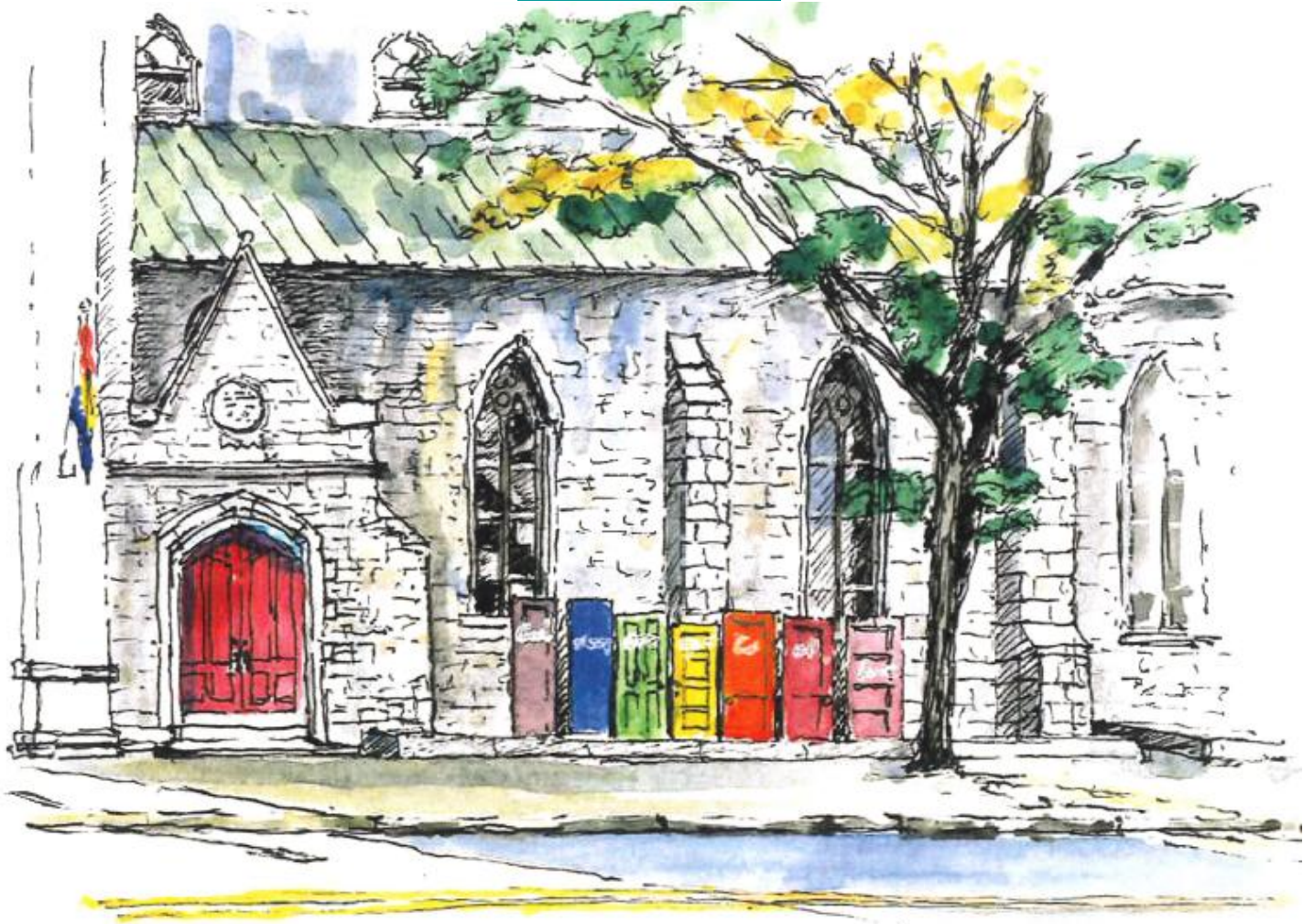


St. Paul's  
Syracuse

The Downtown  
Episcopal Church



"GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO ALL. LOVE

W. ELLIUS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1, 2024  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

*Thank you for your patience with our construction and the limitations in our facilities in the winter of 2024. We will be very glad when our socializing spaces are cleaned up and ready for us to use.*

*Please remember that our worship time begins with the first note of the organ prelude. This is a time for prayer and preparation for worship. Please do not have conversations with others in the pews during the organ prelude.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

**PRELUDE:** *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 645 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
(Wake, awake for night is flying)

*The people are invited to stand.*

**HYMN • 497** “How bright appears the Morning Star” *Wie schön leuchtet*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Celebrant* † Blessed are you, holy, and living One:  
*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

**CANTICLE HYMN 56 •** “O come, O come, Emmanuel” (v 1.&2) *Veni, veni Emmanuel*

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
God of unveiled truth, faithful flame in times of darkened sun and waning moon; lift up our unknowing hearts, waken our sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**LESSON** *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

*Lector* A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.  
The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."  
*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSE

Psalm 25:3-9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

*The Refrain is first sung by the Choir and repeated by All, and then as indicated.*

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is labeled 'Organ:' and 'Everyone:'. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. The lyrics 'Re - mem - ber, O Lord, your com - pas - sion and love, for they are ev - er - last - ing.' are written below the notes.

Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. **Refrain**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. Gracious and upright is the LORD; therefore he teaches sinners in his way. **Refrain**

He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly. All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. **Refrain**

## EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

*Lector*

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Lector*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

The people are invited to stand.

**GRADUAL HYMN** • “My Lord what a morning” *Lift Every Voice and Sing II, #13*

*Negro Spiritual*

*Harmony*

My Lord, what a morn-ing, My Lord, what a morn-ing, O

*Fine*

my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the stars be-gin to fall.

*Unison*

1. You'll hear the trum - pet sound,  
2. You'll hear the sin - ner mourn, To wake the  
3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout,

na - tions un - der - ground, Look - ing to my God's right

*D.C.*

hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual.

Please remain standing.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

*Celebrant*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*People*

**Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Celebrant*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

The Rev. Philip Major

*A brief silence follows the sermon.*

*The people are invited to stand.*

## NICENE CREED

*The word "creed" comes from the Latin credo, translated here as "we believe." Credo is not simply belief in accurate propositions, but more deeply a sense of relationship or trust—an alternate translation might be "we give our heart," "we trust," "we rely upon." Developed in the fourth century as a means of unifying a divided church, the Nicene Creed has been used by Christians in worship for almost two*

*thousand years, and connects us to our ancient ancestors in the Communion of Saints. The Creed is used in worship not because it comprises a list of doctrinal statements one must affirm in order to be considered a Christian, but rather as a song of praise and confidence in the Holy Trinity: God in three persons who creates, redeems and sanctifies a holy people.*

*All*

**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 people are invited to stand.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Faithful God, we offer our prayers in hopeful anticipation of your Word, as we say,  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

As your church awaits the fulfillment of your promises, grant us perseverance and urgency to continue Christ's mission as we await His coming.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Sow the seeds of your love throughout this nation and world, that our people and leaders might work towards building a society where all people have an equitable place and the opportunity to thrive.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

During this season of anticipation, grant this congregation a discerning spirit that we might confidently follow where you lead, be beacons of hope, and a place of refuge for our neighbors.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out from the devastation of our unsustainable use of its resources. Show us how we might advocate for a holy stewardship of the natural world.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts to know the suffering of those who are sick, afraid, alone, or oppressed. Grant them relief, healing, and wholeness. We pray especially for *n*. We also pray for those we name at this time.

*The people add their prayers, silently or aloud.*

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Grant to the dying peace and rest in your loving care. Grant us and them an entrance into the resurrected life of Christ. We pray especially for *n*. and those we name silently or aloud.

*The people add their prayers, silently or aloud.*

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Hear the hopes and needs of your people and keep your people in your grace, now and forever.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.*

## CONFESSION

*The people are invited to sit / kneel.*

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*All* **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

*Officiant* † Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All* **Amen.**

*The People are invited to stand.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

*The People are invited to stand as the bread and wine for communion and the offering plates are brought forward at the beginning of the offertory.*

## OFFERTORY

*At the Offertory, we return thanks for God's blessings in our lives and invite you to place your contribution in the offering plate in the main aisle or give by texting 73256 entering **stpaulsyr** (all lower case) and the amount you want to give.*

*Celebrant* All things come of Thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

*The People are invited to sit.*

**AN ANTHEM:** "Lo! He comes, with clouds descending"

David H. Williams (b. 1948)

*Lo! he comes, with clouds descending, Once for favored sinners slain; Thousand, thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train: Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! Christ the Lord appears on earth to reign. Every eye shall now behold him, Robed in dreadful majesty; Those who set at nought and sold him, Pierced, and nailed him to the tree, Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall the true Messiah see. The dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears; Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshippers; With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!*

*Yea, amen! let all adore thee, High on thine eternal throne; Savior, take the power and glory; Claim the kingdom for thine own: Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone. Amen.*

*The People are invited to stand.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharist Prayer B

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant*                      It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth . . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**8:00    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.**

**10:00 Hymnal S-124**

David Hurd (b.1950)

*Celebrant*                      We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father



*All*                    **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant*        And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

*All*                    **Amen.**

*Celebrant*        As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*All*                    **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**

*The breaking of the bread symbolizes the activity whereby God emptied Godself of divine power for purpose of reconciling Godself with us. We have no words to accurately describe this divine activity, thus a period of 10-15 seconds of silence is kept following the breaking of the bread and before the singing of the Fraction Anthem.*

### **FRACTION**

**8:00**

*Celebrant*        Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People*            **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**10:00 Hymnal S-154**

From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b.1950)

*The people are invited to be seated.*

*You are invited to consume the consecrated bread immediately after you receive it. If you choose to receive the wine, drink directly from the cup. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please ask the communion minister. The sacrament of communion is complete if the bread or wine is received; it is not necessary to receive both.*

*During the distribution of communion, Prayers for Healing and Wholeness may be offered at the Peace Altar.*

**COMMUNION HYMN • 703** “Lead us, O Father, in the paths of peace”

*Song 22*

*The People are invited to stand.*

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

*All*                    **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we**



## ***Announcements***

- \* St. Paul's Choir will lead our Advent Lessons & Carols service today at 4 p.m. Please join us!
- \* Today is the last day to register for St. Paul's Advent Retreat: Prayer of Heart and Body. See the notice below for more information.
- \* Pledge forms for 2025 are available. Please fill out the information on the orange and green slips, then separate them and place them in the corresponding boxes at the front of the nave. Thank you for your continuing, generous support of the ministry and mission of St. Paul's.

### **NEW! Construction Updates/Reminders:**

Work continues in various areas of the parish house. Please be careful as you navigate around the buildings and do not enter any active construction sites.

- Roofing work has begun over the chapel. You may not enter the parish house through the Chapel Door.
- Continue to use the kitchen door from the parking lot and be careful as you travel through the kitchen area as there are many tripping hazards!
- Window restoration is basically done. Masonry work is nearly complete. All looks wonderful.
- The elevator parts have arrived, and installation will begin shortly.
- The new entrance from the parking lot is under construction. Look for a new video on the Church Website describing this work.
- A bathroom will always be available during construction adjacent to the Sargent Foyer.
- We will offer a tour of the construction once a month. Look for announcements about a date.

### **Directions for Parking in the Church Parking Lot**

**You need a decal:** If you have a St. Paul's parking sticker on your car we promise to never have it towed.

**Sunday Parking:** The entire lot is available for members.

**Saturday Parking:** You may park along the fence or in the contractor area, next to the dumpsters. Please do not park in any other spaces.

**Weekday Evenings after 5:00:** You may park in any open spaces.

**Weekdays before 5:00:** Those with limited mobility may find a space to park along the fence. Others please do not park in the parking lot.

## Officers

Senior Warden: Marion Greenhalgh  
Junior Warden: Joe Moorman  
Treasurer: Doug Mouncey  
Clerk of the Vestry: Joseph Russo

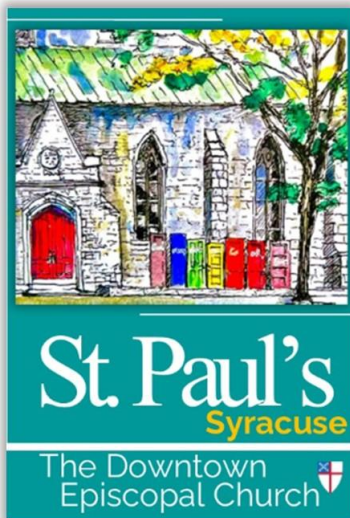
2024

## Vestry & Team Leaders

2024: David Morgan, Tom Cantwell, Michael Mach  
2025: Matthieu van der Meer, Harry Lambright, Barbara Bell  
2026: Ieva Doyle, Jeanne Chu, Tim Cassavaw  
Finance Committee Chairperson: David Ridings  
Children's Ministry Leader: Jeanne Avery  
Worship Ministry Team Convener: Laurie Sanderson  
Formation Ministry Team Convener: Jeanne Avery  
Mission & Service Team Convener: Betsy Elkins  
Community Fellowship Min. Convener: Elizabeth Belden-Handler  
Pastoral Care Leader: Kira Dirghalli  
Buildings & Grounds Chair: Bill Pitcher  
Office Volunteers: Liz Handler, Kira Dirghalli, Betsy Elkins, Sandi Yingling

## Staff

The Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan Probe, Bishop of Central New York  
The Reverend Philip Major, Rector of St. Paul's  
James L. Potts, Organist and Choirmaster  
Judy McAdoo-Pelton, Operations Manager  
Doug Mouncey, Parish Assistant (Volunteer)  
Debbie Nettle, Open Doors Project Administrator  
Mark King, Technology Assistant  
Derek Lane, Sunday Security



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**St. Paul's Syracuse**  
***The Downtown Episcopal Church***  
310 Montgomery St. Syracuse, NY 13202  
315 474-6053    [www.stpaulsyr.org](http://www.stpaulsyr.org)