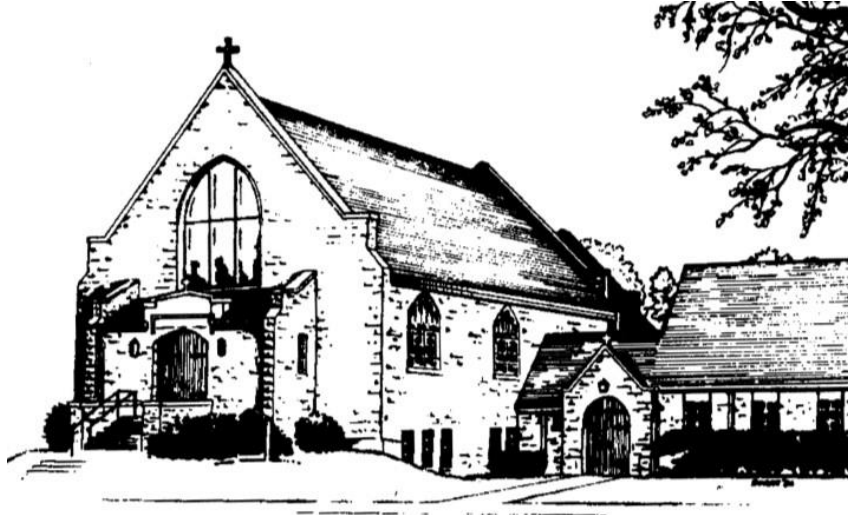


Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 19, 2025
10:30 am



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255
Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

870-793-2203

Today's Ministers

<i>Officiant:</i>	Steve Massey
<i>Chalice Bearer:</i>	Gary Perkey
<i>Lector:</i>	Cade Archer
<i>Ushers:</i>	Pat Mulick & Brenda Bittle
<i>Choir Director & Organist:</i>	Kristian Ameigh
<i>Technical Support:</i>	Jon Healey
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Janie Starnes

This Week's Community Meal (10/22/2025): Team Wray

*This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of our parents Mike & Patty Healey and Clyde & Marian McGinnis by
Jon & Martha Healey.*

The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: Rite Two

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn 668: *I To the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes*



1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
2 He will not let thy foot be moved, his own he safe - ly keeps;
3 Thy faith - ful guard-ian is the Lord, thy shelt - er and thy shade;
4 From e - vil he shall keep thee safe and shall thy strength re - store

My help is from the Lord a - bove who heaven and earth hath made.
with watch - ful and un - tir - ing eye he slum - bers not, nor sleeps.
nor sun by day, nor moon by night, need make thy soul a - fraid.
and guard thy go - ing out and in, both now and ev - er - more.

Today's service begins on Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer.

The people standing (as able), the Officiant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

The Officiant says

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 - (S278)

(BCP 356)

Officiant and People

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Lector: A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say:

"The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge."

But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:97-104

97 Oh, how I love your law! *
all the day long it is in my mind.

98 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, *
and it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, *
for your decrees are my study.

100 I am wiser than the elders, *
because I observe your commandments.

101 I restrain my feet from every evil way, *
that I may keep your word.

102 I do not shrink from your judgments, *
because you yourself have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste! *
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

104 Through your commandments I gain understanding; *
therefore I hate every lying way.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Lector: A reading from Paul's first letter to Timothy.

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

There is no procession. The Lector remains at the lectern to read the third reading, using the same form as the first two.

Sequence Hymn 631: *Book Of Books, Our People's Strength*

1 Book of books, our peo - ple's strength, states-man's, teach - er's, he - ro's
 2 Thank we those who toiled in thought, man - y di - verse scrolls com -
 3 Praise we God, who hath in - spired those whose wis - dom still di -

trea - sure, bring - ing free - dom, spread - ing truth,
 plet - ing, po - ets, pro - phets, schol - ars, saints,
 rects us; praise him for the Word made flesh,

shed - ding light that none can mea - sure: wis - dom comes to
 each a word from God re - peat - ing; till they came, who
 for the Spi - rit which pro - tects us. Light of know - ledge,

those who know thee, all the best we have we owe thee.
 told the sto - ry of the Word, and showed his glo - ry.
 ev - er burn - ing, shed on us thy death - less learn - ing.

Third Reading

Luke 18:1-8

There is no procession. The Lector reads the third reading from the lectern, using the same form as the first two.

Lector: A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Announcement before Sermon: *This morning's sermon is from Sermons that Work, a service of the Office of Communication of The Episcopal Church. It was written by The Rev. Dr. Amy Richter*

Sermon

***read by Steve Massey**

Nicene Creed *found on page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer*

All stand, as the People and Officiant say together.

**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.**

Prayers of the People, Form VI – *found on page 392 in the Book of Common Prayer*

People kneeling, as able, the Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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

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

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

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

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

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

We pray **especially for:** Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Matt Stephenson, John & Susan Dempsey, Ellen Massey, Bill Olson, Cindy Perkey, Sally Fittsizer, Isabelle Tenace, Dana Teichart, and Machel Christiansen.

We pray also for family and friends for whom our prayers have been requested: Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Tom & Kathy Celestine, David Smith, Lucy Harris, Adam M, Charlotte, Daniel & Steven King, Sherry Snow, Mark Higginbotham, Danny Yeager, Shannon Bohnert, Micah Jordon, Rodney Brady, John V. Miller, Ben Handford, Jim Reynolds, Peggy Comer, Kristin, Georgina Mosser, Kristi Smith, Raymond Staggs, Gary & Phylis Bratton, Connie Barnett, Q, Lois Work, Wilma, Edie Knowles, Mitchell Dobson, Sharon Runyan, Eleanor, Ian Young, Shelly & Heath Wooldridge, Walter Hopper, Connie, Kevin Bartley, Linda Brewer, Sarah Mosser, Nicole Haskins, Linda Healey Morgan, Ina Bolten, Stacey Lindsey, and Sandra Coe.

We pray for our wardens, vestry, and those who will choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for God's people and equip us for our ministries.

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

For those celebrating birthdays and an anniversary this week especially Sally Fittsizer (10/21), Kim Stalker (10/22), Allan McSpadden (10/25), and Al & Vicky Crouch (10/19).

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

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

We pray for all who have died, especially Fran Harris, Jim Franklin and Kaye Starling, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Officiant concludes with the following Collect:

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.*

Peace

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

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

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Officiant may begin the Offertory with the following or another Offertory sentence.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Officiant opens the tabernacle, reverently places the ciborium containing the consecrated bread on the altar, and pours the consecrated wine from the flagon into the chalice. The Chalice Bearer then washes the Officiant's hands using the Lavabo bowl.

Offertory Anthem: Lift Thine Eyes from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of money or other gifts, to the Acolyte, who hands them to the Officiant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Doxology: 43 v.4

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise him, all creatures here below: praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Officiant then continues

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

People and Officiant

**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.**

Facing the people, the Officiant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion Hymn: And Now, O Father, Mindful of The Love

After Communion, the Officiant says

Let us pray.

Officiant and People

On 365:

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.

Post Communion Hymn 531: *O Spirit of The Living God*



1 O Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, in
 2 Give tongues of fire and hearts of love, to
 3 Be dark - ness, at thy com - ing, light; con -
 4 Con - vert the na - tions! far and nigh the

all thy plen - i - tude of grace, wher - e'er the foot of
 preach the rec - on - cil - ing word; give power and unc - tion
 fu - sion, or - der in thy path; souls with - out strength in -
 tri - umphs of the cross re - cord; the Name of Je - sus

man hath trod, de - scend on our a - pos - tate race.
 from a - bove, when - e'er the joy - ful sound is heard.
 spire with might, bid mer - cy tri - umph o - ver wrath.
 glo - ri - fy, till ev - ery peo - ple call him Lord.

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Organ Postlude

* This morning's sermon is from Sermons that Work (episcopalchurch.org/sermons-that-work), a service of the Office of Communication of The Episcopal Church. It was written by the Rev. Dr. Amy Richter, an Episcopal priest currently living in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, Canada. © 2025 The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. All rights reserved.