should contact Dr. Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org). If a student has been taking lessons on a different musical instrument, they are welcome to participate as well; a piano accompanist can be provided. Congregants are encouraged to attend the recital, enjoy the music, and support our young musicians!

ONGOING

This Month: Children in Worship – Due to the special worship days in April, the pastors have decided that all children will attend worship with their families in the Sanctuary throughout this coming month. The 10:30 worship service will include a children's message each week. Please see the Epistle newsletter or the Sunday School Email for details.

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
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Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation

Dr. Meg Baker
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Minister of Youth and Design

Mr. Micah Smartt
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Associate Pastor

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Organist

Mr. Marvin Mills
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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

Usher Coordinator

Nathan Bazawada

Lay Readers

Dee Dee Gray-Weaver - 10:30 AM

Children's Choir Director

Christina Griffin

Lay Leader

Marge Higgins

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