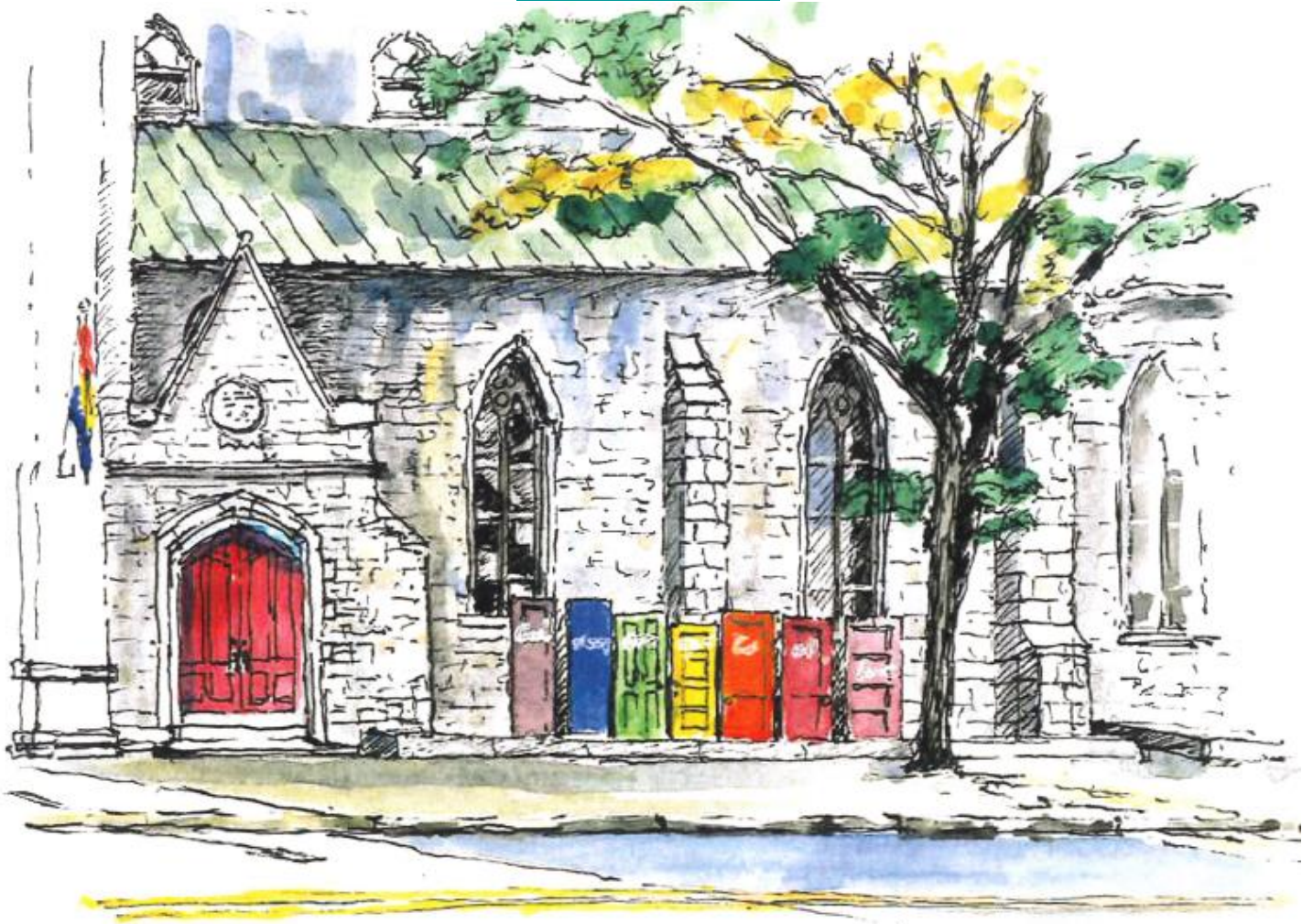


St. Paul's  
Syracuse

The Downtown  
Episcopal Church



"GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO ALL. LOVE

W. ELLIUS

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2024  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

# ORDER OF SERVICE

**PRELUDE:** *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele*, BWV 654 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
(Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness)

*The people are invited to stand.*

**HYMN** • 677 “God moves in a mysterious way” Set to *Dundee*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Celebrant* † Blessed be the one, holy, and living God:  
*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

**CANTICLE** (Hymn 617 v. 1, *Song 1*)

1. Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round of circling planets singing on their way, guide of the nations from the night profound into the glory of the perfect day; rule in our hearts, that we may ever be guided and strengthened and upheld by thee.

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**LESSON** Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

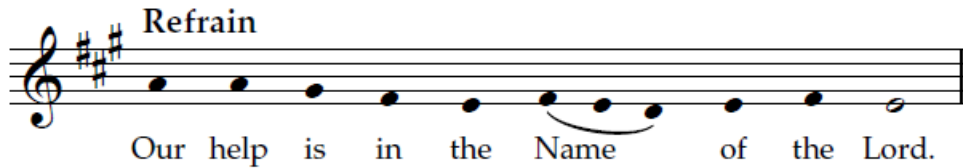
*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSE

Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus*

Mode 8

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



If the LORD had not been on our side, let Israel now say; If the LORD had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us; Then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us; **Refrain**

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us; Then would the raging waters have gone right over us. **Refrain**

Blessed be the LORD! he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. Our help is in the Name of the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. **Refrain**

## EPISTLE

James 5:13-20

*Lector* A reading from the letter of James.  
Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people are invited to stand.*

**GRADUAL HYMN** • 629 "We limit not the truth of God"

*Halifax*

*Please remain standing.*

*Celebrant*  
*People*  
*Celebrant*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

*Celebrant*  
*People*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.  
**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, we ask that you open our eyes to the wonder about us, and the beauty of our world. Remind us that we are stewards of this gift, responsible for its preservation.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Lord, you are gracious and full of compassion. Pray, let your compassion show through us in service to those who are in need or want, or illness or isolation, especially *n.*, and those we name silently or aloud.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Lord, who gave wisdom and understanding to your servant king Solomon, give to those in authority in our nation and in the world wisdom and discernment, that peoples may be governed justly, and that divisions may be healed, fear dispelled, and peace made to prevail.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Lord, we pray for those who suffer from war, civil unrest, drought, famine and dislocation that we, as your servants, may be instruments of peace and that we may support efforts to provide care and relief.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Lord, help us to understand your will in carrying out the mission of the church. We pray you support and guide Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect; DeDe, our Bishop; Philip, our Rector, and the people of St. Paul's in faithful service to you.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Lord, you have told us that you are the bread of life, that those who eat this bread will live forever. Let this assurance be comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones and let us rejoice in the lives of those who have died, especially *n.*, and those we name silently or aloud.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

Filled with the Spirit, we give thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*A brief silence is kept.*

With our whole heart: **We praise you, Lord.**

*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 **stpaulsy** (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:

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee, ah! thou friend of man, restore me! On thy loving grace relying, for the bread of life I'm sighing. Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease, fill my heart with joy and endless peace. When the breath of life has left me, may my soul be blended with thee.

*The People are invited to stand.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*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*                      Creator of all goodness, you form us in your image and call us to be stewards of creation. You bless us with intelligence and free will, but we have often failed to care for your creation and for the many members of your family all over the earth.

Yet you have never failed to love us. You guide us with your Word, given to us in Holy Scripture. You lead us in your ways of truth and love through prophets and saints, past and present. In the birth of your Son, you partnered with us in the great mystery of life. Jesus lived as we live in a time of despair and violence.

Extending hands of justice and hope, Jesus reconciles us with the faith of our Jewish brothers and sisters. Remembering his way we sing Isaiah’s hymn of praise with people of faith in every place.

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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-129

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

*Celebrant*                      Extending hands of truth and love, Jesus reconciles us with present and future generations of disciples. Remembering his way we join our voices in your new commandment:

*All*                                      **Love one another as I have loved you.**

*Celebrant*                      Extending hands of mercy and forgiveness, Jesus overcame the power of death and reconciles us with the pain and suffering of mortal life. Remembering his way we proclaim the mystery of the resurrection:

*All*                                      **Christ has died.  
 Christ is risen.  
 Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant*                      Extending hands of grace and peace, Jesus reconciles us with you. Remembering his way we turn to you in this blest sacrament of unity. Jesus sat at supper with his friends, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave it to his friends, saying, “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. He gave thanks to you, gave it to his friends, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

We offer the fruits of your creation back to you for your blessing. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this wine that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ.

† We offer our lives back to you for your blessing. Send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might live in you as you live in us.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior 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 may be seen as the culminating activity of our worship. It is the ritual action symbolizing 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-155

Gerald Near (b.1942)

*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. We are not dipping the bread into the wine at this time. Our understanding is that 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 • 336** "Come with us, O blessed Jesus"

*Werde munter*

*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 may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### BLESSING



**HYMN • 381** “Thy strong word did cleave the darkness”

*Ton-y-Botel*

**DISMISSAL**

*People:*                   **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia**

**POSTLUDE:** Trumpet Tune

Frederick Swann (1931-2022)

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*Prayers of the People were written by St. Paul’s prayer leaders.*

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***Please Keep These People in Your Prayers:***

Peter M., Philip B., Destany W., David V., Don I., Valerie P., Frank M., Mia S.R., Pamela S., Daniella B., Fr. Jim, June B., Helen R.F., Tawiah J., Fr. John and Jo-Ann V.

We remember those who have died in recent days.

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of LaUna & Edward Williamson, Edith E. & W.C.R. Williamson by Gary Sr., Donna, Gary Jr., and E. Verescak.

***Our thanks today for the...***

**Altar Guild:** Ellyn Hass with Nancy & Harry Lambright

**Lay Readers:** Margaret Sherwin / Derina Samuel

**Ushers:** Barbara Bell / Willson Cummer

**Flower Guild:** Harriet Averill & Sandy Wiley

## ***Announcements***

- \* Thanks to a grant from the Nan Dorr Fund, carpeting has been installed in the Hadley Chapel. This will make the room more comfortable, calmer, and quieter for *Godly Play* classes.
- \* Have you completed your 2024 Parish Survey? It takes 10-20 minutes to complete, and your responses will help our leaders make plans for the coming year.
- \* St. Paul's serves at the Samaritan Center on Sunday, October 13th. Please contact Kira Dirghalli if you are able to join in this important work.
- \* **Bring a friend** to St. Paul's for a concert of music for classical guitar and voice, presented by Larry Almeida. Larry is a member of St. Paul's and graciously offers this concert to benefit *Open Doors*. The concert will be on Sunday, October 13th at 3 p.m.

## **Construction Updates/reminders**

Behind the scenes in many different places much is happening with Open Doors:

- Masonry and roofing work is underway.
- Work on the Montgomery Street entrance is ongoing. The red doors have been removed and are being restored now.
- Window restoration (a huge area of this project) is about 80% complete and some windows have been reinstalled.
- The elevator installation is scheduled to begin in November.
- The construction of a new entrance to the Sargent Foyer from the parking lot will be starting soon.
- Work on constructing the new bathrooms adjacent to the Sargent Foyer continues. There will always be a bathroom available in the area during construction.
- The safest way to enter the building during the week now is through the Chapel Door.

A more complete update will be included in the October Courier. Be careful as you navigate around the Parish house and do not enter any construction areas.

## **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.

## *Understanding Episcopal Liturgy*

*#47: What is the reason the priest and eucharistic ministers make the sign of the cross near the end of the eucharistic prayer?*

Making the sign of the cross is an outward, physical act that reminds us of God's inward, invisible movement in our lives. The priest, and many of our members, use their first and second fingers to touch their forehead, chest, left shoulder, then right shoulder, outlining four points of the cross on themselves during worship.

You will notice the priest and other members of the congregation make the sign of the cross each Sunday near the end of the Eucharistic Prayer. At this time the priest says words praying for the Holy Spirit to come upon God's people. "We offer our lives back to you for your blessing. Send your Holy Spirit upon us..." This paragraph of the prayer is called 'The Invocation', as we are vocalizing or calling for the Holy Spirit to be active in our lives.

There are several other places in the liturgy where some of our members make the sign of the cross. We have marked two of the common places in our leaflet: at the Opening Acclamation and at the Absolution (just after the Prayer of Confession).

*If you have a question about something in our liturgy, I will be happy to answer it. Please ask in person, or send an email to me at [revmajor@stpaulsyr.org](mailto:revmajor@stpaulsyr.org).*

*Fr. Philip +*

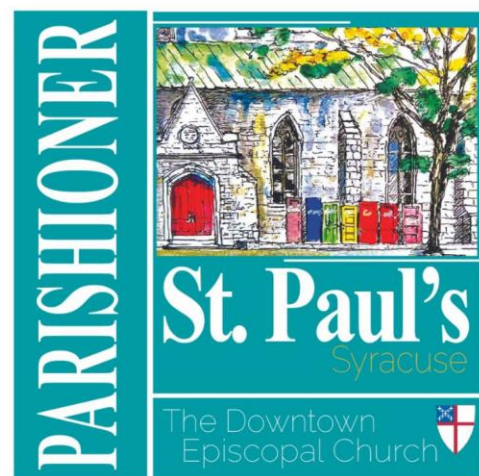
## **Important**

# You Need A Decal!

Cars parked in our parking lot that do not have parking decal may be towed.

To make sure your car is never towed, please attach a St. Paul's parking decal to your windshield or front window.

Decals are free and are available from the church office.



## Officers

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

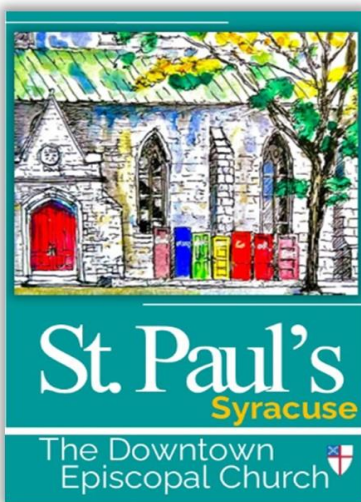
2024

## 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, Jean Stanton, 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***  
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315 474-6053    [www.stpaulsyr.org](http://www.stpaulsyr.org)