

## The Beatitudes

In this church year (Year A, for those keeping track), our primary gospel is Matthew and today we hear the first part of a significant section in this gospel, the Sermon on the Mount. Known as the Beatitudes, this introduction lifts up eight blessings and helps us see an emerging priority in Jesus' preaching, emphasizing compassion. Throughout the gospel, Matthew portrays Jesus as a teacher, and it is widely believed that he has organized a collection of Jesus' teachings or sayings into a "sermon," which we hear unfold in chapters 5-7. In this text, Jesus presents what it is like to live in God's reign, following God's ways – beginning with blessings. You'll find a similar passage in Luke 6, part of the Sermon on the Plain.

## THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Greeting and Announcements – *See announcements at the back of this bulletin*

OPENING HYMN #438 – "Tell Out My Soul"

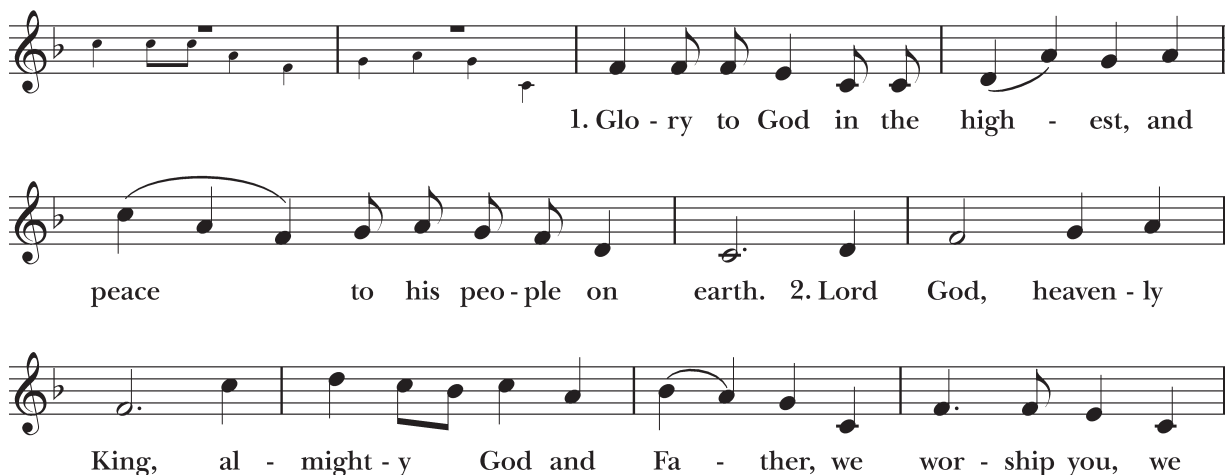
*See hymnal (red or blue book in pews); please rise, as able.*

### Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

GLORIA #S280



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.

## The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth:  
 Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *The people may be seated.*

## FIRST READING Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*After the reading, the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM Psalm 15 – *read responsively by whole verse*

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,  
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend;  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**In his sight the wicked is rejected,  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.**

He has sworn to do no wrong and does not take back his word.

**He does not give his money in hope of gain,  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

## SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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, 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.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what >>

is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast 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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #542 – "Christ is the World's True Light" *please stand, as able*

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

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

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:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord. People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon *The people may sit*

Dean Twila Smith

The Nicene Creed *The people stand as able; in unison*

**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 *Please remain standing, as you are able.*

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*In the pauses of silence between biddings, you may offer your own prayers*

People Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

*The Presider adds a concluding prayer.*

## Confession *The people may stand or kneel*

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept*

All **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 Priest offers absolution*

## The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you. People **And also with you.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN #605 – “What Does the Lord Require?”

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

*Celebrant and People; spoken at 8 a.m.*

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.\_\_\_\_\_

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

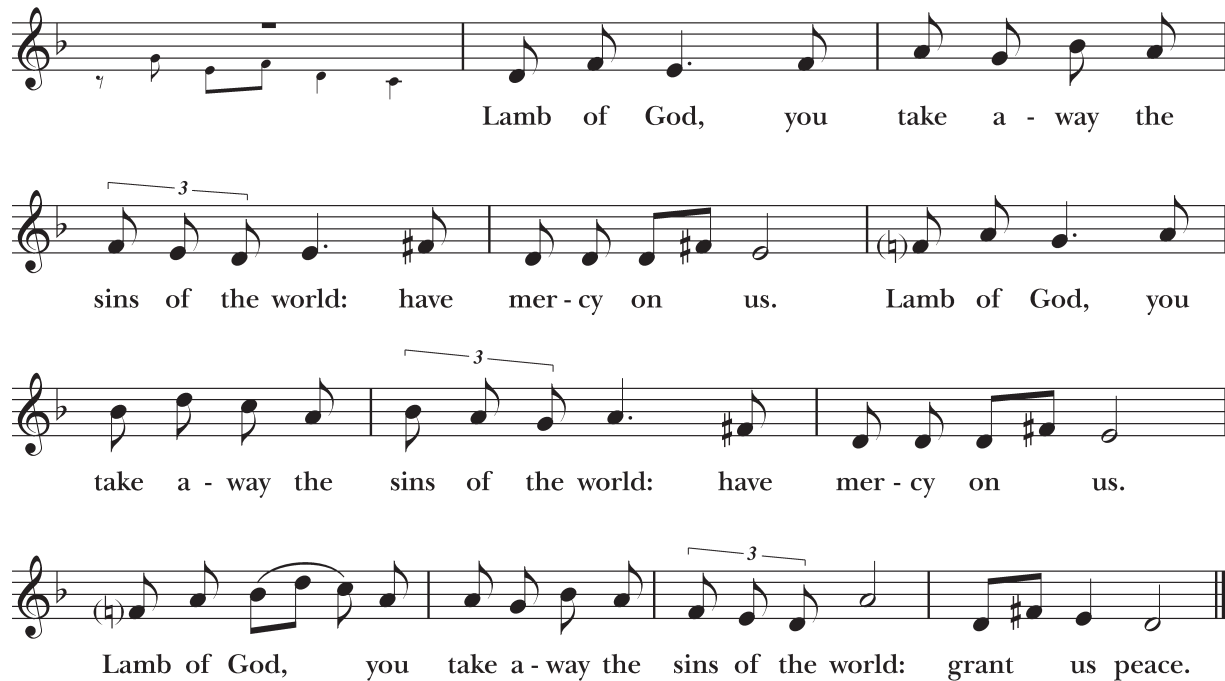
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**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 Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breads the consecrated bread.*

*A period of silence is kept, then the People sing (said at 8 a.m.),*



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace." The score includes triplets and a final double bar line.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

An usher will invite all to a single-file line in the main aisle for communion and you may return to your pew by the side aisles. Anyone needing assistance to receive communion may indicate so to an usher and it will be brought to you at the end.

You may receive at the high altar rail (stand or kneel), or at the station at the transept.

Receive bread with both hands open and receive the chalice (wine) to drink from the cup, or simply consume the bread only, which we consider full communion.

To receive the bread with intinction in the wine by the priest, extend one hand.

Gluten-free bread is available at the lower station.

To receive a blessing, indicate your desire by crossing your arms over your heart.

## COMMUNION HYMN #467 – “Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love”

*After Communion, the Celebrant says, Let us pray.*

All     **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.**



BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN #593, v. 1-4 – “Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

## Announcements

### **Candlemas: Blessing of Candles**

For the Feast of the Presentation, on Thursday, February 2, we will celebrate Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m. and the service will include a blessing of candles. This is traditionally a time to bless candles for use in the upcoming year, for homes and the church. You are invited to bring candles of any kind. We will also have a few candles that have been used in the church, which will be “sent forth” at this service for you to use at home – so, doubly-blessed! The worship service will last under an hour and conclude with sweet treats. If you brought candles with you today, you may leave them on or near the small table by the pulpit; be sure to mark them with your name. Candles may also be brought to the church office this week and all may be picked up next Sunday, February 5.

### **Save the Date: Shrove Tuesday with St. Philip’s**

We are collaborating with St. Philip’s for a Shrove Tuesday Chicken and Waffles event you won’t want to miss, the evening of Tuesday, February 21 (which means Lent starts February 22). Watch for details coming soon on how you can be involved! St. Philip’s is at 22 Sussex Street, near Grider, by ECMC.

### **Being Disciples**

*Epiphany Season: Being Disciples* – We continue our series on “The Essentials of the Christian Life,” with discussion around a book by the Archbishop of Canterbury (2002-2012) Rowan Williams. We still have a few copies available. A discussion group is meeting at 9 a.m. Sundays (concluding by Lent) and you can drop in anytime.

### **Prayer List**

We lift up the following in prayer: Len, Tyree, Lisa, Connie, Sue, Lisa, Marge, Renee, Elaine, Jeanna, Michael, Judy, Jim, Sharon, Robert, Carol, Shirley, Monica, Frank, Donald, Lisa, Samuel, Amanda, and Matthew. We also remember in our prayers those who have died and their loved ones who mourn, including Henry Baxter, whose funeral was on Friday, and those in the life of the Cathedral whose anniversary of death is near and for whom we give thanks, including Margaret Deems Cox. *Submit additions/changes to [prayerrequests@spcbuffalo.org](mailto:prayerrequests@spcbuffalo.org).*

## **Social Justice Action Team**

The horrendous terrorist attack at Tops Market on Jefferson Avenue last May reminded us all of the East Side food desert, and of general food insecurity in poor neighborhoods in Buffalo. The Erma Jaeckle Fund at St. Paul's has challenged us to aid Buffalo's hungry people. The Providence Farm Collective in Orchard Park is a refugee-organized initiative to provide access to land for farmers forced from their own countries who now live in Western New York. Farmers from 9 different ethnic communities grow culturally relevant, healthy foods that they donate to regional food pantries, and sell at local farmer's markets and retail outlets. The farm offers employment to displaced farmers, addresses food insecurity in multiple ways, encourages healthy eating, and encourages young people to participate in ancestral traditions. Learn more about this inspiring initiative at WBFO's "Buffalo, What's Next?" <https://www.wbfo.org/2022/2022-11-23/native-american-music-and-the-providence-farm-collective>

## **Music Announcement**

If you have missed having a choir at Sunday morning worship, you now have an opportunity to do something to revive the choral tradition that has long been a part of worship at St. Paul's Cathedral. On February 5, after the 10:15 service, members of the Music Ministry Task Force and ANYONE who would like to sing in this church, will meet with Jaman Dunn, whom the task force has asked to act as our interim choirmaster, until such a time as a permanent choirmaster can be hired. You do not need to be a professional, nor do you need previous experience. All you need is a love of singing and a desire to "praise God in His holiness" in his holy temple. Come and see what it is all about. There is no obligation on your part. Hopefully you will see how you can be a part of this endeavor. If you have any questions before the meeting, talk to any of the members of the task force: Wendy Darling, Patricia Hills, Bill and Estelle Siener, Su Hadden and Michael Bonilla. We are looking forward to seeing YOU there.

## **VESTRY/WARDEN NOMINEES**

### **Nominees for Annual Meeting Election** – *annual meeting after 10:15 a.m. worship today*

For the election at the annual meeting, the nominees are: Warden, Michael Bonilla (2-year term); Vestry members (all for 3-year terms), Evelyn Smigelsky, Judy Elliott, Su Hadden, and Kim Goodman O'Connell. For delegates to the convention, Reid and Elenora Heffner; alternate delegate, Kathy Reiss. The following persons are leaving Vestry: Jeremy Kinney, Anne Simet, Ellie Hefner, and Peter Snodgrass. Su Hadden is presently completing an unexpired term and is therefore eligible to be elected for a full, 3-year term.

**Michael Bonilla** – I was received into the Episcopal church in the cathedral in January of 1966. Ever Since this has been my spiritual home. Over the years I have been involved in many aspects of life in this church, including, singing in the choir, serving as an acolyte, serving on the Properties and music committees, and chair several Stewardship campaigns. Over the course of the years, I have served on three different vestries, and have been elected warden twice. I believe my past experience in church leadership is the most valuable thing that I will bring to the next vestry. During this time of transition for the cathedral, strong effective lay leadership is very important as we prepare to enter the search process to call a permanent dean for St. Paul's. I am confident in the leadership abilities of those who will be considered for vestry at our annual meeting, as well as those who will continue to serve on the vestry.

**Judy Elliott** – I wish to serve on the Vestry again, as a member of the Cathedral. I have served for two terms (6 years) previously, and would like to serve again. I have recently served as leader of the Altar Guild and I am currently the co-leader of Pastoral Care and co-leader of the Garden of Love, and member of the Stewardship Committee. I have a vast amount of knowledge of the church and the diocese, as I have served on many committees over the years. I have a background in church finances as I served as Treasurer of my former parish of St. Simon's for seven years. I believe I could make many contributions and help the Vestry make wise decisions on behalf of the Cathedral. I would like to see the Vestry become more active in outreach to the neighborhood around the Cathedral. There is work to be done, and I believe I can be helpful.

**Kim Goodman** – The vestry's leadership role must be responsive to the new realities of American economic life and today's society. I believe I have a skill set of imagination, flexibility, and execution follow thru. I have dug in the gardens as a member of the Garden committee, climbed on the roof to fix gutters as a member of the Properties committee and hosted receptions with the Ushers Committee. I was delighted to represent St. Paul's by completing the "Home Again" project for the Buffalo Refugee Program for the Social Justice Action Team. My family and myself have been active members of St. Paul's for over 70 years. I was baptized, confirmed and married at St. Paul's. I believe in and am committed to the future mission of St. Paul's within the Buffalo Community.

**Susan (Su) M Hadden** – I am currently serving a (Covid) extended one-year unexpired Vestry term and so put my name in consideration to continue to serve on your Vestry for a full 3-year term. A cradle member of the Church of England, and a member of the Episcopal Church since arriving in Buffalo 30 years ago, I have been a member of the Cathedral since soon after my arrival. I've served regularly as a Lector and an occasional usher and coffee host. Most recently I chaired the Dean's search committee and currently serve on the Music Ministry taskforce as we work to re-envision and revitalize the historically wonderful music here at St Paul's. In my "day job," I serve on the Presiding Bishop's staff at the Church Center in New York as the Operations Manager and Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer. As I said in my letter to the congregation during pledge season: "Whilst the last several years have presented us all with many challenges, I feel hopeful that we can begin to look ahead to a new season of renaissance for St. Paul's". Join us in the journey.

**Evelyn Smigelsky** – My involvement with St. Paul's Cathedral began in 1951 when my parents took my sister and me there for the first time. My sister was four years old, and I was three years old. Now 72 years later, I am still a member of the Cathedral because, quite simply, it is my spiritual home. Whether as a young child or a grown woman, I have always found comfort in the beauty and majesty of the Cathedral. Moreover, Saint Paul's is where many important events in my life including my confirmation and my marriage have taken place. In other words, the Cathedral has been a fundamental part of my life's journey. At this point in time, I believe that it is important for me to give back to the Cathedral through more active involvement in the life of the church. For that reason, I am seeking to be part of the cathedral vestry. It is my hope that the experiences in skills I have derived from my lifetime in education – for 16 years as a middle school teacher and 25 years as a Ph.D.-level licensed school psychologist and family counselor – will serve me well in this new endeavor.

**New or visiting today?** Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the hymnal (red or blue book in the pew racks; hymn numbers are noted in the bulletin). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable. Greeters are available at the back of the church to assist you.

**Restrooms** are available 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, near the kitchen.

### SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Kathy Reiss (8 a.m.) and Del Milander (10:15 a.m.) – Altar Guild

Kathy Reiss (8 a.m.) and Su Hadden (10:15 a.m.) – Readers

Kathy Reiss (8 a.m.) and Nancy Boncore (10:15 a.m.) – Intercessors

Andrew Jacob (10:15 a.m.) – Crucifer · Bob Ludwig – Greeter/Usher

Peter Smith – Organist · The Very Rev. Twila Smith – Presider/Preacher

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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.*

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