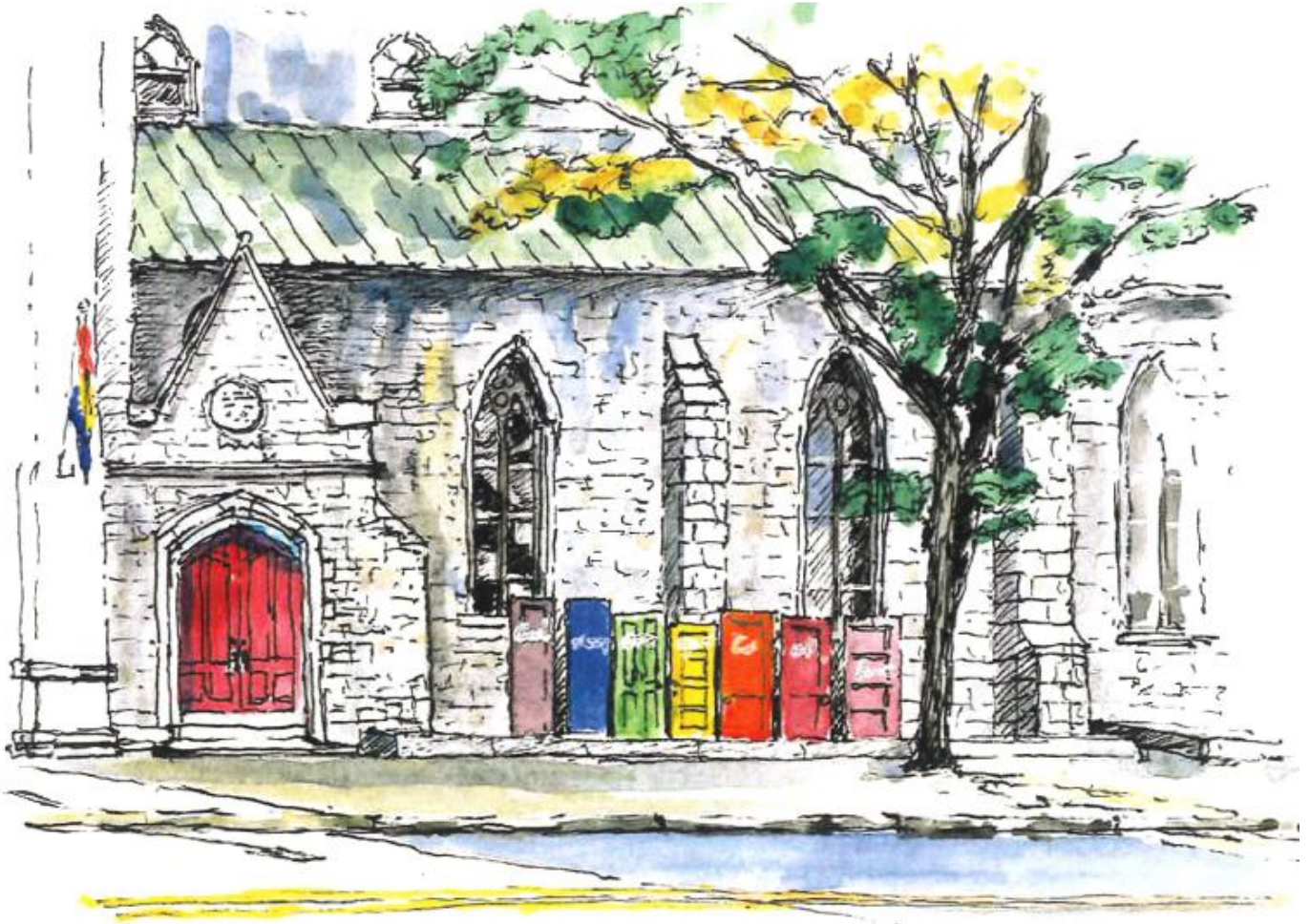




St. Paul's
Syracuse

The Downtown
Episcopal Church



"GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO ALL. LOVE

W. ELKINS

AUGUST 17, 2025

9:30 AM

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Understanding Episcopal Liturgy

#28. When the Eucharistic Minister offers the bread or the wine, they say words of institution, such as "The Bread of Heaven" or "The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life." Where do these words come from? What should I do when I receive the bread or wine?

The words for the distribution of communion are often taken from The Book of Common Prayer (1979). The most common phrases are found on page 365. During the English Reformation different factions within the church attacked and sometimes killed those who disagreed with their choice of words for communion. In a spirit of reconciliation and inclusion modeled by Christ Jesus, we include words that point toward both catholic and protestant understandings of the meaning of communion.

The most important thing for us who receive communion is our full presence and attention as we are receiving the sacrament. After the Eucharistic Minister says the words of institution you may respond by saying "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." Some people make the sign of the cross on their chests before or after receiving the sacrament. If responding 'Amen' or making the sign of the cross helps you participate more fully, I encourage you to do so. We just try to remember that there is not one 'perfect' way to participate. These are examples of adiaphora, an idea for discussion next week!

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.

Fr. Philip +

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

The people are invited to stand.

HYMN 9 • “Not here for high and holy things”

Morning Song

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of restless fire and urgent river's flow; unsettle the false peace which hides our divisions; unfold our hearts to sense your presence; unloose your kingdom and make us on in Jesus Christ, the first of many brothers and sisters.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated.

LESSON • Isaiah 5:1-7

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.
Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
He built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
He expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
 I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
 I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
 I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
 and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
 I will also command the clouds
 that they rain no rain upon it.
 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
 is the house of Israel,
 and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting;
 He expected justice, but saw bloodshed;
 righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18 *Qui regis Israel*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
 stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
 you cast out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; *
 it took root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
 and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
 and its branches to the River.
- 12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
 so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
 and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
 behold and tend this vine; *
 preserve what your right hand has planted.
- 15 They burn it with fire like rubbish; *
 at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

EPISTLE • Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Lector A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell

after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

*Lector
People*

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

The people are invited to stand.

GRADUAL HYMN 546 • "Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve"

Siroë

Please remain standing

HOLY GOSPEL • Luke 12:49-56

*Celebrant
People
Celebrant*

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

*Celebrant
People*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Georgina Hegney

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.**

Please remain standing.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Christ teaches us that if we ask, it will be given, if we seek, we will find, and, if we knock, the door will be opened. Almighty God, we pray now as faithful people who have turned our hearts to you.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Endow our secular leaders, and our faith leaders, with wisdom and courage to mark the path that leads to forgiveness and love.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

By creating the world, you prepared the ground for our existence. Having taken root on Earth, help us prudently tend to this garden, ensuring that its bounty can shelter and support all people.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

Despite your admonition to love you and each other, the sword still rages in cities across the globe. Lord, let us each be channels of your peace, working for an end to war and persecution everywhere. We pray especially for an end to the conflicts in the Middle East, Africa, and Ukraine.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

We cry to you in our trouble that you may deliver us from our distress. Help us recognize those among us who are suffering and show us how best to provide comfort. We pray especially for *n.*, and those we name silently or aloud.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

The loss of one person impacts their family, but that loss ripples outward, diminishing our entire community. We pray for those who have died, especially *n.*, and those we name silently or aloud.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

Show us your mercy, O Lord: **And grant us your salvation.**

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 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 GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our 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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S-130

Franz Schubert

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may

faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

Amen.

*All
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 ANTHEM

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

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.

^s

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

HYMNS AT COMMUNION 324 & 306

The People are invited to stand.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 490 • "I want to walk as a child of the light"

Houston

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Please Keep These People in Your Prayers:

Destany W., Fred K., Anne D., Ruth L., Cheryl G., Daniela B., Kira D., Kingsley L., Caleb H.,
Georgette S. and Mary H.

We remember those who have died in recent days.

Our thanks today for the...

Altar Guild: Georgette & Tim Schmidt

Lay Reader: Jim Doyle & Terri Tuttle

Ushers: Greg Tuttle

Announcements

This morning we welcome The Rev. Georgina Hegney as our celebrant and Julie Grindle as organist.

* The deadline for the September Courier is this Tuesday, August 19 at 5:00 p.m. Please email articles as attachments to: offices@stpaulsyr.org. See the announcement on the following page for specific directions.



Updated Important Information About Parking in Our Lot

until construction is completed



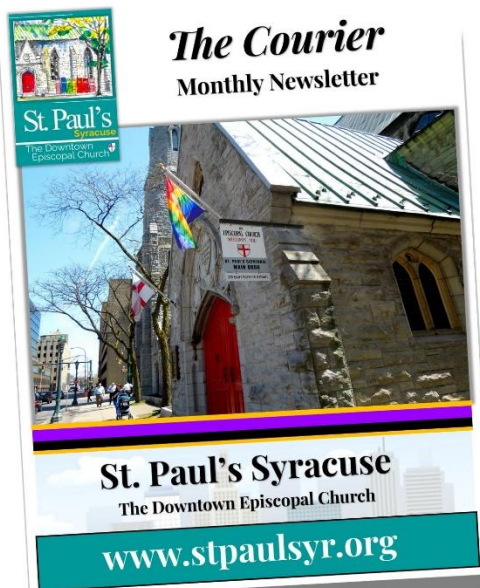
Evenings (after 5:00 p.m.) and Sundays, you may park anywhere in the lot.



Monday-Saturday: The only parking available during the day is the few spots on the fence (not on the wall) until after 5:00 p.m. Downtown workers have paid to park in our lot. We have signed a contract with them, that they are guaranteed their parking place Monday through Saturday.



The construction workers who park around the dumpster, usually leave about 4:00 p.m. If they have gone, you can park there after 4:00 p.m.



The deadline for the September Courier is Tuesday, August 19

Please send articles as an attachment using Word or Google Docs or another common word processing program.
And send any photos as JPG files.

A reminder: Please do not put in formatting such as **indents or bullets**.
We will add those during editing.

Officers

Senior Warden: Joe Moorman
Junior Warden: Ieva Doyle
Treasurer: Doug Mouncey
Assistant Treasurer: Sandi Yingling
Clerk of the Vestry: Anita Wagner

2025

Vestry & Team Leaders

2025: Matthieu van der Meer, Harry Lambright, Barbara Bell
2026: Jeanne Chu, Tim Cassavaw, DJ Igelsrud
2027: Willson Cumber, Joe Russo, Tim Simmons
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
Buildings & Grounds Chair: Bill Pitcher
Office Volunteers: Liz Handler, Kira Dirghalli, Betsy Elkins, Sandi Yingling

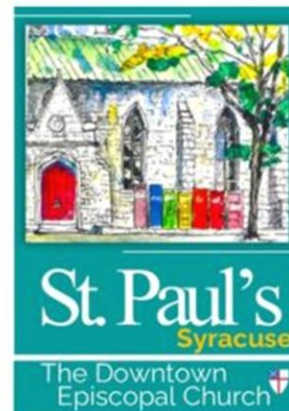
Staff

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)
Mark King, Technology Assistant
Derek Lane, Security



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