

March 31, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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 other helpful information can be found on the pages following the order of worship.

Gathering for Worship

(* - please stand in body or spirit)

Prelude (9:00 AM) *Cortege and Litany; Op. 19, No. 2* **Prelude** (10:30 AM) *Chaconne* from the opera *Les Indes Galantes*

Marcel Dupré Jean-Philippe Rameau

*Call to Worship Lay Reader

Leader: Yesterday we thought death had won.

Yesterday we thought all was lost.

Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

All: But not today.

Today we know that love has won. Today we know that hope is real. Today we know that Christ is here.

Leader: We have a reason to hope.

All: We have a reason to sing!

Leader: Alleluia! All: Alleluia!

Christ is risen today!



God of new beginnings, on that first Easter morning, the disciples struggled to hear the good news. Doubt clouded their minds. Negativity took root and hope vanished with a simple shake of their heads.

As we return to this familiar text, help us to hear differently this morning. Open our ears that we might hear the sound of Alleluias ringing through this text.

Open up our minds that the mystery and joy of Easter might feel within reach.

Open up our hearts that we might believe the unbelievable. And like Peter, in this hearing, may we move closer to you.

God of the empty tomb, we are hungry for your good news. Speak to us now. With hope in our hearts we listen and we pray, amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Anthem

The Day of Resurrection
Sanctuary Choir with the Congregation

arr. Sheldon Ridge Love

Verse 1: Congregation & Choir
The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Verse 2: Choir only
Let hearts be purged of evil, that we may see a-right
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light.
And listening to His accents, may hear so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Verse 3: Congregation & Choir

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin! The round world keep high triumph and all that is there-in. Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that has no end.

Choir only: Alleluia, alleluia!

Proclamation of the Word

Mark 16:1-8 (NRSVUE)

Pew Bible: New Testament p. 52-53

¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Welcome & Return from Sabbath Leave for Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Pastor: Just ninety days ago we released you to God's care, for God to tend to your soul and spirit.

Prayers were lifted on your behalf during this time that God would refresh, renew, and restore your mind, body, and soul while you were apart from us.

Today we celebrate your return.

People: Pastor Joey, we praise God for how God has met your every need during our time apart.

We anxiously anticipate how God will call you to lead us, the many ways in which you will help us experience the presence of God individually and collectively,

and the ways in which we will journey alongside one another as we live out God's vision for St. Paul's.

You were missed! You were missed!

Welcome back!



Affirmation of Faith

We may weep through the longest nights.

We may stare at the empty tomb with more questions than answers.

We may run our fingers over the burial cloths,

and still long for more.

But today, we are a people of hope.

We believe in new beginnings.

We believe that the God who created the world is stronger than death.

We believe that Jesus abides among us,

healing, teaching, and leaving fingerprints throughout this world.

We believe that a tomb could not hold him.

We believe that the sun does rise.

We believe that Peter was there,

with questions, awe, and faith the size of a mustard seed.

We believe that the story is not over yet,

for God is among us.

Today we are a people of hope.

Response to the Word

As is our tradition, 100% of the Easter Special Offering will be dedicated to serving beyond the

Invitation to Giving

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

walls of this church. The designated beneficiaries of the Easter Special Offering for 2024 will be The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), providing emergency aid and long-term rebuilding assistance to communities experience natural or man-made disasters and crises, and the Hunger Ministry at St. Paul's, providing groceries to all people facing food insecurity in the 20895 ZIP code. If you are donating by check, please make it payable to St. Paul's UMC with "Easter Offering" on the memo line. To donate by credit card, visit <code>stpaulsk.org/worship/lent-and-easter</code> or scan the QR code. All other offerings, including pledged support or general donations, should be made using

Offertory

The Easter Song of Praise Sanctuary Choir

an envelope other than the Easter Offering envelope, or online at *stpaulsk.org/giving*.

Richard Shephard

Sing choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing! Around God's throne exult in harmony. Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave! Salute your king in glorious symphony. Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come! The glory of the Lord shines radiantly, Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death! The night is past, the day of life is here. Sing church of God! Exult with joy outpoured. The gospel trumpets tell of victory won. Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore! Let all God's people shout the long Amen.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

The Invitation, Confession, and Pardon (*United Methodist Hymnal* p. 12)
Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to this table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor.

People: Merciful God,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Moment of Silent Prayer

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

* Passing the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving (*United Methodist Hymnal* p. 13-14)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

The pastor offers words for the occasion and concludes:

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

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

The pastor offers words for the occasion and concludes:

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

The pastor presents the bread and cup for remembrance and concludes:

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

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of the bread and the cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*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

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

Music during Communion

Ave Verum Sanctuary Choir

W. A. Mozart

Ave, ave, verum corpus, Hail true Body,

Natum de Maria Virgine Born of the Virgin Mary, Vere passum immolatum, Who has truly suffered,

In cruce pro homine Was sacrificed on the cross for mortals,

Cujus latus perforatum, Whose side was pierced,

Unda fluxit et sanguine: Whence flowed water and blood; Esto nobis praegustatum, Be for us a foretaste [of heaven] In mortis examine. During our final examining.

Music during Communion

Hallelujah Sanctuary Choir

G. F. Handel

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord

And of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever.

King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

To God Be the Glory



*Blessing the Easter Egg Hunt, Benediction and Dismissal

Postlude

V. Final from Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne

You are welcome to remain in a posture of worship until the conclusion of the Postlude.

Immediately after the 10:30 AM service, children in Grade 5 and younger are invited to the Octagon Room across from the Sanctuary doors. Children will then be called by age group to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt.



COMING UP

The church offices will be closed on Monday, April 1 for Easter Monday.

Drop-in office hours next week: Tuesday–Thursday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Staff & clergy available other times by appointment.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, April 7, 2024: 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary 10:30 AM worship service livestreamed at *stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home* Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, preaching



THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Worship music today and throughout Holy Week has been made possible in part through generous gifts from members of this congregation and supporters of St. Paul's Music Ministry, and through the Anne and Gene Garrett Memorial Music Fund, named in loving memory of life-long supporters whose legacy provides St. Paul's UMC with the ongoing gift of music.



Lilies gracing our Sanctuary have been sponsored by members and friends of St. Paul's, and dedicated to the honor or memory of loved ones. Please find all the dedications in the special Lily Dedications Bulletin.



SOURCES AND LICENSING

Livestreaming on Sundays at 10:30 AM at stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home.

- * = Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.
- ** = Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A.

Preludes: *Cortege and Litany, Op. 19, No. 2,* by Marcel Dupré; *Chaconne* from the opera *Les Indes Galantes* (*The Gallant Natives*) by Jean-Philippe Rameau. Public domain.

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and Affirmation of Faith: Rev. Sarah Speed, Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org. Used by permission.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today. Words: Charles Wesley (1739). Music: Lyra Davidica (1708). Public domain.

** *The Day of Resurrection* by Sheldon Ridge Love, with words by John of Damascus (trans. John Mason Neal) and tune by Henry T. Smart. Copyright 2019 by Beckenhorst Press. All rights reserved.

Bible readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible Updated Edition (NRSVUE)*, copyright 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

- * How Great Thou Art. Words & Music: Stuart K. Hine (1953). Copyright 1949 and 1953 by Stuart Hine Trust CIO Stuart K. Hine Trust. (Administration in USA: All rights by Capitol CMG Publishing.)
- ** The Easter Song of Praise by Richard Shephard. Words copyright 1984, 1986 the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England, 1999 by The Archbishop's Council. Music copyright 1988, 2003 by the Royal School of Church Music, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved
- ** Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* (LASST UNS ERFREUEN). Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved.
- ** *Ave Verum Corpus* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, arr. C. F. Manney, copyright 1933, 1961 by Mills Music Inc. / Belwin Mills.

Hallelujah (The Hallelujah Chorus) by George Frederick Handel, from the oratorio, Messiah. Public domain.

To God Be the Glory. Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1875). Music: William H. Doane (1875). Public domain.

Postlude: V. Final from Symphony No. 1, by Louis Vierne. Public domain.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

News and Upcoming Activities

Weekly News – Visit *stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news* or scan the QR code to find all the announcements and event details shared in our Weekly News. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org).



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; ushers can provide headsets. Attendance pads provide a space to share your name and, if you wish, contact information so we may welcome you. Masks are optional.

Today: Sunday School & Nursery – *Sunday, March 31.* Children will be in worship with their families in the Sanctuary; there are no Sunday School classes today. Children's "busy bags" with quiet activities 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, or the Library down the hall near the restrooms. For email updates about children's programming, contact Dr. Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Today: Easter Eggstravaganza – *March 31*. Children in Grade 5 and younger will enjoy an Egg Hunt following 10:30 AM worship. Please gather in the Octagon room. Children will have coloring activities and will be called by age group to hunt for eggs in Reinhardt Park across from St. Paul's front doors.

This Week: Easter Holiday Hours – Please note that the church building and offices will be closed on Monday, April 1 for Easter break. Regular hours resume on Tuesday, April 2.

This Week: Community Pancake Breakfast – *Saturday, April 6.* The UMM-led community breakfast will be serving pancakes and other breakfast foods, 8:00-10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Diners are encouraged to make a generous goodwill donation at the door (as a guide, we suggest \$8 per adult or \$20 for a family of four). Read more at *stpaulsk.org/community/pancake-breakfast*.

Next Week: Hunger Ministry Distribution Night – *Monday, April 8*. This signature ministry provides resources for over 120 families each month facing food insecurity in the 20895 ZIP code. Volunteers, financial contributions, and/or donations of shelf-stable pantry staples are welcome! (Please, no glass and no expired items.) Pick up a flyer in the Narthex or visit *stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry* for details.

Next Week: New Baby Meal Train – We celebrate the birth of Beckett Nam Bui, son of Thinh Bui & Leah Dodson. You can share the love of St. Paul's by providing a meal for the family during these joyous but sleepless early days. Please find Meal Train instructions and sign up at https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/e219w1

Coming Up: Yarn Ministry – *Monday, April 8 & 22, in-person in the Library at St. Paul's. 7:00-8:00 PM.* Bring your knitting, crochet, or other projects and craft along with friends. The Yarn Ministry provides a time of fellowship, donates knitted goods to local charities, and sponsors the yearly Craft Sale. Contact Karen Codner for details: kdc811@gmail.com.

Coming Up: Sermon Safari Bible Study – *Wednesdays starting April 10, 4:00-5:00 PM.* Join us as we resume our Sermon Safari Series, a come-when-you-can drop-in Bible Study via Zoom. We will view and discuss a different sermon each week. For more information or to receive the Zoom link, contact Dr. Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org.

Coming Up: Taste & Sing – *Tuesday, April 16, 12:00-1:00 PM.* Enjoy a casual hymn-sing with Meg Baker on piano and Erin Steele as song leader. Feel free to request your favorites! Then we have a short program exploring the stories behind some of our worship songs. No musical expertise needed! Stay for a tasty lunch prepared by Ginny Hagberg. (\$5 donation.)

Save the Date: Heritage Sunday – *April 28.* Rev. Claire Matheny, former St. Paul's Associate Pastor, returns as the guest preacher for Heritage Sunday, our annual celebration of St. Paul's long history in the community. SAM leaders are sponsoring a robust Sipping Ministry time of fellowship after the 10:30 AM service in the Octagon and Narthex.

Open Now: Registration for VBS – St. Paul's is partnering with Bethesda UMC and Chevy Chase UMC to bring Vacation Bible School to kids age 3 through Grade 5. All activities will take place at Bethesda UMC (8300 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD), June 17-21, 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon. Go to https://vbspro.events/p/events/d42030 to register.

Ongoing

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 for updates.

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 minutes of sharing, prayer, or music led by St. Paul's clergy, staff, and lay leaders. Go to *facebook.com/stpaulskensington* – no Facebook account required.

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

Altar Flowers in 2024 – The flower chart for 2024 is available in the church office. Flowers may be dedicated in memory of loved ones, or in honor or celebration. The cost is \$45.

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 are trained lay members who offer a confidential 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. Please see the sign-up chart on the office bulletin board for available dates, and take an instruction sheet or find a copy at <code>stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events</code>.

SAM Leadership – St. Paul's is led by leaders serving in the Simplified Accountability Model, or SAM, a unified board of members guiding the church's ministry and mission areas including spiritual care and fellowship, justice and compassion, community service, finance, trustees, and staff-parish relations. SAM meets monthly via Zoom and all meetings are open. For questions or meeting information, contact chairperson Rachel Stalcup at rachelstalcup@gmail.com.

The Epistle from St. Paul's – The monthly magazine-style Epistle newsletter features information about upcoming and ongoing opportunities, messages from the pastors and lay leaders, and photos and news about people from St. Paul's at worship and in the community. Black and white paper copies are available in the Narthex or by mail, and the full-color version is available for download at *stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news*.



ಒಬ್ಬಬ್ಬಬ್ಬಬ್ಬ

LEADING AND SERVING

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen, pallen@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Music Director: Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Organist: Mr. Marvin Mills, mmills@stpaulsk.org

Bookkeeping & Facilities: Ms. Tracey Furman, tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation: Dr. Meg Baker, mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Communications & Administration: Dr. Erin Bone Steele, stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

A/V Team: John & Biljana Regan; John Stephens

Children's Choir Director: Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader (9:00 AM): Meg Baker

Lay Reader (10:30 AM): Frank A. Walker, Jr.

ಹುಹುಹು

FEATURED MUSICIANS

Trumpet - Shaun Branam

Trumpet - David Levin

Horn - Peter Morris

Trombone - James Layfield

Tuba - Max Crofton

Tympani - Tim McKay

ಹುಹುಹುಹುಹುಹು

NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Visitor Information

Thank you for joining us! You are invited to tear out this section and leave this form with the offerings to let us know a little about yourself, or how we might be in touch. You may also email the office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) or any of our staff to say hello!

Name(s):					
Email:					
Phone:					
Home Address:					
How did you find	d us? (circle all tha Family/friend.	,	Internet search.	Other:	
•	J		l's? (circle all that a _l Please tell me a	,	uľs.



St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Journeying Together Since 1885