

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

SUNG LITURGY OF THE DAY

Canterbury Mass by Anthony Piccolo (b. 1946)

Vocal Quartet: Donna Ajaero, Soprano; Bre Philippy Alto; Dan Galley, Tenor; Nick Darling, Bass
Patricia Hills, Conductor
Peter Smith, Guest Organist

Hymns, in numerical order, are in the 1982 Hymnal; service music is listed on the service leaflet and may be found in the front of the 1982 Hymnal, with "S" before the number. "BCP" with a page number, refers to The Book of Common Prayer

PRELUDE – Organ Voluntary

THE ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #404 We will extol you, ever-blessed Lord

Old 124th

All stand as the procession enters the nave.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

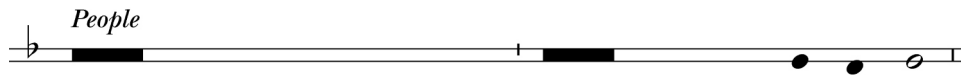
S76

Celebrant



Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

People



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

THE GLORIA

Anthony Piccolo (b. 1946)

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.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

All sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145:8-15

Chant setting by Thomas William Hanforth (1867-1948)

8am Read responsively; 10:15am chanted by the choir

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 **The Lord is loving to everyone ***
and his compassion is over all his works.

10 All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.

- 11 **They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;**
- 12 That the peoples may know of your power *
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- 13 **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**
- 14 The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 **The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

THE EPISTLE

Romans 7:15-25a

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – #644 How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds

St. Peter

All standing, as able.

All remain standing, as able.

The ✠Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Rebecca A. Barnes

THE NICENE CREED *All Stand, as able*

BCP page 358

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

Intercessor Gracious God, you have taught us that to welcome another is to welcome Christ, hear us as we pray for all your people everywhere who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, saying: *Holy God, hear our prayer.*

For the Church: especially for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean our Presiding Bishop; Stephen, our Bishop Provisional; and our Diocese as we renew our Bishop Search process; that we may help others come to God and learn of the love, compassion, and forgiveness that Jesus offers. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For this Cathedral Community, that we may go forth to serve the world in that gentleness of heart that we learn from Christ, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the gifts of freedom and liberty bestowed upon this nation, that God will bless our leaders, protect our communities and let peace just grow in our land. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For all those in positions of authority who make decisions about our health, our politics and our economy, that they may be open to a deeper respect for the dignity of every human being. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the people of Venezuela, that in this time of devastation and destruction, God will keep them strong and safe and give them hope and courage in their distress. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are commended to our prayers, remembering especially Lynne, Alex, Jim, Mariann, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, Sean and Kevin, those on the Cathedral Pastoral Care list, and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and those who are living in fear of or suffering from the Ebola outbreak, that God will share their burdens and lift them up with renewed strength. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For all the departed, remembering especially Thomas, Marilyn, Priscilla, Neil, and Vicki, that God will welcome them with the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Blessed Mary the God-bearer; Blessed Paul; Blessed Benedict of Nursia and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant Lord of heaven and earth, hear the prayers we offer today, teach us the secrets of your heart, and help us take up the gentle yoke of the cross, that we may proclaim to everyone the joy that comes from you. This we ask in your most Holy Name. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

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 Bishop, when present, or 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

All stand.

Celebrant 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – Oh God, My King

John Amner (1579–1641)

O God my King, I will magnify thee and praise thy Name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and marvelous worthy to be praised; there is no end of his greatness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness. My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord, and let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name for ever and ever.
Amen. (Psalm 145:1,3,8,21)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP page 361

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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 AND BENEDICTUS

Piccolo

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.

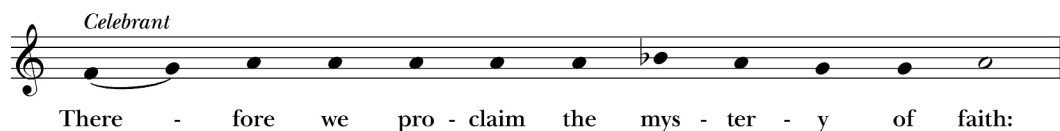
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

S133



Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

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 you 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 forever.

THE GREAT AMEN

S146



The Celebrant then continues

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

S119

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Paul's. Communion will be distributed at the High Altar and at the Crossing. The people will be invited by row to come forward; you may return to your pew by the side aisles. Anyone needing assistance may indicate so to an usher and communion will be brought to you at the end.

The Holy Communion is distributed under the forms of both Bread and Wine. In the interest of public health, the Cathedral does not practice intinction, that is, the dipping of the Bread into the Wine. It is the faith of the Church that Jesus gives himself in the Sacrament whether it is received in only one kind or both. Gluten-free Wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

It is our custom to receive the bread in the upturned palms of our hands, and eat it immediately. Those who wish to receive wine should partake by sipping directly from the chalice. Please use your hands, holding the base of the chalice, to gently assist the server in guiding the chalice to your lips.

If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, instead of the bread/wine, signal your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

AT THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

He Shall Feed His Flock

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs
With His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are
With young. (Isaiah 40:11)

Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come unto Him that are heavy laden, and
He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He
Is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls
(Matthew 11:28-29)

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

BCP page 339

THE FINAL HYMN – #544 Jesus shall reign, where'er the sun

Duke Street

THE DISMISSAL

S174

Deacon

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the pow - er of the Spi - rit.

People

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL POSTLUDE – God of Our Fathers

Tune by George W. Warren (1828-1902), arr. by Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

1 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way;
lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

CATHEDRAL LIFE | JULY 5
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL – SPCBUFFALO.ORG

TODAY

- Bible Study – 9 a.m. lower level/Walker – coffee and discussion of scripture lessons for the week
- Coffee/Refreshments – after the 10:15 service, lower level/Walker

Special Meeting of the Parish for Vestry Reduction

On Sunday, July 12th at Noon, there will be a Special Meeting of the St. Paul's Church parish (aka St. Paul's Cathedral). At recent meetings of the Vestry, it has been determined that the current size of the St. Paul's Vestry is greater than presently needed. Per our bylaws, we have a Vestry of twelve which includes: the Dean, two wardens, and nine lay members of the parish. We are now hoping to reduce the size to nine members in total (reducing three lay Vestry members). In order to make this revision, a special meeting of the parish must be held not less than six (6) months prior to the Annual Meeting in January to ensure that new Vestry members may be elected at the Annual Meeting. Upon the passing of this measure, an amendment to our bylaws will be filed with the Erie County Clerk's Office per the requirements of the New York State Religious Corporation Laws.

From the Dean's Desk

Beginning July 19, I will be taking some vacation time. In my absence, the Rev. Cn. Cathy Dempsey-Sims will be covering all Sunday services at St. Paul's. Our Wednesday Healing Masses will be covered by The Rev. Dr. Sarah Reith and The Rev. Sr. Karen Lawler. The Thursday Cathedral Cares Eucharist which is held outdoors next to "Homeless Jesus" will be presided over by The Rev. Ann Tillman. Mother Tillman will also be available in the event of a pastoral emergency. I know you will warmly welcome these clergy of our Diocese. I will look forward to seeing you in August.

– Dean Rebecca

Holy Hikes

Holy Hikes of Western New York, a ministry of St. Paul's Cathedral, is pleased to announce its full schedule (<https://tinyurl.com/mwc53bmnn>) for the 2026 season. All hikes are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10am, unless otherwise announced. In July, we will hike at Owen Falls Sanctuary Trail in East Aurora. We hike rain or shine. All are welcome; carpooling will be available from the Cathedral at 9:30am or you can join us directly at the appointed hike location.



Reforesting Faith Book Study

What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God & His Love for Us

In conjunction with Holy Hikes of Western New York, St. Matthias', East Aurora and St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo will host a 5-session book study and discussion of Reforesting Faith.

The sessions will be held on Zoom for five consecutive Wednesday evenings June 10 – July 8 from 6:30-7:30pm.

5-session book study reading schedule:

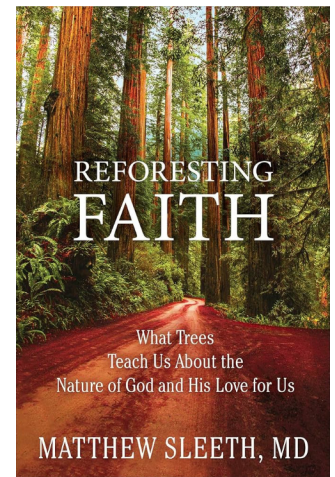
6/10	Chapters 1-3
6/17	Chapters 4-6
6/24	Chapters 7-9
7/1	Chapters 10-12
7/8	Chapters 13 - End

The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87163407294>

Meeting ID: 871 6340 7294

Passcode: 02241869

Books may be purchased on Amazon or from your favorite bookseller. All are welcome to join in. Questions/Concerns? – Please contact Mo. Ann Tillman (stmatthiasrector@gmail.com) or Dean Rebecca Barnes (deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org)



Children's Christian Education: "Godly Play"

St. Paul's offers "Godly Play: is a Montessori-based program on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children.

Parking at St. Paul's

Street parking is free on Saturdays and Sundays. There are also several nearby parking garages. We recommend:

- **Main Place Mall Parking** (221 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY 14202, <https://www.mainliberty.com/parking>) - This is our preferred garage for those coming to St. Paul's. We suggest that you use the entrance directly across from the Rath County Office Building, 166 Pearl, (you will notice the skywalk above) which is only a 1/2 block north of the Cathedral. Weekend parking is \$6 all day. Weekday rate: \$5 for 1 hr or less; \$7 for 3hr or less; \$12 full day. Accessibility: ADA-compliant spaces and elevator access available and 24/7 surveillance, well-lit areas, and patrolled security. EV Charging: Electric vehicle charging stations available.

Need help covering parking fees? We've got you covered! Bring your ticket from the Main Place Mall Parking with you. At the end of the service just see an usher for a voucher for your card. (If you can afford to pay, we kindly ask that you please leave this limited fund for those who can't, thank you!)

Additional ramps we suggest are:

- **Adam Ramp** (343 Washington St., Buffalo, NY 14202) - 1 1/2 blocks behind the Cathedral. Weekend parking is \$6 all day. Weekday rate: \$2.50 hr/ \$10 max.
- **93 Pearl Street Garage** (93 Pearl St. Buffalo, NY 14202) - A block south of the Cathedral. Daily Parking (Mon - Fri, 6 am - 6 pm) - \$10 Max

There are also several open/uncovered Premier Parking parking lots near the Cathedral. These require payment at a kiosk; fees are higher. Please note, when there are special events at Sahlen Field and the KeyBank Center, area lots charge Event Rates which are significantly more than daily rates.

Pastoral Care Ministry at St. Paul's

Recent changes have been made to the intercessions that are offered during the Prayers of the People. Names may be submitted for those who are in acute or critical need. Names will remain on the list for six weeks. Should you wish to have them remain on the list longer, that request may be made to the Dean. We will maintain a separate Pastoral Care prayer list for those who are homebound and in nursing homes, or may request ongoing prayer. This list will remain in the announcements and on the eNews, but individual names will not be included in the intercessions. We do ask that the entire congregation remember these beloved of our community in your prayers and join with us in praying for them. We hope that this will shorten the prayers while holding in our hearts and prayers, all those in need and absent from us.

In a Pastoral Emergency, please contact—The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Dean at [646-533-1836](tel:646-533-1836)/e-mail at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org; or The Reverend Elizabeth Grohowski, [212-222-8109](tel:212-222-8109). If you, or a family member, are in the hospital, a healthcare facility, or are home bound and would like to have a visit from one of the clergy or a member of our Pastoral Care Committee, please contact the cathedral office at [716-855-0900](tel:716-855-0900) or at office@spcbuffalo.org. Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, commonly known as HIPAA, hospitals no longer automatically provide churches with names of admitted parishioners. If you or a family member are hospitalized or in a healthcare facility, you or someone acting on your behalf will need to notify the church to assure that proper pastoral care may be offered. St. Paul's complies with all HIPAA requirements and cannot provide personal information for sick or injured members without permission of the member or his or her close family member. Additionally, if you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and desire regular Eucharistic visitation, please notify the parish office. Eucharistic Visitations are customarily

made once per month; weekly visits may be scheduled upon request.

– Dean Rebecca

Prayer and Pastoral Care

We lift up the following in prayer especially Lynne, Alex, Jim, Mariann, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, Sean and Kevin, Sharon, Elaine, Howard, Lillian, Patty, Renee, Jim, Judy, Ann, Carol, and Shirley, and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and those who are living in fear of or suffering from the Ebola outbreak.

We also remember all those who have died, especially Thomas, Marilyn, Priscilla, Neil, and Vicki, and those whose anniversaries of death we mark this week. We pray for them and their loved ones who remember them.

SJAT Note Update: Summer Reading and Media List

Submitted by Estelle Siener for the Social Justice Action Team

Welcome to the Summer 2026 edition of our semi-annual book and media list – a list of some of reading and viewing that the members of the Social Justice Team found edifying and inspiring, and are recommending to others. The items are listed with those who recommended them. We'd love to talk with you about them. And we'd love to hear what you have been reading, so we can add them to our list!

(Books without a link are available at the Buffalo and Erie County Library. Items with links are either online or available at bookshop.org.)

FICTION

- **(Bill) Radio Free Vermont: A Fable of Resistance:** A novel by environmental activist Bill McKibben. It's a madcap story of "band of Vermonters who decide their state would be better off as its own republic."
- **(Estelle) The Other Foot by Ray Bradbury:** (Yes, that Ray Bradbury!) A short story about a White man that visits a Black colony on Mars. Freely available online.
- **(Nancy B) Theo of Golden by Allen Levi:** a beautiful story of the power of generosity.
- **(Estelle) Revolutionary Tales, Bill Mullin**
- **(Estelle) Dark Testament and Other Poems:** A book of poetry by Pauli Murray, the first black woman ordained as an Episcopal priest. The title poem of the history of slavery in the United States is brilliant.

- **(Bob) The Ladies' Paradise by Emile Zola.** First published in 1883, it tells the creating of the Department Store in 19th century Paris, and the changes in consumer culture. It's a tale not of the 'profit' on individual sales that matters, but maximizing the turnover in capital. Stay alert. The spirit of capitalism is present in every line. Read and experience.

NONFICTION

- **(Chris) The Country of the Blind: A Memoir at the End of Sight by Andrew Leland.** In addition to a moving memoir about the progression of retinitis pigmentosa, the author shares his research into assistive tools/technologies (Braille, screen readers, curb cuts) and disability rights activism. Particularly interesting to me was his consideration of whether and/or when he might use tools, technologies, and potential treatments.
- **(Gary J) An Immense World: How Animals Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us:** Science journalist Ed Yong explores how animals make see the world and prompt us to see with "other's eyes."
- **(Estelle) Borders and Belonging, The Book of Ruth:** a poet and a theologian, discuss in alternating chapters the Old Testament Book of Ruth, with themes of immigration and culture.
- **(Estelle) Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo":** Zora Neale Hurston's transcription of interviews of Cudjo Lewis, age eighty-six at the time. Especially compelling as an audiobook.
- **(Estelle) One day Everyone Will Always Have Been Against This** by novelist and journalist Omar El Akkad. The title is a tweet the author wrote three weeks after the bombardment of Gaza. It was viewed over 10 million times!
- **(Bob) Private Power and Democracy's Decline: How to make capitalism support Democracy by Mordecai Kurz,** published this year. Kurz is the rare economist who is not content with a narrow 'economic' view, instead focusing on the human condition, especially, on dignity. Key point, for those harmed by an economic activity "standard economic reasoning cannot justify any particular compensation policy." And the novelty, 'restoring the economic livelihoods of those harmed by public policy is justified by the political benefits, not the economic ones.'

OTHER MEDIA

- **(Chris) Church and State are Being Reunited, Thanks to SCOTUS:** A podcast that discusses the separation of church and state and the goals of Christian Nationalism to break the separation down.
- **(Chris) Two of the Oscar-nominated documentary shorts.**

Children No More: "Were and Are Gone" is about an ongoing protest in Israel documenting children killed in Gaza. I appreciated the risks these activists took in showing up to protest.

All the Empty Rooms (the Oscar winner) is about a journalist documenting the bedrooms of children killed in school shootings. I found the intimacy very moving.

- **(Kim) Leading With Dignity: A Conversation with Donna Hicks** TED Talk (19:40 min) If you missed the Book Club on Zoom this spring with Bishop Lane (or even if you participated) you may want to listen to this inspiring talk by the author of *Dignity*. [https://www.youtube.com › watch?v=y5vnCnB4JcE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5vnCnB4JcE)
- **(Kim) Exhibition Tour—Raphael: Sublime Poetry:** YouTube video (16:22 min) A tour through the Raphael exhibit at the NYC Metropolitan Museum of Art with art historian Carmen Bambach. The exhibit highlights, in particular, his Madonna and Child paintings. Follow more of the story of the exhibit at *How do you transport and hang tapestries that are over 20-feet-long?* YouTube video (~1:30 min)

ACROSS THE DIOCESE AND THE CHURCH

From Bishop Stephen Lane

Beloved in Christ,

Let us pray. Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Collect for Independence Day

This week we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of our independence from Great Britain. It's the birthday of our country, and we celebrate our freedom from tyranny and our freedom to be a people who gather, worship, speak, and govern ourselves. Our history, however messy and wobbly it's been at times, has inspired millions of people all over the world to risk venturing here to be part of our free life, and it has pushed many other countries to move toward more participatory and democratic forms of government. The Lady with the Lamp in New York Harbor, with her torch of freedom, her sacred book dated July 4, 1776, and her foot breaking the shackles of slavery has become the icon of who we are as a nation. She welcomes the tempest-tost to the golden door.

Of course, it's more complicated than that. Like every nation, we struggle with the forces that divide us from one another. Prejudice is real and governance is difficult, and achieving our goals of fairness and equity, equality before the law, freedom to practice our beliefs, equal access to housing, education, and healthcare, and economic opportunity for all has proven elusive. Our history with Native Americans and people of color has been shameful. But our ideals drive us on toward the hope, the golden door, the Statue of Liberty represents.

The Church has often considered itself to be apart from the culture. We claim that our baptism into Christ supersedes other loyalties, including loyalty to family or nation or culture. Yet, the Church swims in the culture like every other institution. Much of what we take for granted in the United States – religion free from government oversight, the multiplicity of beliefs and practices, the ability to choose which religion to practice – is rooted in our national culture and not available in other nations and cultures. We are blessed to be here.

The Gospel for Independence Day is from the Sermon on the Mount, and it is Jesus' call to perfect love, to love the righteous and the unrighteous, to love our enemies. It is a call to love one another across our differences, no matter how great, because only perfect love makes human freedom possible.

May we on this momentous occasion, renew our commitment to love our neighbors and to seek God's grace to strengthen our liberties justly and peacefully. May we celebrate what we enjoy and pledge to extend the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to all those

who live here and to all who hope for the same where they live. And may we deepen our devotion to the God whose love is the source of the freedom we celebrate that, as Hymn #534 puts it, “the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.”

Happy Fourth!
Bishop Steve

In-Person Safe Church Training

Wendy Schumacher will lead Safe Church training for anyone that needs or prefers in-person training. A valid email is needed for each person due to safe Church registration requirements. Once completed, your training is valid for 3 years.

Two dates are offered for the training at the Diocesan Ministry Center in Tonawanda. Choose either Saturday, July 25th OR Wednesday, July 29th from 10am-3pm. Lunch is included as part of your day.

To Register, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/4rx3dzvr>

Contact Shawn Slother (sslother@episcopalwny.org) for your Safe Church renewal date, if needed.

The Royall Consort of Buffalo

*David Abbott, Bass Viol | Alexander Hamilton, Recorder & Flute
Roland Hayes, English Theorbo | Peter Horn, Violin
Nancy Nuzzo, Bass Viol*

Music for broken consort in four voices

John Jenkins (1592 – 1678)

Christopher Simpson (1602/1606 – 1669)

Saint Paul's Episcopal Cathedral

139 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY

Sunday, July 19, 2026 | 3:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Sunday Afternoon Recital Series

Free will offering to benefit the St. Paul's pipe organ restoration project



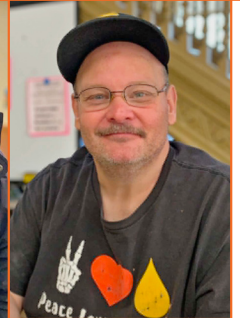
On the Road with Abe



As guests arrive for lunch at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Abe is there greeting many of them by name, asking how they are doing, and making sure everyone feels welcome. With his big smile and an even bigger heart, Abe brings warmth and compassion to every meal he serves. As Multi site Manager for Friends of Night People, he oversees community meal programs with Feed716 across Buffalo, visiting nearly 10 offsite locations each week in addition to serving lunch at St. Paul's.

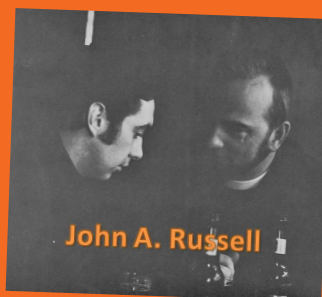
For Abe, helping feed people is deeply personal. Growing up, his family founded a charity called Project Life, which helped war orphans find homes in America. This inspired his lifelong passion for helping others. Before coming to Friends of Night People, Abe worked in hospitality and hated to see so much food wasted after events. Rather than let it go to waste, he would package leftovers and hand them out to people experiencing homelessness.

Abe feeds people everywhere he goes. Whether he's making sure guests have enough to eat, dropping extra food off to pantries, or bringing treats for children at offsite meal programs, Abe believes small acts of kindness matter.



John Russell

Friends of Night People was founded in 1969 by John Russell with a simple but powerful belief, everyone deserves dignity and compassion. For more than five decades, his vision has helped create a place of refuge and community for thousands of people across Buffalo. John passed away in December 2025, leaving behind a legacy at the heart of Friends of Night People. Countless lives have been touched by his kindness, advocacy, and unwavering commitment to serving others.



**John A
Russell at
40th
Anniversary
Celebration**

RICH'S

New or visiting today? Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the Hymnal in the pew (red or blue). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable.

Restrooms are located on the lower level. From the elevator, proceed through the double glass doors and look to your right for an accessible restroom. Additional restrooms are on the same level, to the left, near the kitchen.

Children are always welcome in worship and are invited to explore! Greeters can provide activity kits, available in the back of the church. Godly Play is also offered. For details: cathedral@spcbuffalo.org.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Kathy Reiss, Delwyn Milander; Altar Guild
Frank Smigelsky, Judith Elliott; Ushers
Jessy Alexander, Patricia Hills; Coffee Hour Hosts
Nancy Boncore; Livestreaming Technician

Valerie Thomas, Michael Bonilla, Charles Casto Jr.; Readers
Valerie Thomas, William Siener; Intercessors
Evelyn Smigelsky; Eucharistic Minister

Vocal Quartet: Donna Ajaero, Soprano; Bre Philippy Alto; Dan Galley, Tenor; Nick Darling, Bass
Patricia Hills; Conductor
Peter Smith; Guest Organist

The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes; Celebrant and Preacher

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop Provisional
<https://episcopalwny.org/>

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The people of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral strive to be a beacon of
God's love in Western New York through transformative worship, inclusive fellowship,
and active service in partnership with the wider community.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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