

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT ST. PAUL'S  
Sexagesima Sunday  
February 8, 2026



*Jesus delivering the Sermon on the Mount, fresco (paint over wet plaster), Cosimo Rosselli, ca. 1481, in the Sistine Chapel, Rome..*

# Welcome to St. Paul's!

*Whether you come from far or near, we greet you in the name of Jesus Christ! We invite people of all denominations and none to join in our worship together.*

**Worshipping With Us:** Our worship follows the Book of Common Prayer in the pew racks (**BCP**) and authorized supplements, The People's responses are in **bold**. Our music comes from The Hymnal unless noted. "**H-**" is the Hymnal, and "**L-**" is the black-and-red Lift Every Voice and Sing. Explanations of each section are marked with ¶.

*Restrooms are located downstairs; please ask for directions.*

*Please ensure devices are off or set to vibrate. Thank you.*

## **The Word of God**

Prelude

Instrumental

¶All Stand as Able

Opening Hymn

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

H-7

*1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise!  
Triumph over shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear!*

*2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return  
till thy mercy's beams I see,  
as they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.*

*3 Visit then this soul of mine!  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!  
Fill me, radiancy divine;  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.*

The Acclamation

BCP p. 299

*Presider:* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever, Amen.**

*The Presider prays:* The Collect for Purity

# The Song of Ephrem

## Ode to Joy

Words: Annie Lawson (2024)

Paraphrase of Ephrem the Syrian (4th century)

Music: Ludwig von Beethoven (1824)



Be - hold Fire and Spirit with - in the womb that grew you to birth-size  
In your Bread there dwells your Spi - rit; in your Wine there dwells your Fire  
Humb-lest ri - ver re - pre-sents John: bap - ti - zer, fore - run - ner, who



Be - hold Fire and Spirit with - in the riv - er where you were bap-tized  
Won - ders set a - part yet pres - ent, there for our lips to ac-quire  
Like the ri - ver in its small-ness nev - er can com - pare to you.



Fire and Spirit in our bap - ti - sm, Fire and Spirit in Bread and Cup Bread  
Your great foot-steps walk on wa - ter; your feet quell the migh - ty deep Yet  
You the Lord of John and Jor - dan, you o'er all the heav'ns en-throned You



with Spirit not to be eat - en; Wine with Fire not to drink up.  
you bowed your head to be bap - tized in streams that bare - ly sleep.  
to stream and hum - ble ser - vant doffed the glo - ry that you own.

The Collect (Prayer) of the Day

BCP p. 215

*The Collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

*Isaiah 58.1-12*

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight

and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

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*This 1<sup>st</sup> Reading is from the Jewish Scriptures, (what we call the Old Testament,) which is the Bible that Jesus and the first disciples knew and read from.*

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*The prophet Isaiah wrote about 550 BC, to the exiles just back into Jerusalem. His words regarding the poor still resonate even today*

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the  
yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with  
the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor  
into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover  
them,  
and not to hide yourself from  
your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth  
like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring  
up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be  
your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and  
the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he  
will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from  
among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the  
speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the  
afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the  
darkness  
and your gloom be like the  
noonday.  
The LORD will guide you  
continually,  
and satisfy your needs in  
parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered  
garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the  
foundations of many  
generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of  
the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live  
in.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

*Psalm 112      Beatus vir*  
(¶Prayed by all, alternating by half verse.)

*BCP p. 755*

Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
**and have great delight in his commandments!**

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
**the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
**and their righteousness will last for ever.**

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
**the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
**and to manage their affairs with justice.**

For they will never be shaken; \*  
**the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
**their heart is right;**  
**they put their trust in the Lord.**

Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, \*  
**and their righteousness stands fast for ever;**  
**they will hold up their head with honor.**

The wicked will see it and be angry;  
**they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \***  
**the desires of the wicked will perish.**

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*The Psalms and Canticles are songs from the Hebrew Scriptures that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. Anglicans pray the Psalms daily at Morning and Evening Prayer and at nearly all public services.*

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The New Testament Reading

*1 Corinthians 2.1-12*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified,

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a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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*This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church from one of the apostles, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.*

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*St. Paul wrote this to the Christians at Corinth (in Greece) about 50-55 AD, probably from Ephesus*

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in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

*The Great Creator of the Worlds*

H-489

*1. The great creator of the worlds,  
The sovereign God of heaven,  
His holy and immortal truth  
To all on earth have given.*

*2. He sent no angel of his host  
To bear this mighty word,  
But him through whom the worlds were made,  
The everlasting Lord.*

*3. He sent him not in wrath or power,  
But grace and peace to bring;  
In kindness, as a king might send  
His son, himself a king.*

The Gospel

*Matthew 5.13-20*

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

(When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:)

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

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*This reading, the most important of the three, is always from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” The Gospel of the Lord.

*Response after the Gospel*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

*4. He sent him down as sending God;  
in flesh to us he came;  
as one with he dwelt with us  
and bore a human name.*

*5. He came as Avior to his own,  
The way of love he trod;  
He came to win us by good will,  
For force is not of God.*

*6. Not to oppress, but summon all  
Their truest life to find  
In love God sent his Son to save  
Not to condemn mankind.*

Sermon

The Rev. Robert Solon

The Nicene Creed

BCP P. 358

The Prayers of the People

As Announced

*Intercessor:* Let us also pray for those who have asked for our prayers.

**We pray for** Sue Ferguson, **Heather** Durdil, **Jeanne** Burgess, **Laura** Booker Caviello, **Dave** Frederick, **Zach** Mitchell, **Michele** Johnston, **Smith** Solon, **Bob** White, **Kelly** White, **Bill** Sulesky, and any others whom we now name, aloud or in our hearts....

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*"Intercede" means "go between" from Latin. We now name - go between - the needs of the world to God, who bears all prayer.*

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We pray for all who have died, in war and gun violence, and those we remember now, aloud or in the silence of our hearts....

We pray for a just ending to war and unrest throughout the world, and especially in Ukraine, Gaza, Venezuela, and in our own nation as well.

We give thanks for all your blessings that you have given us, and especially those we name, aloud or in our hearts....

We pray for the Vestry, the members and guests of this parish and the Food Pantry, for Bob our rector, and for our sister churches of Mother of Sorrows Put-in-Bay, St. Michael's Kelleys Island, Zion Methodist Kelleys Island, Our Lady Star of the Sea Pelee Island, St Paul's Duluth, and St. Paul's Elkins Park.

In our Diocese of Ohio, we pray for: Anne our Bishop, and for Church of Our Saviour, Salem, and Holy Trinity, Lisbon, as they conclude their life as faith communities, with their final services held yesterday.

And in the Anglican Communion, we pray for: Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and for the people and clergy of: The Anglican Church of Hong Kong, the Diocese of South West Tanganyika (Tanzania), the Diocese of Western Tanganyika (Tanzania); the Diocese of Tarime (Tanzania); the Diocese of Tasmania (Australia); the Diocese of Taungoo (Myanmar); and the Diocese of Temotu (Melanesia)

And we pray for ourselves and for our own needs, naming them to God in the silence of our hearts or aloud....

For whom else and what else shall we pray today?

*The Presider will add a concluding prayer.*

The Confession of Sin

BCP. p. 360

The Greeting

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*All may greet those close to them with a sign of peace. Short announcements may follow. An offering is then taken up.*

### ***The Holy Communion***

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*Having listened to the Word of God, prayed for the Church and the world, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the sacrifice and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offering, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, in the money we give, and symbolically in the bread and wine.*

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At the Offering

Instrumental

*It requires nearly \$130,000 a year, or about \$330 a day to keep our church and food pantry open every day. Please support the ministry of St. Paul's with your tithes and offerings. To give securely online, scan this QR code:*



At the Presentation

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow*

H-380, vs 3

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below  
Praise him above, ye heav'ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

The Eucharistic Prayer:

Prayer B

[BCP p. 367](#)

The Angelic Hymn

*Holy Holy Holy*

S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly      Lord, God of pow-er and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Lord's Prayer (*traditional*)

BCP p. 364

At The Breaking of the Bread:

S-154

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
 there - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Invitation

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## Reception of Communion

*All who are baptized and permitted to receive Communion in their own traditions are welcome at the Lord's Supper. We offer both wheat and gluten-free bread, and both wine and grape juice. Come up to the Altar Rail and stand or kneel.*

*Receive the Bread or gluten-free Host in your hand - ask the Presider if you require gluten-free. Then either consume the Bread and drink from the Chalice, or dip the Host into the Chalice when it comes to you, again asking the minister if you desire the Juice. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please simply cross your hands over your chest.*

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***For those who do not receive the Sacrament today, you may wish to pray this prayer while Communion is being distributed:***

*In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you with my own faith community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you live in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

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## Hymn After Communion    *Lord God, You Now Have Set*

H-499

*Lord God, you now have set your servant free  
To go in peace as promised in your word;  
My eyes have seen the Savior, Christ the Lord,  
Prepared by you for all the world to see,  
To shine on nations trapped in darkest night,  
The glory of your people, and their light.*

## Prayer After Communion

BCP pg. 366

## The Blessing

Closing Hymn

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

H-490

Refrain:

*In him there is no darkness at all;  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*1. I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
The star of my life is Jesus (Refrain).*

*2. I want to see the brightness of God;  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. (Ref.)*

*3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ;  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)*

Dismissal: Let us Go forth to love and serve Lord. *People*    **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

*Instrumental*



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# The Baptismal Covenant

## *What God Is Doing for Us:*

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?  
*People* I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
                  creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
*People* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
                  He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
                  and born of the Virgin Mary.  
                  He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
                  was crucified, died, and was buried.  
                  He descended to the dead.  
                  On the third day he rose again.  
                  He ascended into heaven,  
                  and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
                  He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
*People* I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
                  the holy catholic Church,  
                  the communion of saints,  
                  the forgiveness of sins,  
                  the resurrection of the body,  
                  and the life everlasting.

## *And What We Commit to Doing In Response:*

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* I will, with God's help.



## News and Announcements

- The flowers on the Altar today are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the Rev. Robert F. Solon Jr., on the occasion of the anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood, by the Rev. Deacon Nancy Hansen.
- Ash Wednesday, the First Day of Lent, is on Wednesday, February 18 at 6 PM.
- Chalk blessed for Epiphany house blessings, along with the prayer to use, is available in the back. If you wish to have Fr. Bob perform the blessing, please contact him directly.
- Please also return your 2026 Pledge to us as soon as you can, as it helps us plan our budget for the year.
- If you wish to be on our weekly email/text blast, please contact Fr. Bob. We will need an email address or a phone number that can receive texts.
- Dedications for the flowers on the Altar made be made at any time (except in Lent.) To arrange for a dedication, which is included in the prayers and the bulletin, contact Fr. Bob. The suggested price is \$50, but any amount is welcome.

### Service Schedule

Altar Guild

Accompanist

Reader

Intercessor

Eucharistic Minister

### This Sunday Feb 8

Ruth Scarpelli

Mary Steunenberg

TBA

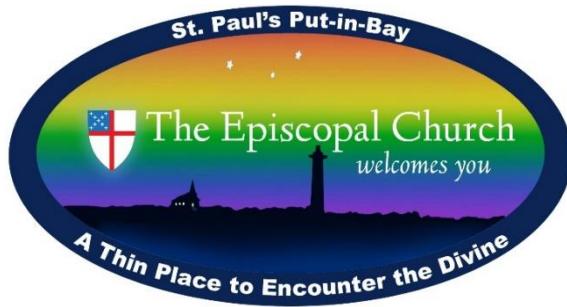
### Next Sunday Feb. 15

Ruth Scarpelli

Mary Steunenberg

TBA

*Contact Val Chornyak or Fr Bob if interested in a service ministry*



## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. Box 248 / 623 Catawba Ave

Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456

The Rev. Bob Solon, Priest-in-Charge

Office: 419-285-5981

[stpaulspib@frontier.com](mailto:stpaulspib@frontier.com)

[www.stpaulsputinbay.org](http://www.stpaulsputinbay.org)

Fr. Bob: 419-285-6809

[clergy.stpaulspib@frontier.com](mailto:clergy.stpaulspib@frontier.com)

### This Week at St. Paul's

*The Church remains open daily for prayer and meditation.*

#### *Worship:*

Sunday 9 AM: Christian Formation in the Parish Hall

Sunday 10:30 AM: Holy Eucharist with hymns

Wednesday 12 noon: Prayers for the Nation and World, with Holy Communion

*Winter Office Hours:* By appt. – call Fr Bob to arrange a time.

*12-Step Groups, in the Parish Hall:* Monday 8 AM – AA,  
Tuesday 7:30 PM – Al-Anon, Thursday 7 PM – AA; Saturday 8 AM – AA