

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST

OPEN DOORS. OPEN HEARTS. OPEN HANDS.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 166 years of service and worship in Wilmington.

8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

*Our worship service can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP).
Please silence all electronic devices before the liturgy begins.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity BCP 355

The Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.
People: Christ, have mercy.
Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day Page 3

The Lessons *(The lessons can be found starting on page 4 of the bulletin)*

The First Reading

The Psalm

The Second Reading

The Holy Gospel Page 5

The Sermon The Very Reverend Michael Wright

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

The Prayers of the People Page 6

The Confession of Sin and Absolution Page 6

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

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The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread Page 9

The Communion of the People Page 9

The Post Communion Prayer Page 10

The Blessing

The Dismissal

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS at 8:00 AM

Celebrant	Preacher	Altar Server/Lector	Greeter/Usher
The Reverend A. Michael Singer	The Very Reverend J. Michael A. Wright	Herb Gant	Mona Clites

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, celebrating 166 years of service and worship in Wilmington.

10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST RITE II ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

*Our worship service can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). The hymns can be found in the blue 1982 Hymnal.
Other hymns will be marked accordingly. Please silence all electronic devices before the liturgy begins.*

Voluntary

Schmücke dich, BWV 654

J.S. Bach

Processional Hymn 518

Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

THE WORD OF GOD

The Acclamation and Response

BCP 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity *(said together)*

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.*

The Gloria

Glory be to God in heaven,
songs of joy and peace we bring,
thankful hearts and voices raising,
to creation's Lord we sing:
Lord, we bless you,
Lord we thank you,
glory be to God our King.

Glory be to God in heaven
Lamb of God, who on your shoulders
bore the load of this world's sin,
only Son of God the Father,
you have brought us peace within:
Lord have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
now your glorious reign begin.

Lauda Anima
You, O Son of God, are holy,
you we praise with one accord;
none in heav'n nor earth is like you,
only you are Christ the Lord
with the Father,
and the Spirit,
ever worshipped and adored.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

The First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: A Reading from the Prophet Malachi.

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

Quam dilecta!

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;

No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.

O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

The Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn 257

O Zion, open wide thy gates

Edmonton

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:22-40.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

**The Very Reverend
J. Michael A. Wright**

Please stand.

<p>1. We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan Earth and heaven sprang to being All created things began. We believe in Christ the Savior, Son of God in human frame. Virgin-born, the child of Mary Upon whom the Spirit came.</p>	<p>2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken, Like a lamb to slaughter led, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, He descended to the dead. We believe in Jesus risen, Heaven's king to rule and reign, To the Father's side ascended Till as judge he comes again.</p>	<p>3. We believe in God the Spirit; In one Church, below, above. Saints of God in one communion, One in holiness and love. So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Savior, Lord and friend We shall rise with him in glory To the life that knows no end.</p>
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The Prayers of the People *(from Intercessions for the Christian People)*

Celebrant: Made like us in every respect, our high priest knows our suffering and intercedes for us before the throne of mercy. Let us pray through Christ saying: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For our church, that it may be a light to all nations and a beacon for all peoples. For Rob, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, and the clergy of St. Paul's. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Bishop Search, St. Andrew's on the Sound in Wilmington and St. Paul's in Wilmington. In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. Let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For God's people Israel, first to hear the word of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For enlightened minds and hearts among those who act and work for the public good, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For God's reign of peace, that no people need live in the fear of death, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For those who speak and those who hear the prophetic word today, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For wisdom in old age and fidelity in youth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For suffer from winter's cold, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor: For all who walk in darkness, or who face illness, death, and misfortune, especially *(the intercessor reads the names of those on the parish prayer list)*. For the departed, especially Anderson Cannon and Thomas Tisdale. Let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Jesus, Lord of the Church, you have called us into fellowship with St. Paul and all your saints. We unite our prayers with theirs and ask for grace to serve you with joy where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for all eternity. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought,
word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we
have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. *Amen.*

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Members of the congregation will present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. The loose offering for today will support the Rector's Discretionary Fund. If you would like to give electronically, please turn to page 11 for the QR code.

Offertory Anthem

Nunc Dimittis in Bb

Charles Villiers Stanford

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation; Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Presentation Hymn

Doxology

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP 367

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant continues with a Proper Preface.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Celebrant continues.

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,

Celebrant and People:

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

The Celebrant continues.

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. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

A period of silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

Refrain *(sung by all)*

Taste and see

Lift Every Voice and Sing II

The musical score for the Refrain is written in 2/2 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics: "Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord. O Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord." The score includes a "Fine" marking at the end.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Invitation to Communion

Agnus Dei S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God

Franz Schubert

The musical score for Agnus Dei S-164 is written in 2/2 time, featuring a treble staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace." The score includes a "organ" marking at the end.

The Communion of the People

Communion stations are available at the altar rail and in the baptistry. To receive the consecrated Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. When receiving the Wine, please assist the chalice as it is offered; or, having consumed the Bread, you may return to your seat. We believe Christ fully present in either element. If you prefer not to receive the Sacrament, you may ask for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please speak to a priest when you come forward for Communion.

Communion Anthem*Ave verum corpus*

Edward Elgar

Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine, cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit et sanguine, esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine. O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

(English translation)

Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary, Who truly suffered, sacrificed on the Cross for man, Whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood, Be for us a foretaste in the test of death.

Communion Hymn 339*Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness*

Schmücke dich

**Communion Hymn 324
The Post Communion Prayer***Let all mortal flesh keep silence*Picardy
BCP 365*(said together)**The people stand or kneel.*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Blessing**Processional Hymn 665***All my hope on God is founded*

Michael

The Dismissal**Celebrant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.**People:** Thanks be to God.**Voluntary***Allegro assai vivace*

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome, Dean Wright

We extend a special welcome to The Very Reverend J. Michael A. Wright and his wife, Margriet. Michael is the Dean and Rector of Grace Church Cathedral, where I served under his leadership for seven years before coming to St. Paul's. We are very grateful to have him here with us today to preach and teach this morning and to also give the homily at this evening's Choral Evensong for the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. Thank you, Michael and Margriet for being with us today.

At the Choral Evensong at 4pm today we will be honoring the newest members of the 1858 Circle. The 1858 Circle consists of members and friends of St. Paul's who have remembered St. Paul's in their estate plans. Please come to support our choir and give thanks for our new 1858 Circle members.

Caleb +

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS AT 10:30AM

Celebrant	Altar Server
The Reverend Caleb J. Lee	Zoë Frederiksen
Preacher	Lectors
The Very Reverend J. Michael A. Wright	Lynda Miller Allen Lee
Gospeller	Intercessor
The Reverend A. Michael Singer	Teresa Singer
Vergers	Greeters
Leon Tillery Dot Erway	Ruth Gates Valerie DeJarld
Crucifers	Ushers
Zoë Frederiksen Nathan Gaylord	Owen Aylesworth Pete Hoff Jane Harkness Kenny Harkness
Torchbearers	Flower Guild
Bennett Sanders-Park Evie Frederiksen	Michele Ryan
Gospel Book Bearer	Altar Guild
Carol Field	Carolyn Demorest Dot Erway Lynda Miller
Eucharistic Ministers	
Nathan Gaylord Carol Field Carolyn Demorest	

OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

The Blessing Box Ministry

The Blessing Box request is for donations of gloves and knit caps for our street angels. These do not have to be new.

If you have some resources to pass on this is especially appreciated during this season.

Thank you from the Blessing Box team.

VANCO ONLINE GIVING



ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

In Our Parish

Earl Craig	Renée Patrick
Alice Calder	Carroll Joines
Eileen Searle	Janet Dillon
Lloyd Olsen+	Bill Garmon
Tammy Pollock	Bob Crafts
Dale Curran	Katherine Ramsey
Lyle Sullivan	Richard & Barbara
JoAnn Summey	O'Rourke
John Efthemis	Sib Vlahos
Mack Umphlett	Bill Waterfield
Ashley Eason	Lynda Miller
	Mike Flinn

People Requesting Prayer

Tracy Sorrenti	The Beer Family
Rebecca Tousignant	Alida Babcock
Faye Briggs	Elise Harney
Doug Crafts	Steve Skardon
Aaron Harward	Catherine Alligood
Lisa Wilson	Maureen Brie Smith
Michelle Long	Amanda Ormiston
Lyla	Laura, Avery, and Ella
David Olsen	Cory Smith

The Departed

Anderson Cannon, Thomas Tisdale

About the Prayer List

Included in our prayers are the names of those for whom prayer has been requested by a parishioner or family member. The reason for being listed is kept confidential. All parish prayer requests are listed on the prayer list for one month. The complete list of those in need of our prayer are remembered weekly at our 12:10 pm Wednesday Eucharist with Healing Prayers. If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list please reach out to Fr. Caleb Lee or make a prayer request online at our website, www.spechurch.com.

Hospitalization or Pastoral Issues

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. Please speak with Fr. Caleb or call the church office at (910) 762-4578.

Sharing Holy Communion

If illness prevents you or a loved one from joining us for regularly scheduled services, Fr. Caleb or a Lay Eucharistic Minister can share Holy Communion either in your home or at a health care facility. Please speak to Fr. Caleb or contact the church office at (910) 762-4578.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today, Sunday, February 2

The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ

8:00am Holy Eucharist (*Breakfast to follow in Parish Hall*)

9:15am-12pm Nursery open

9:30am Formation for All Ages

10:30am Choral Eucharist (*In-person and live-streamed on YouTube; Reception to follow in Parish Hall*)

11:30am Tour of St. Paul's²

11:45am-12:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (*Music Suite*)

4:00pm **Choral Evensong** with Dean Michael Wright preaching *followed by High Tea*

Tuesday, February 4

9:00am Morning Prayer (*Zoom*)

6:15-8:30pm EfM (*Parish Hall*)

Wednesday, February 5

12:10pm Midweek Eucharist (*Lunch to follow in Parish Hall*)

7-8:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (*Parish Hall*)

Thursday, February 6

8:30am GNP & St. Fiacre Meeting (*Parish Hall*)

11:00am Rector's Bible Study¹ (*Parish Hall*)

Friday, February 7

8:00am Mensgroup

Saturday, February 8

9:00am-4:00pm Vestry Retreat (*Church of the Servant*)

Next Sunday, February 9

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00am Holy Eucharist (*Breakfast to follow in Parish Hall*)

9:15am-12pm Nursery open

9:30am Formation for All Ages

10:30am Choral Eucharist (*In-person and live-streamed on YouTube; Reception to follow in Parish Hall*)

11:45am-12:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (*Music Suite*)

¹Join Fr. Lee in the Parish Hall for a look at the upcoming readings from our Sunday lectionary. Bring your lunch, your perspective, and your Bible.

²We'll be walking around the church and the Parish House. For newcomers, it's a chance to see where things are. For visitors, it's a bit of architectural and church history. For the rest of us, it's a chance to revisit places not often seen. Everyone's welcome—bring questions! We'll start at the back of the church.

COMING UP AT ST. PAUL'S

Parish Retreat 2025!

Where: Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores

When: Friday, August 29th-Sunday, August 31st

Who: St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Let us know of your interest.

Trinity Center, an unforgettable venue tucked between the sound and the sea, will host our retreat as in past years. Please join us for a few days of fellowship and spiritual, recreational and personal renewal. The cost for the weekend is approximately \$250 for adults and much less for children and youth.

We need to start figuring out who is planning on going so we can reserve space at Trinity Center. Be sure to mark your calendars and sign up at the link provided to reserve your spot.

<https://forms.gle/YJeH28QRBEeWj6HN9>

Save the Date: July 20-25, 2025

The Glory Ridge 2025 Youth Mission Experience

The Bishop is Coming this Spring

The Bishop is coming on Sunday, April 6 for a service of Confirmation, Reception, and Renewal. For youth and adults interested in Confirmation, Reception, or Renewal in the Episcopal Church please register online using the QR code below. You can also check the latest Enews for a link. If you have questions about what it means to be welcomed into the Episcopal Church by the bishop please contact Father Lee or Father Singer. There will be classes scheduled in Lent to prepare for the Bishop's visit.



A Call for Lenten Reflections

This is the formal call for submissions for 2025 Lenten Reflections by the Family and Friends of St. Paul's. For those who have written reflections in the past, "THANK YOU!!" For those who have not, we hope that this will be the year that you join us. This will be the seventh annual edition of St. Paul's Lenten Reflections.

Here are the basic guidelines:

- 300 words maximum; there is no minimum.
- Don't worry about grammar and structure; we have great editors.
- If you send a reflection, and it is edited for other than minor grammatical changes, we will get in touch with you.
- We do not identify writers with their specific reflection; all writers are listed alphabetically at the end of the Reflections booklet and in the last email/electronic reflection.

Deadline for reflections is February 24.

YOU CAN BEGIN SUBMITTING REFLECTIONS NOW! Send to hs2consulting@aol.com.

This year's theme is ***Mirror, Mirror***.

If you have questions or want guidance, please get in touch with Royster Hedgepeth, David Fredericksen, or Lisa Sanders-Park.

Lent is a season of reflection, of giving things up, of taking new directions. Your reflection just might be the one that sends someone in new directions or that supplies balm for a hurt.

There is no limit on the number of reflections you submit. Each one will get our full attention. So please don't wait.

BLOOD DRIVE

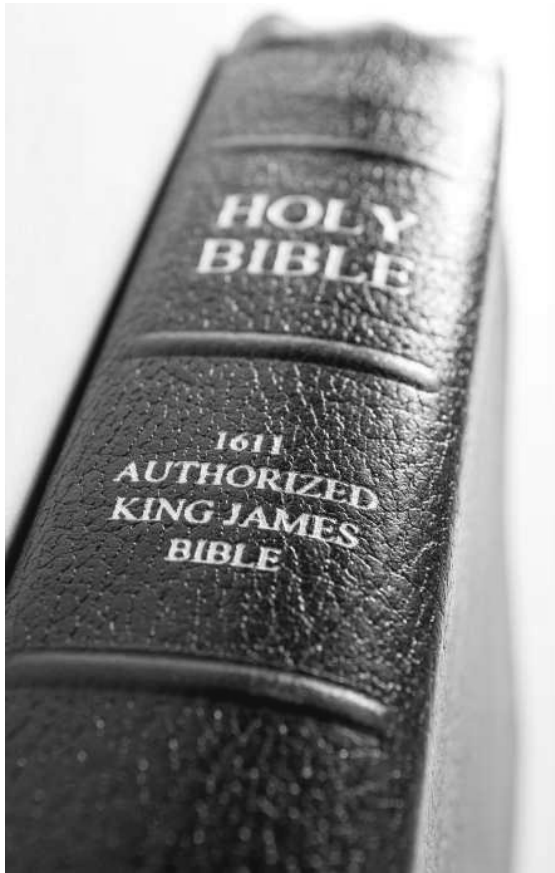
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

On the American Red Cross Bus
16 N 16th St (rear parking lot)
Wilmington, NC 28401

Thursday, February 13, 2025
12:00 - 6:00 pm

Please go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter St Paul to schedule an appointment. You can also call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or speak to Margaret Haughey or Ashley Eason.

"The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. The more blood you donate, the more lives you can save."



Adult Formation: Sunday February 9

MAJESTY AND LIGHT

THE MAKING OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

Join Cleve Callison who will speak about “the greatest work of English prose ever written”. Or if you prefer, “the only great work of art ever produced by a committee”. It is certainly one of the defining features of the English religion, not to mention language, politics, history, and drama among Catholicism and the new Protestant, Puritan and Anglican faiths in the 17th Century. And its shadow stretches long.

Stewardship Update

Thank you, St. Paul's! Your Stewardship Team is grateful for your generous support of the Lamps Lit - Hearts on Fire campaign to fund St. Paul's in 2025. To date, we have received 147 pledges totaling over \$610,000. While we are well on our way to surpassing last year's final results, our goal for participation this year is 170 pledges.

The active phase of the 2025 Stewardship Campaign is officially over, but it is still possible to make a pledge. Last year 15 households pledged between January and June and those gifts made a big difference in what we could do in 2024.

Pledge forms are available at the front and side entrances to the church, or you may print one at <https://spechurch.com/annual-pledge-giving/>.

Even simpler, on the same page there is a link to submit your 2025 annual pledge form online. Reach out to Karen Day if you have questions.

As the new year unfolds, we wish you God's peace and, once again, thank you for supporting St. Paul's mission and ministries.

ST. PAUL'S WELCOMES YOU

We are glad you are with us today. If you are new to St. Paul's, please fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter or an usher. Here are some quick facts that may be helpful.

Welcome: All are welcome to receive communion. If you prefer not to receive, you can remain seated, or come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. If you are allergic to wheat products, gluten-free communion bread is available. Please let your request be known to the priest as you approach the altar rail.

Help: Please see any of our ushers for assistance when you enter the worship area.

Handicapped Parking: Our facility is handicapped accessible with multiple handicapped parking spaces available in the lot off Market Street and the lot off Princess Street. Handicap ramps serve both parking lots.

Live-Streamed: Our service is live-streamed on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 am Please subscribe to St. Paul's on YouTube to view live-streamed services and concerts.

Worship: St. Paul's follows the services outlined in the Book of Common Prayer 1979. The services include Old and New Testament readings, a reading from the Gospel, a sermon and traditional communion.

Children: All children are welcome and encouraged to attend any of our services.

Worship Kits: Bags and boxes are located in the back of the church for different ages to use in the pew. Please return when church is over.

Nursery: The nursery is open most Sundays from 9:15 am to Noon upstairs in the Children's wing. The nursery is for infants to age 5.

Sunday School: Sunday School meets from 9:30-10:15 am upstairs in the Children's Wing for ages 4-11.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): EYC meets Sunday from 9:30-10:15 am in the conference room for 6th grade and older.



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16 N. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 | (910) 762-4578 | www.spechurch.com

Admin Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9 am-4 pm, Fri 9 am-1 pm

Finance Office Hours: Mon, Wed-Thurs 9 am-4 pm

Bulletin & E-news submissions: admin@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 pm)

Clergy and Staff

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, Rector

The Reverend A. Michael Singer, Pastoral Associate

Brendan Conner, Organist and Director of Music

Diane Matz-Kane, Finance Assistant

Meaghan Thomas, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Isaac McDowell, Associate for Youth and Parish Life

Christian Bridges, Sunday Sexton

St. Paul's 2025 Vestry

Carol Field, Rector's Warden

Steve Haughey, People's Warden

Anne O'Dell, Clerk

Scott Sheble, Treasurer

Barbara Ellington Banks | Steve Bucci | Tori Cannon | Karen Day | Cecelia Peers

Denise Sheehan | David Tousignant | Phillip Weiss | Frank Wolf

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