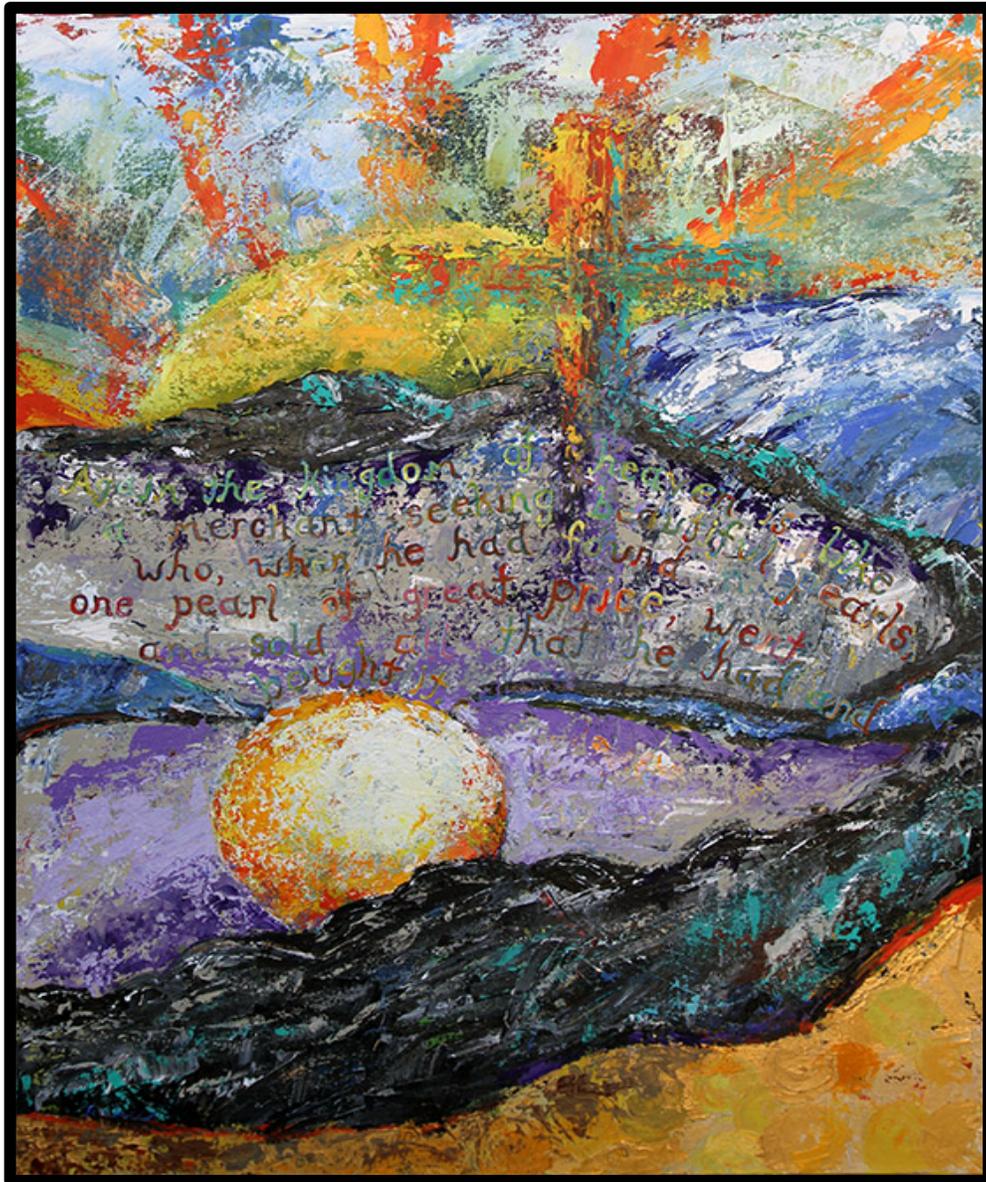


# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*We are called to gather around the sacred story and table of Christ  
where all are invited to be fed and everyone's story matters.*

*"All Guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ."  
The Rule of St. Benedict*



**EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST – PROPER 12**  
**July 26, 2020 – 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*(Please be mindful to keep your microphones muted during responses if possible.)*

**Prelude:**      *Allegretto*                      G. F. Händel                                      Kathleen Johnson, Organist

Priest            Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
People            **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Priest  
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.**

Priest  
Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One

People            **Have mercy upon us.**

### The Collect of the Day

Priest            The Lord be with you.  
People            **And also with you.**

Priest            Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

### A Reading (Lesson) From the First Book of Kings. (3:5-12)

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Lector        Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
People        **Thanks be to God**

*(Psalm to be read responsively breaking at the asterisk. Please mute your microphone.)*

## Psalm 119:129-136

129 Your decrees are wonderful; \*  
**therefore I obey them with all my heart.**

130 When your word goes forth it gives light; \*  
**it gives understanding to the simple.**

131 I open my mouth and pant; \*  
**I long for your commandments.**

132 Turn to me in mercy, \*  
**as you always do to those who love your Name.**

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; \*  
**let no iniquity have dominion over me.**

134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, \*  
**and I will keep your commandments.**

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant \*  
**and teach me your statutes.**

136 My eyes shed streams of tears, \*  
**because people do not keep your law.**

## The Second Lesson

### A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (Romans 8:26-39)

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector        Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People        Thanks be to God.

## The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Priest        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Priest        The Gospel of the Lord.

People        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Reverend Sandra Castillo

*The people say together—(Please mute your microphone)*

## The Nicene Creed

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

Reader 1 Brothers and sisters, Jesus was crucified in faithfulness to the cause of love and justice that all might be reconciled in peace. Let us pray that through the Cross of Christ his example may be realized in our world and our lives.

*Silence*

Reader 2 As Jesus was lifted high upon the cross of self-sacrifice that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we take up our cross and follow him in pursuit of the work of reconciliation in the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected, that their cries for daily bread and our care and concern may inspire works of mercy among us to whom much has been given. We pray also for Congregations in the Rockford Deanery: Grace in Galena; St. Peter Chapel in Grand Detour; St. Paul in LaSalle; St. Anne in Morrison; and for the Companion Dioceses of SE Mexico and Renk: Holy Trinity in Oaxaca; St. Luke in Khor Adaar.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Jesus calls us to offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted. May God's Spirit so move our hearts; that, following in the steps of Jesus, we may give of ourselves in the service of others until poverty and hunger cease in all the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar creation, particularly the barriers to freedom faced by God's children throughout the world because of gender, sexual orientation, race, class, or creed; that all may have equality in pursuit of the blessings of creation.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, in whom there is neither male nor female, Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free: unite the wills of all peoples that the walls which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; so that all may live together in justice and peace.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to pandemic disease, particularly the scourge of COVID-19; that the plague of death may no longer fuel poverty, destabilize nations, and inhibit reconciliation and restoration throughout the world.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of the suffering: Grant your saving health to all who are afflicted by disease or other harm. Bless the labors of all who minister to the sick and unite the wills of all peoples to seek an end to the dis-eases of our age; that our brokenness may be turned to health and sorrow to joy. We pray especially for Gail, Puzz, Toni, Dorothy, Margaret, David, Ed, Colleen, Lisa, Neil, Clark, Edward Stephen, Jubilee, Tasha, Malachi, Damien, and Rosemarie, Bryce, Jim, Jan, Connie, Donald, and Sarah.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the desecration of God's creation that we might find balance and the ability to share this good earth and it's waters with all of God's creatures.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, you created the world and gave it into our care: Inspire us with wisdom to share the riches of creation that all may be empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the departed, especially our sisters and brothers who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, through the resurrection of Jesus, you revealed that death is never the last word. We commend to your mercy all who have died as a result of the brokenness of our world; and we pray that all may share in the joy of your heavenly reign.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 All are invited to offer petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings, ending with, "God, in your mercy," to which the community will respond, "Hear our prayer."

## The Concluding Collect

Reader 2      Eternal God, in your kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered together and reconciled under the banner of your love and justice.

People        **Amen.**

## Confession

Priest        Let us confess our sins to God.

### In unison

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

## The Peace

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Priest        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People        **And also with you.**

*(Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)*

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

Hymn: # 488 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

*(Please unmute your microphone for the Lord's Prayer said together.)*

Priest

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

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Blessing

May God bless you with discontent with easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live from deep within your heart.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, abuse, and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and to change their pain to joy.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with the foolishness to think you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Companion on the Way be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Announcements for the Good of the Order

### Birthday

God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Wedding Anniversary

Gracious Creator: You blessed the marriage of two people with your love years ago. Amid the joys and struggles of their life you have preserved and strengthened the covenant between them; bless and renew that covenant now, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace, so that surrounded by their children, family and friends, they may always rejoice in the gift of their love for one another and for your enduring love that blesses their days together. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Travel

O God, whose beauty and intention fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Priest            Let us go forth in the name of Christ!  
People            Thanks be to God.

Postlude:        *Sonatina Opus 36, No. 3*            *Muzio Clementi*            Hannah Buckle, Pianist

*Join us for Coffee Chat on Zoom after the service.*

***Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church***  
DeKalb, Illinois, Diocese of Chicago  
Member of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion

***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***  
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***The Reverend Barbara A. T. Wilson, Rector;***  
Email: [revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org](mailto:revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org)  
Lynne Jacobson, MDiv, Pastoral Assistant  
Susan King – Administrative Assistant  
Lorraine Langer, Director of Music  
Hannah Buckle, Assistant Director of Music/Pianist  
Kathleen Johnson, Organist.  
Rick Johns, Treasurer.  
Jocelyn Prall - Sacristan  
Julie Rogers, Karyn Perkins, Nursery Attendants

***Our Wardens and Vestry***  
Maureen Gerrity, Senior Warden, Gretchen Schlabach, Junior Warden  
Rebecca Smith, Clerk, Terry Dickow, Donna de Oliveira,  
Bill Cummings, Jacob Maas

## Mother Barbara's Vacation Time

From July 26<sup>th</sup> through August 16, Mother Barbara will be taking vacation time. She still plans to be available for emergencies, but we'd ask that you contact the Parish Office with needed services. The Reverend Sandra Castillo will be leading the Zoom worship services on July 26<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup>, and August 16<sup>th</sup>. The Vestry will lead the service on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dick Downen will continue the Book Club Zoom meetings on Tuesdays, but the Lectionary Studies on Wednesdays, Compline on Fridays and Parish Check in on Saturdays will be on hiatus

## CITATIONS

**Service** - Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer for on-line use by the Congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, Illinois

<https://www.bcponline.org/>

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

<https://episcopalchicago.org/>

<http://www.stpaulsdekab.org/>

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**Prayers of the People.** ~ Adapted from A Bidding Prayer for An End to Global Poverty and Instability, based on the UN Millennium Development Goals; provided by The Episcopal Church + Office of Government Relations.

**Hymn: Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.** Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt., This hymn appears courtesy of the Estate of Elanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd., Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948), By permission of Oxford University Press. *The 1982 Hymnal*.

**Cover** - *Pearl of Great Price*, Eric Holmlund, [www.ericholmlund.com](http://www.ericholmlund.com)

## Household Prayer: Morning

*God of ferment, God of life,  
as I recall the night's unsettled dreams . . .  
as I foresee the day's demands . . .  
come to me  
in the desires of my heart,  
in the anger of the excluded,  
in all I might discount—  
until I find you everywhere, until your holy love leavens every impulse,  
for I pray in the name of Jesus, whose surprising call continues. Amen.*

## Household Prayer: Evening

*Joy of my heart,  
thank you for this day's unexpected turns:  
for provision when I was stymied  
and laughter born of grace.  
As I rest in your mercy  
open my heart to your unruly love  
and the neighbors you have put in my path. Amen.*

### *A word about the Household Prayers:*

These prayers are printed on a page of their own so that you can tear them out and use them in your devotions at home. These prayers come from an anthology titled *Feasting on the Word*, that includes several liturgies for services. The prayers reflect the readings of the week, including special feast days.