

The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul

Newton Highlands, Massachusetts

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Prayer

August 17, 2025 at 10:00am



From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

A word about today's liturgical service: Our liturgy this morning is a lay-led service of Morning Prayer. There is significant standing during the service. While there are invitations in the leaflet for when to sit and when to stand, please feel free to sit as you so choose.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 15, YEAR C)

Morning Prayer

Prelude

Musicians

From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

The Opening

Gathering Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable

Hymnal 1982, #8 – Morning Has Broken

Unison or harmony

The musical score for 'Morning Has Broken' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves, with line numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicating different parts of the hymn. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system covers the next two lines. The music is in a simple, unison style suitable for a lay-led service.

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. _____
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. _____
born of the one light E - den saw play! _____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!_____
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass._____
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!_____

Section: Morning Title: Morning has broken Meter: 54. 54. D Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) Copyright: Words: By permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: Harmonization © by The Church Pension Fund.

Opening Sentences

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People **And your glory all day long.**

Officiant On this day our God has acted; we will rejoice and be glad
in it. (*Psalms 118:24*)

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief period of silence will be kept.

People and Officiant

O God, we bring you our failure, our hunger, our disappointment, our despair, our greed, our arrogance, and our fear. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are sorry, we are humbled, and we pray that you will strengthen us with your grace. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil, we claim love, we choose to be made whole. Forgive us and renew us now.

Officiant

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

Invitatory

Officiant O God, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, One God; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

Officiant Together, let us pray the Venite in unison:

The Holy One is in our midst; O Come let us worship.

Come, let us sing to our God;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to our God with psalms.

For our God is a great God,

and a great Sovereign above all gods.

In God's hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are God's also.
The sea is God's, for God made it,
and God's hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel
before our Maker.
For God is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of
God's hand.

The Holy One is in our midst. Come, let us worship.

Please be seated.

The Psalm

Psalm 82

We will pray the psalm responsively by whole verse.

God stands in the council of heaven
and gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

**“How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?”**

Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

**Rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;**

Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any ruler.’ ”

**Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

© Order of Saint Helena, used by permission

Together

Glory to the Holy and Undivided Trinity, one God; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.

Collect of the Day

Officiant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Together let us pray.

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 Christ's redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Holy One, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? Do I not fill heaven and earth? says our God. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back--

those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says our God. Is not my word like fire, says God, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

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

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

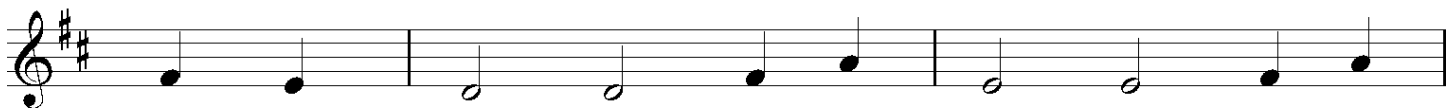
Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set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

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

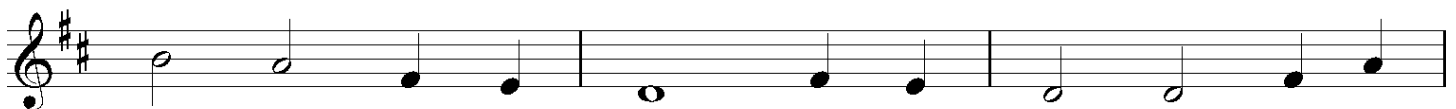
Gradual Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

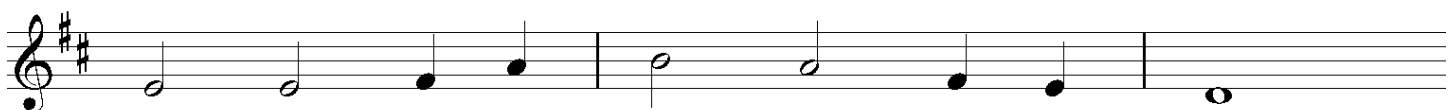
Hymnal 1982, #686 – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



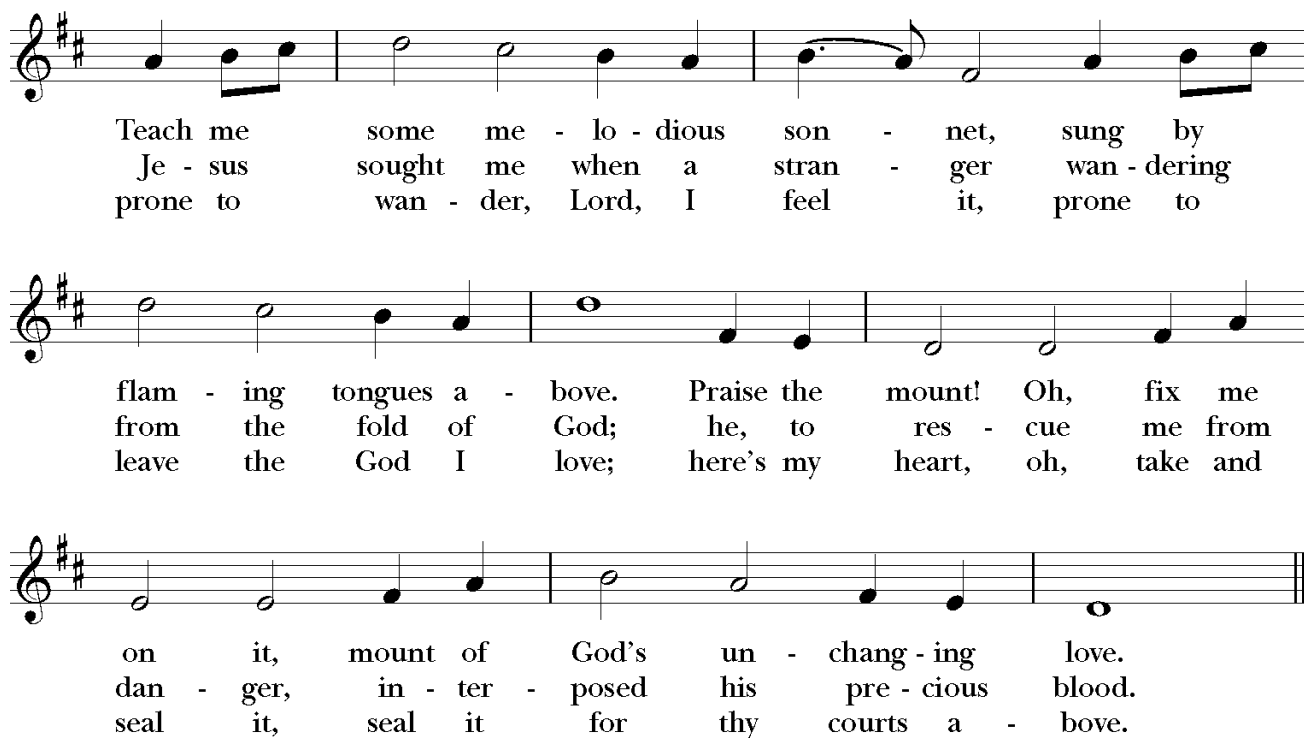
1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Section: The Christian Life Title: Come, thou fount of every blessing Meter: 87. 87. D Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934)

Please be seated.

The Third Reading

Luke 12:49-56

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

Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to

interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

People Thanks be to God.

Reflections

Officiant

Statement of Faith

Officiant Please rise as you are comfortable as we proclaim our Statement of Faith.

We believe in God,
whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our
lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of
Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to
enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death,
is our glorious promise of freedom.
Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of
doubt, we put our trust in God;
and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit
ourselves, in the service of others,
to seek justice, and to live in
peace; to care for the earth,
and to share the commonwealth of God's
goodness; to live in the freedom of
forgiveness,
and the power of the Spirit of love.
And in the company of the faithful we will be the church, a
community of flawed and forgiving disciples,
for the glory of God alone. Amen.

Statement of Faith adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, ©2001, The Iona Community.

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to say whichever version of the Lord's Prayer you choose.

Officiant As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

People and Officiant

**Our God in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kindom 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 kindom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Suffrages

Officiant Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance;

People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;

People **We praise your Name for ever.**

Officiant Holy God, keep us from all sin today;

People **Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy.**

Officiant O God, show us your love and mercy;

People **For we put our trust in you.**

Officiant In you, O God, is our hope;

People **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Prayers of the People

Officiant

Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, grace to you and peace from God our Creator. Let us pray in hope, trusting that God receives our prayers.

Intercessor

Grant, Loving God, that all who praise your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for Church of the Good Shepherd, Reading; St. John's Church, Saugus; Emmanuel Church, Wakefield; The Third Order; the Society of St. Francis; and for Parish Historians. Either in silence or aloud, for whom else in the church do we pray today? *(You are invited to add your own prayers.)*

Silence

God, 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. Either in silence or aloud, for which peoples and leaders of the world do we pray today? *(You are invited to add your own prayers.)*

Silence

God, 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. Either in silence or aloud, for what in the created order do we pray today? *(You are invited to add your own prayers.)*

Silence

God, 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 Christ loves us. Either in silence or aloud, for whom and what do we give thanks in our lives today? *(You are invited to add your own thanksgivings.)*

Silence

God, 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. We pray especially for Kirsten; Nancy Williamson; Paul Friedman; Terry; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb; Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the peoples and ministries of the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church. Either in silence or aloud, for whom else do we pray today? *(You are invited to add your own prayers.)*

Silence

God, 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. Either in silence or aloud, whom do we remember today by name? (*You are invited to offer names.*)

Silence

God, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Prayer for the Social Order (BCP p. 823)

Intercessor Together let us pray.

All Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Officiant Heavenly God, you have rescued us from the power of sin and have made a home for us in the reign of your beloved Son, our brother Jesus Christ, who is our salvation. Hear the prayers we offer this day, and may your Spirit dwell deeply in us. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Hymnal 1982, #490 – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a treble staff for the Soprano part and a bass staff for the Alto and Tenor/Bass parts. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The score includes various musical notations such as whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes, rests, and slurs. The first system includes three-part harmony for the first line of the hymn. The second system continues the melody and harmony. The third system includes a key change to D major for the final line. The fourth system concludes the hymn with a final cadence.

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Section: Jesus Christ our Lord Title: I want to walk as a child of the light Meter: Irr. with Refrain Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

The General Thanksgiving

People and Officiant

**Almighty and Holy One, God of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.**

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Savior Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

People and Officiant

Almighty God,

you have given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in Jesus' Name
you will be in the midst of them:
Fulfill now, O God, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

The Peace

Officiant The peace of God be always with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

THE ENDING

The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Together let us pray

God, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Benediction

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve God and one another.

People Thanks be to God.

Officiant and People

Glory to God whose power, working in us,

can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:

Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church,

and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Processional Hymn

WLP, #819 – Guide My Feet

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
 2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
 3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.
 don't want to run this race in vain.
 don't want to run this race in vain.

Section: Spiritual Songs Title: Guide my feet Lord Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Carl Harris, Jr. (b. 1935)

Announcements

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Participants

Margaret Hummel – Officiant

David Montgomery – Lector of First Reading and Intercessor

Kim Koger – Lector of Second Reading

Brenda Carter – Pianist

Eliza Blay – Usher/Attendance

David Montgomery and Kim Koger – Counters

Front Cover Art

Csontváry Kosztka, Tivadar, 1853-1919. Pilgrimage to the Cedars of Lebanon, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity

Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57948> [retrieved August 5, 2025]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Csontv%C3%A1ry_Kosztka,_Tivadar_-_Pilgrimage_to_the_Cedars_of_Lebanon_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg.

PRAYERS

In Our Diocesan Cycle Of Prayer:

For the Episcopal Church; for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia Whitworth, our Diocesan Bishop; all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for Church of the Good Shepherd, Reading; St. John's Church, Saugus; Emmanuel Church, Wakefield; The Third Order; the Society of St. Francis; and for Parish Historians.

Parish Prayer List – Prayers are Requested for:

Kirsten; Nancy Williamson; Paul Friedman; Terry; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb; Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church.

SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday, Julia Montgomery (August 17)!

Happy Birthday, Dustin Ledgard (August 17)!

Happy Anniversary, Kim and John Koger (August 23)!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bishop is Coming! The Bishop is Coming!

Please save the date! On **Sunday, September 28**, our new bishop diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Julia Whitworth, will be doing a visitation at POSP. We look forward to welcoming her to our parish. More details forthcoming.

Sunday, August 31 -- POSP Field Trip to Grace, Newton Corner for 9:30am Liturgy

The Parish of St. Paul travels *en masse* to Grace Church, Newton Corner, where Rev. Meghan will preside that morning. Breakfast is served by Grace parishioners at 8:30am, and Holy Eucharist begins at 9:30am.

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email Lise in the parish office or use this QR code.



Altar Flowers

If you would like to contribute altar flowers for a thanksgiving or memorial, please be in contact with Lise in the parish office.

Pastoral Care

If you desire pastoral care for a particular need, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan. It could be as simple as a private prayer request emailed to her, or an in-person conversation about something of concern.

Receive the Parish Newsletter!

The newsletter is sent about once per week (occasionally more often if there is a pressing notice, for example, of snow cancellation, etc.). The newsletter contains reflections from parishioners, and *lots* of information and announcements about our diocese, the greater church, and other goings-on in and around town and in the world, that are not printed in this bulletin.

Scan to access
this week's newsletter



Scan to sign up to
receive the newsletter



Can Redemption Volunteers

Volunteers sought to assist with can redemption for the Plenty ministry. Please connect with Christopher Gruener or speak with Rev. Meghan if you can assist.



Staff and Office Hours

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – meghan@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours: In-Person, usually on Wednesday, 9am -1pm and by appointment (please email Rev. Meghan directly if you would like to make an appointment).

Parish Administrator: Lise Brody – office@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours (may vary): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm

Vestry

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to be in touch with your vestry. The next Vestry Meeting is on Wednesday, August 20.

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney
Co-Warden: Kim Koger, mkskoger5@gmail.com
Co-Warden: David Montgomery, dmontgomery@montlegal.com
Treasurer: Richard Pearce, Richard@northinfo.com
Clerk: Bernice Cramer, bernicecramer@gmail.com
Kathryn Anderson, kmanderson.english@gmail.com
Chris Gruener, crossroadscounseling101@gmail.com
Lee Hatfield, leebrateshatfield@verizon.net
Dustin Ledgard, ledgarddustin@gmail.com

Elected Parish Leaders

Delegates to the Charles River Deanery: David Montgomery and Mary Lou Pierron
Delegate to the Diocesan Convention: Jack Blay

1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461
617-527-6642 office@parishofstpaul.org www.parishofstpaul.org



@stpaulsnewtonhighlands.



parishofstpaul.

