

The Word of God

PRELUDE

The Peace May Be Exchanged

Dan Locklair

ENTRANCE HYMN | *Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! (Gelobt sei Gott)*
The people stand.

Hymnal 205

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.*

GLORIA (Mathias)

The "S" numbers are found in the front of the blue Hymnal 1982

S 278

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

The people sit.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 116 | Carl P. Daw & Kevin Hackett

Antiphon: 1x organ, ;2x choir; 3x all; thereafter all.

ANTIPHON



I will walk in the pre - sence of the LORD, in the land — of the liv - ing.

¹ I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him. **ANTIPHON**

² The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.

³ Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray you, save my life." **ANTIPHON**

¹⁰ How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things he has done for me?

¹¹ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord.

¹² I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. **ANTIPHON**

¹³ Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his servants.

¹⁴ O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds. **ANTIPHON**

¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord.

¹⁶ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

¹⁷ In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah! **ANTIPHON**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

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

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The people sit.

THE NICENE CREED

The people stand.

BCP p. 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP p. 388

The people stand or kneel.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION

BCP p. 360

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. 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 Priest stands and says

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

THE PEACE

BCP p. 360

The people stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The People stand or kneel. 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 Paul 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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

People and Celebrant

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

S 155

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

NOTE ON RECEIVING COMMUNION: All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament regardless of age or denomination. Those who have not been baptized are welcome to receive a blessing—indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Intercessory prayer teams are available to pray with you at the back of the nave.

COMMUNION HYMN | *The day of resurrection (Ellacombe)*

Hymnal 210

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 366

*The people stand or kneel.**Celebrant and People*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING**POST-COMMUNION HYMN** | *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more (Engelberg)*

Hymnal 296

*The people stand.***DISMISSAL**

BCP p. 366

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**POSTLUDE***Praeludium in D, BuxWV139*

Dietrich Buxtehude

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under One License #A-731767. Music images with permission under CCLI license #22735000. All rights reserved.

The Rev. Dr. Kristine Blaess, Rector
 The Rev. Michael Whitnah, Associate Rector
 The Rev. Josh Wilson, Pastoral Resident
 The Rev. Funmi Odidi, Volunteer Priest Associate
 Dr. Sean Vogt, Director of Music
 Lectors: Alicia Hollis, Jenny Fayter
 Intercessor: Jim Calder
 Chalice Bearer: Jeff James, Gary Wilkes
 Prayer Team: Jennifer Handy, Byrena Kirkham
 Acolytes: Molly Bartsch, Daphne Dieringer, Harper Marsh, Veronika Duchacek
 Ushers: Victoria Atamer, Nick Burgess
 Altar Guild: Sue Koechlein, Helen Bayne, Victoria Atamer, Dixie Groutt, Janice Wilson
 Technical Team: Rex Fayter, Adam Thrash
 Flowers by the Flower Guild

FLOWER DEDICATION

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God

PRAYER CONCERNS

For those with cancer: Dennis, Earl, Jeff, Katarina, Leigh, Lois, Margaret, Mark, Marsha, Mary Beth, Matt, Maxine, Molly, Pat, Sage, Sherry, Theresa, Tim, and Trevor.

For those in cancer remission: Andie, Jim, and Mandy.

For those healing from surgery: Aidan, Ashli, James, Jason, Jennifer, Kate, and Jim.

For those with disabilities, their families, and their caregivers.

For those experiencing mental health issues.

For those with other needs: Alyssa, Anna Dean, Beverly, Bernice, Bobby, Byrena, The Chaney Family, Dan, David, Davina, Jane, Emily, Erika, Greg, Hannah, Henry, Idalia, Jack, Jennifer, Jerry, Kandace, Kim, Kristin, Lisa, Linda, Marcie, Marian, Martha, Miranda, Nicole, Poston, Ray, Vanessa, Waylon, and Zach.

For those imprisoned including: Abu-Ali, Charlie, Corinio, Gregory, Joe, Michael Tyrone, and Tyler.

For those experiencing homelessness including: Adrienne, Andrea, Carol, Cindy, Connie, Deborah, Donna, Jacki, Jeri, Jessica, Joe, Kanasha, Kelsey, Kimberley, Kristi, Laura, Leanna, Lonetria, Lori, Melissa, Renada, Sharon, Tiffany, and Trista.

For all veterans and those in military service and their families, including: Benjamin, Brianna, Chris, Evan, Gaven, Jeffrey, Josh, Kaitlin, Topher, Trevor, and Sean.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- 7:30 a.m. | **Rite I Service** with Gospel Piano
- 8:45 a.m. | **Rite II Service**, Ancient and Modern
 - Nursery available 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 - Children's Church
 - Intercessory Prayer available
- 9:45 a.m. | **Adult Confirmation Class**; Christian Education Rooms 2-3, Parish Hall, 1st floor
- 10:00 a.m. | **Christian Education**
 - Parents' Group | Wise Room
 - Rector's Forum | Parish Hall
 - Catechesis | Catechesis Rooms, Parish Hall, 2nd floor
 - No Youth Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. | **Rite II Service** with Choir, Organ, and Livestream
 - Intercessory Prayer available
- **No SNL**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Reminder from the Altar Guild

Ladies, before coming to the rail to receive the Eucharist, the Altar Guild is gently reminding you to please blot your lipstick. This helps us to keep the linens clean and stain-free.

Celebrating our 2026 Grads! | *deadline for submission is April 30*

Are you, or do you have, a graduating high school senior? Are you an upcoming college graduate, or did you graduate in August/December 2025? Let us celebrate your achievement! Please send the following information to

frontoffice@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org:

- Name of Graduate
- Photo
- Name of School
- Indicate if valedictorian/salutatorian or if graduating with honors (Latin designation)
- Name of College or Trade School attending and degree being pursued; alternately, include future plans (i.e., joining the military, starting apprenticeship, etc.) or leave blank
- College graduates, please include degree earned and major

Food Drive coming up April 26 | *Get your red bag TODAY!*

This Sunday in the Narthex, Ushers will pass out red cloth bags to hold your donations. Items needed are canned protein, pasta and tomato sauce, fruit cups, energy bars, baking goods, and snacks. Please do not donate perishable items like fresh fruit. Monetary donations can be made as well. Make checks payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church with "foodbank" in the memo line or donate online through Realm. Nourish Foodbank uses the funds to purchase essentials like milk, eggs, and butter at significantly discounted prices and items for babies, including formula and diapers.

Senior Brown Bag Lunch | Tuesday, April 21, 11:30 a.m.; Parish Hall

Seniors, come together on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your lunch and share in fellowship and the occasional craft!

Parents' Night Out | Friday, April 24, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Our nursery hosts a Parents' Night Out on the 3rd Friday of the month. *This month, due to the Youth Retreat, PNO will be held on the 4th Friday.* Each event is full of activities, snacks, and games. This fun event not only provides a fun time for our children at the church, but it also helps to give parents of young children a night to nurture their relationship with each other. Email nursery@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org with questions or to sign up. You may also sign up on the sheets provided outside the Nursery and next to the Parish Hall elevator.

Club 3-4-5 | Saturday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.-noon; Go Fun USA!, 2270 Armory Dr., Murfreesboro

Club 3-4-5 is a gathering for children grades 3-5. Join us for our next outing at Go Fun USA. We will be mini golfing! The cost is \$20 per child. Scholarships are available. Questions and RSVPs, email Cindy at cindy.guevart@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.

Arts, Crafts, Tea and Toast | Saturday, April 25, 11:00 a.m.; Catechesis III room, Parish Hall, 2nd floor

Join this new women's group on the last Saturday of each month for fellowship, activity, food, and prayer. Contact Susanne Hebden at hebden.susanne@gmail.com with questions and to RSVP.

Welcome our new seminarian, High Garst! | Sunday, April 26

We are delighted to introduce High Garst to our congregation! High has accepted our offer to join the St. Paul's community as our next seminarian, a role full of formation and service. After a summer internship at Erlanger Medical Center, High will join us in August 2026. He will worship with us on April 26th, so please introduce yourselves.

Rector's Forum | Sunday, April 26, 10:00 a.m.; Parish Hall

Jane Brown, CFOO, St. Andrew's-Sewanee (SAS) Episcopal School will be with us this weekend to share more about the school's distinctive approach to education. Please Join us to learn about SAS's vibrant community, strong academics, and unique opportunities both in and beyond the classroom, including summer camps. SAS is a day and boarding school that adjoins the University of the South domain. The beautiful 550-acre campus features biking and hiking trails, two lakes, and stunning natural beauty.

Newcomers' Brunch | Sunday, May 3, 9:50 a.m.; Adult Christian Ed Rooms, Parish Hall, 1st floor

Newcomers, we are so pleased that you are here and want to get to know you. Please join Kristine+ and our newcomers team for brunch, where we will have time to visit and share about St. Paul's mission. Childcare will be provided in the nursery. RSVP to Joyce Adkins at joyce.adkins@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.

Baptism at St. Paul's | May 24, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

If you or a loved one wish to be baptized and/or if you have any questions about the baptism process, please contact our Baptismal Shepherds at baptism@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org or Josh Wilson at josh.wilson@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org by Monday, May 4, 2026. There will be a baptism information session and rehearsal on Saturday, May 23.

Vacation Bible School | June 8-12, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

VBS registration is open! Exploring 5 foundational truths about the nature of God. Get kids ready to embark on a wild, creature-filled adventure at Rainforest Falls where kids learn that God is Creator, All-knowing, our Refuge, Love, and Forever. Age 3 to rising 6th graders. The cost is \$20 a child. Contact Cindy at Cindy.Guevart@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org with any questions! It is also now on the homepage: www.stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.



Offering

To make an offering online with your debit/credit card, scan the QR code with your smart phone camera. A link will appear, click on it to open our website's giving page. You can select the fund you want to give to (i.e. pledge fulfillment, general offering, CONNECT, etc.) and leave a note in the memo line, if desired. Text giving is also available, text GIVESTPAULS to 73256 (ex., GIVESTPAULS \$100).

