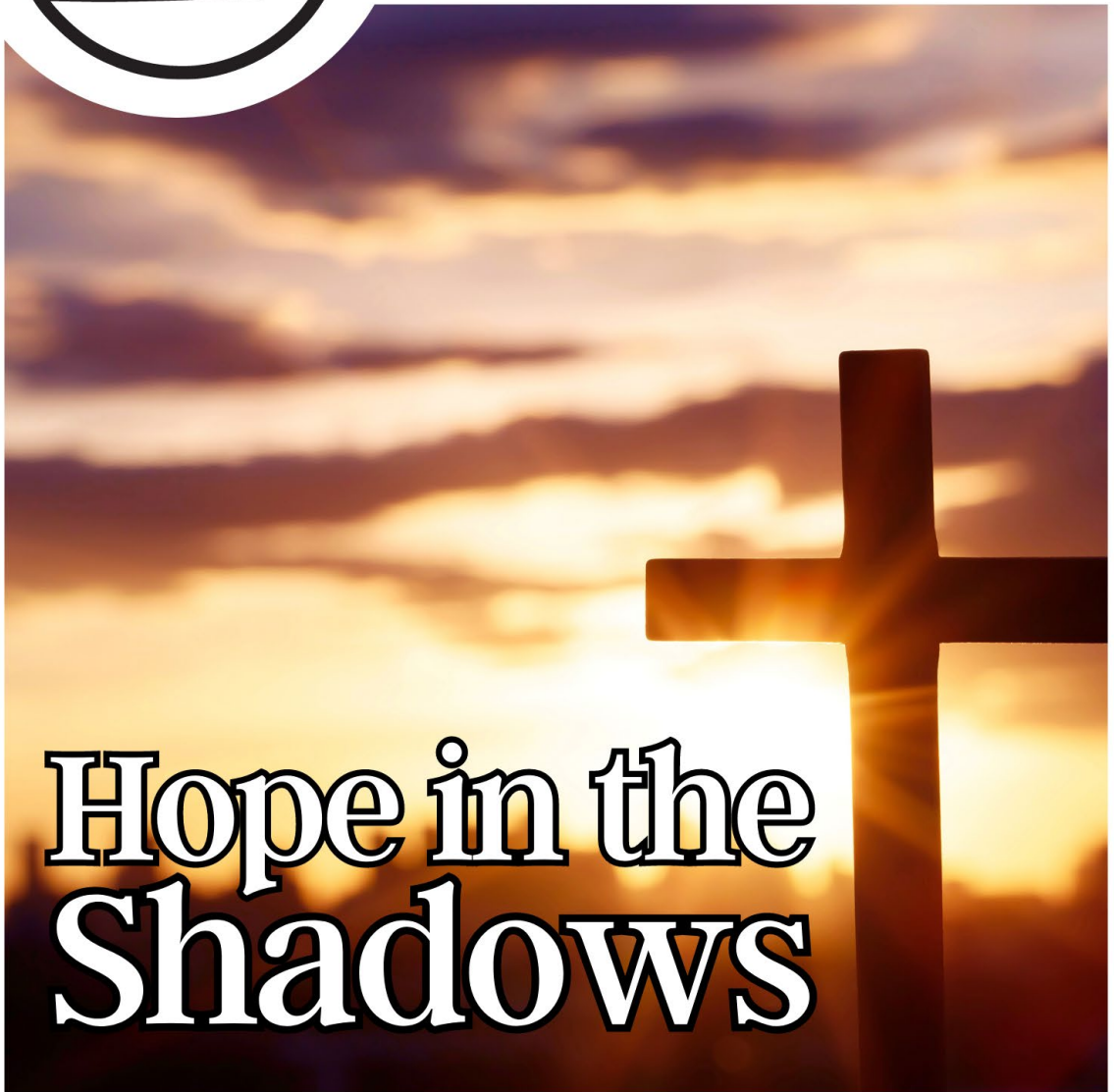




St. Paul's

United Methodist Church



April 6 , 2023

7:30 PM

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

Greeting

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

To all who fall asleep from sorrow, weary from the tolls of violence, drained by betrayals, unforeseen or expected, exhausted by systems of cruelty -

Let yourself feel empty.

Stop, for a moment, trying to push through. Allow your body to say 'no more.'

We can only hold so much. This is not a weakness. A heart hard enough to withstand all the world's grief has already broken.

Yes, it aches when we can't meet each others' needs. Yes, it hurts to feel helpless before suffering. Yes, we show up anyway with all the love and offerings we have. But as long as empires reign they will carve their costly holes in every web of care we weave.

**What posture of grief can honor this –
that it is and isn't enough?**

Proclamation of the Word

John 13:1-17

Lay Reader

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.

⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Time of Silent Reflection

Response to the Word

Hope in the Shadows

*composed and arranged by Joel Raney and Lloyd Larson
Sanctuary Choir with guest musicians and narration*

Prologue

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.

My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;

For ev'ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand, his mighty hand.
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.
My hope is built in Christ alone.

The Shadow of Betrayal

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion

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: 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

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

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

We Will Remember You

For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured,
For the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.

By the promise that you love us, by the gift of peace restored,
By your call to heav'n above us, consecrate our lives, O Lord.

We will remember you, Lord Jesus in the taking of the bread.
And we will remember you when we drink from the cup and in the words you've said.
Grant us strength to serve this world, and we will remember you.

In our service, Lord, protect us; in our hearts keep watch and guard;
In a world to which you call us, let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Hymn #290

Go to Dark Gethsemane

verses 1-3

(please remain seated)

The Shadow of Agony

Gethsemane Hymn

To see the King of heaven fall in anguish to his knees,
The light of hope of all the world now overwhelmed with grief.
What nameless horrors must he see to cry out in the garden:
"O take this cup away from me, yet not my will but yours."

To know each friend will fall away and heaven's voice be still;

For hell to have its vengeful day upon Golgotha's hill.
No words describe the Savior's plight to be by God forsaken
Till wrath and love are satisfied and every sin is paid.

What took him to this wretched place, what kept him on this road?
His love for Adam's fallen race, for ev'ry broken soul.
No sin too slight to overlook, no crime too great to carry,
All mingled in this poisoned cup, and yet he drank it all;
The Savior drank it all.

The Shadow of Temptation

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can bid me to depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there, who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Shadow of Injustice

A Purple Robe, a Crown of Thorn

A purple robe, a crown of thorn, a reed in his right hand;
Before the soldier's spite and scorn I see my Savior stand.

He bears between the Roman guard the weight of all our woe;
A stumbling figure bowed and scarred, I see my Savior go.

He hangs, by whom the world was made, beneath the darkened sky;
The everlasting ransom paid, I see my Savior die.

He shares on high his Father's throne, who once in mercy came;
For all his love to sinners shown, sing my Savior's name.

The Shadow of Humiliation

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus I gladly take my stand –
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land,
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God.

O wash me in his precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face,
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

The Shadow of Death

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many unto glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear the mocking voice call out among the scoffers.

It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death brought my redemption.

Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

The Shadow of the Cross

The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary,
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then, nailed to a cross of wood.

This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin;
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed, crowning your blood-stained brow.

This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through your selfless love.

This is the pow'r of the cross; Son of God, slain for us.
What a love! What a cost! We stand, we stand forgiven at the cross.

Epilogue: Hope in the Shadows

Epilogue: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Proclamation of the Word

John 13:31b-35

Lay Reader

^{31b}Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Closing Prayer

So may the blessing of the God who calls the people out of Egypt call us out from our comfort and our safety to embrace a journey of challenge and risk.

May the blessing of the Son who kneels and washes our feet call us out from our comfort and our safety to embrace and serve those we meet on the journey.

May the blessing of the Spirit who weaves dreams of a new community call us out from our comfort and our safety to provide welcome and hospitality to strangers as well as friends.

Hymn #289

Ah, Holy Jesus
Verses 1, 3, 5
(please remain seated)

Dismissal and Departing in Silence



*The worship service this evening has been made possible
through a generous gift from a member of this congregation
and supporter of St. Paul's Music Ministry.*



WORSHIP DURING HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

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



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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.

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 – *Now-April 7, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM & 5:00-7:00 PM.* This self-guided program in the Octagon room honors the ancient story of Jesus' death while reflecting ways this narrative speaks to us today. Read more: stpaulsk.org/worship/lent-and-easter.

This 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 Pkwy.) Bring your own chairs and dress for the weather. 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.

This Week: Sunday School & Nursery – *Easter Sunday, April 9.* Children will be in worship with their families in the Sanctuary; there are no Sunday School classes on Easter. 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 who need a break are welcome to make use of the Octagon room opposite the Sanctuary doors.

This 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. Contact Dr. Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org or 301-933-7933 ext 104.

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.

Next Week: 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 - all you need to bring is yourself! No sign-up necessary. Questions? Email Pastor Joey: joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

This Month: Registration for VBS – *Register by April 30.* St. Paul’s is partnering with Bethesda UMC for VBS, June 19-23! Registration now open! Read more 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). Congregants are encouraged to attend the recital, enjoy the music, and support our young musicians!

ONGOING

St. Paul’s has numerous ongoing opportunities for fellowship, faith formation, and service. These include: **Community Pancake Breakfast** on the first Saturday of the month; **Hunger Ministry**, providing food in the 20895 ZIP code; **Stephen Ministers** offering a listening ear for those enduring challenges; **Wednesday Bible Study** meeting by Zoom; **St. Paul’s Youth**; **Yarn Ministry** for those who like to craft; contemplative prayer at **Still Wednesday**; prayer over the phone with **Prayerwaves**; weekly **Daily Breath** videos posted at facebook.com/stpaulskensington; monthly hymn-sing and luncheon at **Taste & Sing**; meetings of the **Lydia Circle** sisters and men & women in **Tuesdays Together with Friends**; the **United Methodist Men**; fellowship hour through the **Sipping Ministry**; Sanctuary Choir, Joyful Ringers bells, and Children’s Choir in our **Music** department; and the many initiatives from clothing drives to social justice activities carried out by our **Justice & Compassion** team. Please visit stpaulsk.org, look in the Weekly News email available at stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news for current activities, or contact the church office for more information about any of these groups.



St. Paul's Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen
pallen@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation

Dr. Meg Baker
mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Director of Music

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen
tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Youth and Design

Mr. Micah Smartt
msmartt@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason
joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Director of Communications and Administration

Dr. Erin Bone Steele
stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

Organist

Mr. Marvin Mills
mmills@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

Usher Coordinator

Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader

Cathy Knepper

Chamber Musicians

James Woods, Piano
James Miller, Flute
Francine Amos Hardy, Oboe
Roger Garza, Clarinet
Connor Jensen, Horn
Emma Johnson, Cello

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