

"GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO ALL. LOVE"

W. ELLINS

JANUARY 18, 2026
CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
10 A.M.

Our morning worship begins with the first note of the organ prelude and your silent prayers. Please refrain from conversations during this time.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN VOLUNTARY • *Deep River*

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

The people are invited to stand

HYMN 599 • “Lift every voice and sing”

Lift every voice

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

CANTICLE 12: A Song of Creation – *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*

Verses 1, 2 & 5

1. O all ye works of God now come to
2. O sun and moon and stars of heav'n your
3. O heat and cold, O night and day, O
4. O earth and sea, O all that live in
5. O let his peo - ple bless the Lord like

thank him and a - dore; O an - gels sing and
end - less praise out - pour; O chang - ing sea - sons,
storms and thund - er's roar, O fields and for - ests,
wa - ter or on shore, O men and wo - men
right - eous souls of yore; let those of ho - ly,

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE LESSON • Exodus 3:7-12

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I

will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

Lector
People

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

THE RESPONSE •

Psalm 77:11-20 *Voce mea ad Dominum*

- 11 I will remember the works of the Lord, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- 12 I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?
- 14 You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- 15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
- 17 The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- 18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

THE EPISTLE • Ephesians 6:10-20

Lector

A reading from the Ephesians.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

The people are invited to stand

GRADUAL HYMN 648 • "When Israel was in Egypt's land"

Go down, Moses

Please remain standing

THE HOLY GOSPEL • Luke 6:27-36

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**
Celebrant

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
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.**

Please remain standing.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., let us call to mind his non-violent work to unite all people under the banner of freedom and justice.

Almighty God, help us to further your church's mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves. We pray especially for the Most Rev. Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; DeDe, our Bishop; Philip, our Rector, and the people of St. Paul's.
The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

Forgive each one of us for our indifference to the injustice and cruelty in the world.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

Grant us grace to fulfill the dream of a nation where people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

Give our leaders a sense of responsibility in service to the greater good and bless us with those who are willing to serve with mercy, wisdom, and clarity.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

Restore to fullness of health those who are ill, injured or suffering from despair or anxiety. Bring peace to all who suffer. We pray especially for *n.* and those we name silently or aloud.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

Bless all those who depart this world in faith a place with you in your eternal kingdom. Lift up the spirits of all who mourn. We pray especially for *n.* and those we name silently or aloud.

The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.

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

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.*



The people are invited to stand as the offering is brought forward

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

Spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

My Lord what a morning, when the stars begin to fall. Done quit all my worldly ways, join that heavenly band, Oh! my Lord what a morning...

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with (— and) all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for 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 saying the Fraction Anthem.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-164

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM, “If ye love me, keep Thy commandments”

Philip Wilby (b.1949)

If ye love me keep my commandments and I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter. That he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of Truth. And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

COMMUNION HYMN 347 • “Go forth for God; go to the world in peace”

Litton

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 • 636, “How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord”

Foundation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY • *Cortège* (Trois Improvisations)

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Please Keep These People in Your Prayers

Destany W., Raymond C., Anne D. and Sandi Y.

For those who have died:

The altar flowers are given by Tom Cantwell in loving memory of Thomas & Ellen Cantwell.

Our thanks today for the...

Altar Guild: Joe Russo, Anita Wagner

Lay Reader: Sue Stinson

Ushers: Derina Samuel, Roy Thomas & Amy Mangram

Flower Guild: Harriet Averill & Sandy Wiley

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

The Collect of the Day is taken from "Prayers for an Inclusive Church, 2009."

Announcements

* In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "Love your enemies, pray for those who abuse you." You are invited to join *Christians for Nonviolence* in a candlelight vigil on the theme of loving our enemies on the Martin Luther King holiday, January 19th, at 5:30 p.m. in Cathedral Square (in front of the Roman Catholic Cathedral).

* St. Paul's 2025 Annual Report is available for you to read. Full-color, print copies are found in the back of the Nave. You can read the electronic version at stpaulsyr.org.

* The deadline for articles for the February edition of *The Courier* is tonight, January 18th at midnight. Please send your article formatted in *Word* or other commonly used software to Judy at offices@stpaulsyr.org. *(announcements continued on the next page)*

* Next Sunday, January 25th is Annual Meeting Sunday. We will hold one worship service at 9:30 a.m. Annual Meeting will be held in the nave following worship. All members and attenders of St. Paul's are encouraged to participate! Annual Meeting lasts less than an hour and is followed by a pot luck lunch.

* Today, following worship, we need volunteers to help take down wreaths and other Christmas decorations.

* Our Nominations Committee has submitted a slate of three nominees to serve full, three-year terms on the Vestry: Catherine Gerard, Amy Mangram, and Joseph von Souder. Joe Russo has been nominated to serve a two-year term as a Warden.

.Understanding Episcopal Liturgy

#5. What is the reason the priest or bishop is always the last person in the procession?

In the ancient world the most important person, such as the king, the governor, or the general of the army, was always the first person in any procession. The assistants walked in order of importance behind the king or governor. The last person in the procession would be the servant of the lowest rank.

As Christians we take inspiration from Jesus' instructions: "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called by fancy titles, but not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the novice and the leader like one who serves." (Luke 22:25-26) We pay attention to the order of participants and symbols in our processions. The cross is always first in our processions because the cross is our most important symbol. The priest or bishop is always the last in the procession to indicate that, as leaders in the church, they have taken on the role of servant.

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 +

Officers

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

Vestry & Team Leaders

2025: Matthieu van der Meer, Harry Lambright, Barbara Bell
2026: Jeanne Chu, Tim Cassavaw, DJ Igelsrud
2027: Willson Cummer, 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

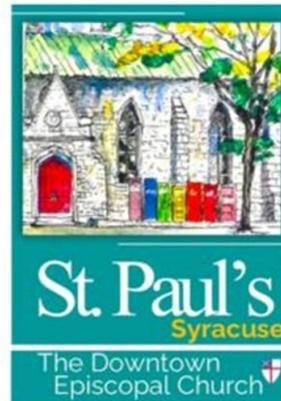
Staff

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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