

The Word of God

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN | *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven (Lauda anima)*
The people stand.

Hymnal 410

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

BCP p. 355

The Celebrant continues

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 (Robert Powell)

S 280

(The "S" numbers are found at the front of the blue hymnal)

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.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 45:1-15

The people sit.

¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God

PSALM

Psalms 133

ANTIPHON



¹Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
²It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
³Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe. **ANTIPHON**
⁴It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
⁵For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore. **ANTIPHON**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 15:10-28

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

¹⁰Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

THE SERMON

The people sit.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

The people stand.

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. 392

The people kneel or stand. The leader and people pray responsively.

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence.

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;
People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;
People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;
People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader For Sarah Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
People For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions as the Leader adds the collected petitions of the Congregation.

Leader Hear us, Lord;
People For your mercy is great.

Leader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence is kept. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;
People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions as the the Leader adds the collected petitions of the Congregation.

Leader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 359

Priest 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

The people stand.

BCP p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY | *Keep Me Faithfully*
The people sit.

Handel

THE DOXOLOGY
The people stand.

Hymnal 380 v.3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP p. 361

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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

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

[Here a Proper Preface is said].

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:

SANCTUS (*Robert Powell*)

S 129

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.

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 | *There's a wideness in God's mercy (Beecher)*

Hymnal 470

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

The people kneel or stand.

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant gives the blessing.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN | *O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling (Tidings)*

Hymnal 539

The people stand

The Priest dismisses the People with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Rev. Dr. Kristine Blaess, Rector
The Rev. Michael Whitnah, Associate Rector
The Rev. Josh Wilson, Pastoral Resident
Janet Schmidt, Guest Organist
Lectors: Kris McCusker, Margaret Stewart
Intercessor: Jenny Fayter
Chalice Bearers: Carol Detmer, Richard Detmer
Prayer Team: Charlotte James, Sandy Gleaves, David Loucky, Nancy Loucky
Acolytes: John Gamble, Jax Peek, David Perry, Joseph Perry
Ushers: Debbie Harris, Victoria Atamer, Mary Probert
Tech Team: Jeanne Potter, Rex Fayter
Altar Guild: Victoria Atamer, Helen Bayne, Dixie Groutt, Janice Wilson
Flowers by the Flower Guild

FLOWER DEDICATION

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by the Flower Guild.

PRAYER CONCERNS

For those with cancer: Anna Dean, Betsy, Dennis, Doug, Earl, Jeff, Leigh, Lois, Mandy, Margaret, Mandy, Mark, Marsha, Mary Beth, Matt, Molly, Pat, Sage, Sandy, Scott, Sherry, Tim, Todd, Trevor, and Zanie.

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

For those healing from surgery: Heather, and James.

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

For those experiencing mental health issues.

For those with other needs: Aiden, Alyssa, Bernice, Bob, Byrena, Cleo, Crystal, Dan, David, Jane, Emily, Erika, Greg, Hannah, Henry, Hope, Jack, Jennifer, Jerry, Joe, Kaitlyn, Kandace, Kim, Lisa, Marcie, Marian, Martha, Miranda, Nicole, Pam, Poston, Rhonda, Rylan, Sarah, Vanessa, Waylon, and Zach.

For those imprisoned including: 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, Christian, Evan, Gaven, Grace, Jeffrey, Josh, Nate, Topher, Trevor, and Sean.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- 7:30 a.m. | **Holy Eucharist Rite I**, Gospel Piano
- 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | **Nursery available**
- 8:45 a.m. | **Holy Eucharist Rite II**, Ancient and Modern
 - **Children's Church**, Parish Hall, 2nd floor
- 10:00 a.m. | **Christian Education**
 - **Parents' Group and Rector's Forum Combined** | Parish Hall, 1st floor
"Make-A-Will" will be led by our very own Dr. Keith Gamble, MTSU Professor of Finance. He will discuss estate planning and why writing a will is a practical act of love for your family and a deeply faithful exercise of stewardship as it removes the burden of uncertainty from those you love and ensures your values are clearly reflected. If you are unable to attend but would like to learn more, either scan the QR codes listed under Announcements or visit our website: <https://stpaulsmurfreesboro.mygiftlegacy.org/>.
 - **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** | Kindergarten and 1st graders, Atrium Level I; 2nd and 3rd graders, Atrium Level II; 4th and 5th graders, Atrium Level III; Parish Hall, 2nd floor
 - **Youth Sunday School**
 - Middle School (CGS IIIB) | Sewanee Room, Parish Hall 2nd floor
 - High School (Jesus' Sermon on the Mount) | Christian Education Rooms, Parish Hall, 1st floor
- 11:00 a.m. | **Holy Eucharist Rite II**, Choir, Organ, and Livestream
- 5:00 p.m. | **SNL**, Youth Room, St. Margaret's Hall, 2nd floor

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

- 7:00 a.m. | **Holy Eucharist Rite II**, St. Andrew's Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. | **Evening Prayer**, St. Andrew's Chapel
In Evening Prayer, we proclaim the glorious works of God in history and in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, as we respond with praise, penitence, prayer, and obedience. Please join us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Alpha—Registration is OPEN!

Alpha 2026 is just around the corner, and we want you and a friend to come. Scan the QR code to get more information or to register for Alpha, a faith journey that has impacted lives at St. Paul's and around the globe. Sessions start September 13 and include dinner, time to connect in a small group, and meaningful talks about Christ in our lives.



Make-A-Will: Continuing the Conversation | Tuesday, August 18, 11:30 a.m. | Parish Hall

Today, during the Rector's Forum, our very own Dr. Keith Gamble, MTSU Professor of Finance, leads a class about the importance of personal estate planning. Writing a will is a practical act of love for your family and a deeply faithful exercise of stewardship. It removes the burden of uncertainty from those you love and ensures your values are clearly reflected. Members from the planned giving committee will continue this conversation and be available to answer any questions during the monthly Senior Brown Bag Lunch. If you are unable to attend but have questions, please reach out to 1892Society@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.



Learn More



I have a will.

Senior Brown Bag Lunch | Tuesday, August 18, 11:30 a.m.; Parish Hall

Seniors, join us every third Tuesday for food and fellowship. This month, the 1892 Society team joins us for Make-a-Will Month to share easy tips on planned giving. Bring your lunch and join the table!

Parents' Night Out | Friday, August 21, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Our Nursery hosts a Parents' Night Out on the 3rd Friday of each month. Each event is full of activities, snacks, and games. This 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.

Semi-annual Meeting and Welcome Back, Rev. Kristine | Sunday, August 23, 10:00 a.m.; Parish Hall

The semi-annual report will be presented, then join us in welcoming the Rev. Dr. Kristine back from sabbatical. We will gather together with bagels, muffins, juice and coffee provided.

St. Paul's is Going to College | Tuesday, August 25, noon-4:00 p.m.

Do you know any students at MTSU, or anyone who works on campus? Please encourage them to stop by the St. Paul's table at the MTSU Student Union. We'll be there with invitations to sign up for Alpha and to join us for worship. Please pray for our presence on campus and we encourage you to join us as we reach out to our neighbors at MTSU. Questions? Contact Lynne Miller (led.miller@icloud.com)

Young Adult Group | Sunday, August 30, 5:00 p.m.; Christian Ed rooms, Parish Hall, 1st floor

St Paul's young adult group is back! If you are an undergrad, a grad student, just out of high school, in trade school, a young person between 18 and 25 still deciding where life will take you, any or all of these, please join us Sunday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m. for a meal and spiritual reflection. For info on other social events, contact Jan Wilson at wilsonj3313@gmail.com or Fr. Josh at josh.wilson@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.

Arts, Crafts, Tea, and Toast | Saturday, August 29, 11:00 a.m.; Christian Ed Rooms, Parish Hall, 1st floor

Join this 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.

Food Drive Update

The August Food Drive collected 572 items and \$935 for Nourish food bank. The next Food Drive is scheduled for October 25. Thank you to the St. Paul's community for your continued support of this ministry.

Serve in Worship

As we gear up for the start of a new program year, you may be thinking of ways in which you would like to more actively participate in our worship services. St. Paul's provides many opportunities for us to use our gifts and help others connect with God. If you are interested in serving on one of our worship teams or have any questions, please contact the appropriate team leader listed below. You may also visit our website for more detailed information about each team:

- Serve as an **Acolyte**: contact George Carlson, Verger and Acolyte Master, at VistanTN@BenLomand.net or 931-307-9094 (call/text).
- Serve as an **Usher**: contact ushers@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org, or call/text Mary Probert at 615-743-5693.
- Serve on the **Altar Guild**: contact Gina Garner at altar.guild@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org for questions.
- Serve on the **Flower Guild/Junior Flower Guild**: contact Sudi Luboniecki at sudi624@gmail.com, or speak with her on Sunday mornings.
- Serve on the **Intercessory Prayer Team**: contact Kristi Hay ianandkristihay@gmail.com for questions.
- Serve on the **Tech Team**: contact Adam Thrash at tech.team@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.
- Serve as a member of the **Choir**: contact music@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.
- Our youngest musicians may wish to join **Choristers**: contact music@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 along with giving amount to 73256 (ex., GIVESTPAULS \$10)

