St. Paul's Episcopal Church



The Fifth Sunday in Lent April 3, 2022

Full to the Brim: Brazen Acts of Beauty

WELCOME!

Welcome: Whatever your background and however you have come to be here, we are glad you are. It is our prayer that you will encounter God's peace this morning.

About Our Worship: As Christians in the Episcopal (episcopal=church with bishops) tradition, our worship is rooted in Holy Scripture and the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), which has united Christians all over the world in a common language of prayer and worship since the sixteenth century. The hope of finding ourselves in the midst of this ancient tradition is that we might both learn from those who have come before and add our own voices to the heavenly chorus. Our liturgy (the work of the people in worship) helps us when our words fail, ensures that we hear a thorough account of God's Word, and invites us to add our own voices and experience to God's story. You will find some people kneeling, bowing, and making the sign of the cross as expressions of devotion and blessing. This is neither requisite nor uniform, and we invite you to participate as you feel comfortable.

Worshipping with Children: We are delighted to have children in our midst no matter how squiggly they may be. Worship bulletins for children are located on the table in the rear lobby. Activity bags and a small library of books can be found right outside of the left door next to the piano. In order to reduce cross-contamination, each household has a designated bag. If you are new, we invite you to pick up a bag with a "New Friend" tag.

Restrooms: Restrooms are located at the end of the hallway behind the stairs. Exit through the front or rear doors and make a right at the double doors.

THE SEASON OF LENT

In preparation for the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, early Christians observed a season of reflection, reorientation, return, and renewal, which is now known as Lent (*from an Old English word meaning "spring,"* the time of lengthening days). Lent is a time to recommit to being the people we want to be in response to God's endless love and to find rest in the simplicity of God's love. While there is solemnity and sorrow, there is also humble joy at knowing that God awaits and longs for our return. For centuries, traditional iterations of Lent often emphasize restraint, confession, and piety, and "giving up something." While such practices can be transformative, Lent is also an invitation to explore a new practice or mindset.

Purple is the liturgical color of Lent as it is the color of humility, penance, and wisdom, which comes from our inward reflection. It's also the color of royalty, specifically the humble royalty of our Christ, who was both servant and king.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT ON THE COVER ART

Brazen Beauty by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity Inspired by John 12:1-8

In the chapter just before this, Lazarus dies and Jesus weeps. But after being laid in the tomb, Lazarus is raised and made well. This act solidifies for the chief priests and Pharisees that Jesus is a dangerous threat. In response, they order for his arrest and plot how they will kill him. Jesus retreats from public ministry, hiding out in the wilderness in Ephraim. As the passover nears, people begin to wonder: "Will Jesus be here?"

Despite the threats mounting, Jesus does return. On his way to Jerusalem, he stops in Bethany, seeking refuge and comfort in the home of his friends. Martha cooks a feast, and Lazarus—healthy and alive—joins him at the table. In resistance to death, as an act of extravagant love, Mary anoints Jesus with a fragrance that fills the whole room. Her actions could appear impulsive, but if you were saying your last goodbye to someone you loved, how would you act?

This image began as a painting on raw canvas. With fluid strokes of paint, I allowed the colors to run and bleed into each other. As I drew Mary kneeling, I omitted the other details in the scene, removing Jesus' feet, the other guests, the table full of food. I wanted to focus on Mary's brazen act of pouring out the expensive perfume, a commodity valued at a year's worth of wages. The luxurious liquid is expansive, flowing out toward us as the viewer. It bleeds into the red, foreshadowing the blood Jesus will soon shed. The vessel she holds is lined with gold, a reference to the ancient Japanese practice of Kintsugi, of repairing broken pottery with gold lacquer. The art of Kintsugi embellishes the cracks and transforms a shattered vessel into a new object of beauty. In this embodied act of worship, Mary is practicing Kintsugi—boldly celebrating the beauty of life even as death approaches.

+=You are invited to stand.

BCP=Book of Common Prayer

WE CONFESS AND SEEK GOD'S MERCY

A Penitential Order	BCP 319
The Kyrie	BCP 324

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer of the Day		p. 6
The Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 43:16-21	p. 7
The Psalm	Psalm 126	p. 7
+The Holy Gospel	John 12:1-8	p. 8
The Sermon	The \	Venerable Sue von Rautenkranz

WE RESPOND TO GOD

+Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People

The Peace

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

+Offertory & Doxology

All things come of thee O Lord: and of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer II	BCP 340
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 339

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

The Blessing

WE GO IN THE STRENGTH OF GOD

+The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace and know that God goes with you.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymnal=Hymnal 1982; PSB=Piney Song Book +=You are invited to stand.

PRELUDE

Hark a Voice Sayeth All Men are Mortal

IS Bach

Please turn off your ringer and prepare for worship with silence, prayer, and meditation.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN

For the beauty of the earth

Piney Song Book 28

WE CONFESS AND SEEK GOD'S MERCY

OPENING GREETING

As part of the penitential and introspective nature of Lent, the beginning of worship is set apart as period of reflection and self-examination.

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation

People Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER (Please kneel.)

Celebrant

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14,16

Deacon

Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbor, and our truest selves.

All

Jesus of Nazareth, we admit that often we tuck our faith into our pockets, hiding in a place of comfort rather than proudly declaring: yes we are Christian, yes we believe, yes this faith has changed me. We are so afraid of offending others or embarrassing ourselves that we have established rules: no faith at the dinner table, no faith in politics, no faith with strangers. Forgive us for whispering when we could be singing. Forgive us for staying quiet when we could be part of rewriting the narrative. We want to be brave. We want to pour out perfume over your feet. These things we pray. Amen.

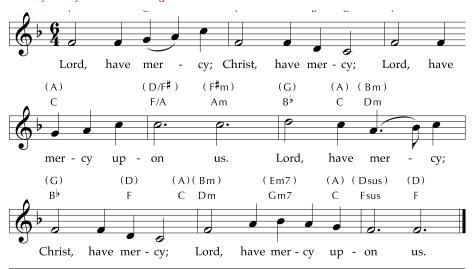
Celebrant

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.**

Friends, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. Rest in that good news.

SONG OF MERCY: THE KYRIE

During the season of Lent a song of penitence or longing, called "The Kyrie" is sung in lieu of the hymn of praise. The Greek words for "Kyrie eleison" means "Lord soothe me, comfort me, take away my pain, show me your steadfast love." Thus mercy doesn't refer so much to justice or acquittal of wrongdoing but to the infinite loving-kindness of God for God's hurting children.



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Extravagant God, lavishing your love on our poverty of heart: inspire us to give without stint, to lose life that we might find it again, so the world will be filled with the fragrance of your love; through Jesus Christ, who offers

himself for us. Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLES' MOMENT

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 43:16-21

Isaiah proclaims Israel's coming restoration to its homeland.

The LORD says—who makes a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and battalion; they will lie down together and will not rise; they will be extinguished, extinguished like a wick. Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness. The beasts of the field, the jackals and ostriches, will honor me, because I have put water in the desert and streams in the wilderness to give water to my people, my chosen ones, this people whom I formed for myself, who will recount my praise.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 126

Psalm 126 is a lament for the nation, a cry for deliverance.

¹ When the GOD restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream.

² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy.

³ Then they said among the nations, *

"GOD has done great things for them."

⁴GOD has done great things for us, * and we are glad indeed.

⁵ Restore our fortunes, O GOD, * like the watercourses of the Negev.

⁶Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.

⁷ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

+GOSPEL HYMN

My faith looks up to thee

Hymnal 691

vv. 1,2

+THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:1-8

Not long before his death, Jesus, his closest friends, and the disciples share a meal. Mary expresses her deep love and devotion to Jesus with an extravagant gift. The author contrasts Mary's simple selfless act with Judas, whose protest seemed sensible by perhaps masks his greed.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, "This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.)

Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

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

+GOSPEL HYMN

My faith looks up to thee

Hymnal 691

v. 3

SERMON

WE RESPOND TO GOD

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith in our expansive, loving, and faithful God.

People I believe in beauty—

beauty pulled into being by our Creator,

beauty that catches our breath,

beauty that turns us toward awe.

I believe in courage—courage to believe,

courage to stand up for the people we love,

courage to love without hesitation.

I believe in the Holy Spirit

who prays for us when we cannot,

who is brave for us when we are not.

I believe in Jesus Christ

who stood up for Mary,

who quieted the voice of critique,

who welcomed every bid for relationship.

I believe in God.

I believe in God who believes in us.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Beloveds, the Lord has done great things for us. With glad and thankful

hearts, let us pray, "Fix our hearts were joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer."

Intercessor Do a new thing in your Church, O Lord. From our dry places spring forth

new life. Refresh your bishops, priests, and deacons. Refresh all Christians in their vocations. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Martin Luther King, Jr.; Calvary Church, DC;

and, Church of the Atonement, DC.

Please add your thanksgivings, silently or aloud.

silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

Restore the dreams of those who have lost hope. Among the swift and varied changes of the world, be a strong foundation on which all can rely. *silence*

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

Give water in dry places. Remove the suffering of those who live with drought. Bring water, quench thirst, and give growth in desperate lands. *silence*

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray, O God, for the poor. Be merciful to victims of theft. Restore the fortunes of those devastated by dishonest men and women. Never forget the lives of your poor and convict us to never forget them either. *silence*

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

Let those who sow with tears, reap with songs of joy. Fill down-turned mouths with shouts of joyful deliverance. Restore your people, O Lord. We pray for those on our prayer list: Cami, Jenna, Tony, Emily, Deanna, Colleen, Wendy; Sally, Donna, Diane, Jim, Jack, Joyce, Barbara, Ed, Rodgers, Dick, Tom, Vera, Irene, Betty, Baylee, Ralph, Bridget, Kellie, Sarah, Barbara, Ethan, Nancy and George.

Please add your intercessions, silently or aloud. silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

O God, we long to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. Even as we share in his suffering, even as we die, may we, and all who die, attain the resurrection of the dead.

silence

Fix our hearts where joy is found; Lord, hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

Celebrant Jesus will not command legions of angels nor ride the machine of holy war; he will become a slave, take our hate into his heart, and win us with forgiveness, for he is God's unexpected peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money given. An offering is received to support the ministry of St. Paul's of sharing God's love in the church and in the world, and the altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Garden of Gethsemane

Pote

+THE DOXOLOGY

Mary Luti

Praise God, the source of breath and birth, who formed us from the dust of earth, and made us kin in unity to love and set each other free. Amen.

WE ARE STRENGTHENED FOR THE JOURNEY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to God.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.

We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithful people.

We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory and set your face towards the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

We welcome you as God's own fool whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls.

Therefore, with all who follow your way: with the traders and tax collectors, the soldiers and the abused women of the streets, and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared, we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:

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.

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me." As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died Christ is risen Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

People 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

As an act of adoration, a moment of reverent silence is kept as the bread is broken. This symbolizes the breaking of Jesus' own body.



INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Celebrant

Jesus has always been one to invite. He said, "Drop your nets and follow me." He said, "Let the little children come." He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed." Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed. So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table. And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy. So come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

Upon the presentation of the consecrated elements,

Celebrant Behold who you are.

People May we become what we receive.

THE COMMUNION

All are welcome to feast here. You need not be an Episcopalian. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will give you a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come to the table of Grace

Loaves were broken, words were spoken

Piney Song Book 20

Piney Song Book 70

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Lord of this feast beyond measure and price; we thank you for meeting us

in our brokenness so that none might be lost: liberate us now to share bread with out neighbor, each receiving from the other what we need to

be ourselves. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MILESTONE BLESSINGS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants she/he/they begin another year. Grant that she/he/they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his/her/their trust in your goodness all the days of his/her/their life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR AN ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

WE GO IN THE STRENGTH OF GOD

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Hymnal 690

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace and know that God goes with you.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lord Jesus Christ, be Present Now

JS Bach

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Parishioners, Family, and Friends: Cami Caudill & Jenna Monroe, Tony Hackley; for heavy burdened nurses: Emily Dorosz, Deanna Gerhart, Colleen Meadows, Wendy VanHoozier; Sally Barley, Donna Boswell, Diane Coon, Jim Fenton, Jack & Joyce Ferguson, Barbara Huiras, Ed Jaffe, Rodgers Johnson, Dick Leman, Tom May, Vera Otto, Irene Savoy, Betty Wilson, Baylee B., Ralph M., Bridget F., Kellie S., Sarah P., Barbara F., Ethan S., Nancy J., George D.

Armed Forces: Cameron Chase, Zach Kettner, Malachi Lakey, Megan Laurine, Casey Mills, Nate Ochsner, Garrett Roberson, Jr., Connor Runser

First Responders: Matt Backman, Liz Caswell, Chris Cox, Jimmy Cox, James Laurine, Kenny Levy, Jason Lyon, Pat Lyon, Alvaro Paz Hicho, Luke Smith

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Martin Luther King, Jr. (April 4); Calvary Church, DC; Church of the Atonement, DC

Dearly Departed: Majorie Danforth, mother of a coworker of Sewell Truitte; Pat Robey, close friend of Laurie Jaffe; Micah Pitts, cousin of Anita & Michelle Wilson

Community and World: the people of Ukraine, Russia, Ethiopia, and Yemen; those suffering from COVID-19

In order to keep the list current and to facilitate the intentionality with which we pray, names remain on the prayer list for one month (but can be renewed at any time). To sumbit a prayer request: email Joyce Scofield: rjscofield@comcast.net or Mother Maria: mkane@stpaulswaldorf.org

THIS WEEK

Questions for Reflection

John 12:1–8 draws our attention to three people: Mary, Judas, and Jesus. It is easy enough to identify Mary as "the good disciple" and Judas as "the bad disciple" not only in this story but also in the larger story of Jesus' life and death. We can (and do) make this judgment: Mary is accepted and affirmed, while Judas is rejected. But is this the judgment that the other person in the story would make? As one commentator puts it, ". . . if Jesus came to save the lost, surely there is no one in the gospel story who is more lost than the one who betrays Jesus. . . . If the Good Shepherd can and does go to any length to save a lost sheep, is Judas beyond the saving grasp of the Good Shepherd?" This is not a question with an easy answer. As this story ushers you into Holy Week, consider how the cross, the grace of Christ, speaks to this story and to your own life story, which like most life stories may not be a simple "either/or" example of faithfulness, but a "both/and" mix of faithfulness and unfaithfulness.

Household Prayer: Morning

Merciful God, as I begin this day, place in me a spirit of generosity so that I may freely share love, joy, and encouragement with those I encounter.

Household Prayer: Evening

Keep me from quick judgments so that I leave room for your grace in my life and in the lives of others. Make me your faithful disciple in my words and in my actions, as well as in the thoughts of my heart; in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS-DUE THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 8

We are ordering a set number of flowers this year for Easter (hydrangeas, begonias, and azaleas). If you would like to donate \$16 toward Easter flowers, please email the office at office@stpaulswaldorf.org with your dedication "in memory of" or "in thanksgiving for" no later than Friday, April 8. Payments can be made online through Realm or dropped off/mailed to the office. There will also be dedication forms in the Welcome Center. The flowers can be taken home after Easter.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP

It's Back! We are asking folks to sign up to do coffee hour beginning Sunday, April 3. Items to bring: donuts, bagels & cream cheese, muffins or cookies along with some type of juice. Sign up sheets are posted in the hall. Thank you.

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 3, Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

11:30 a.m. Holy Peeps Workshop

Wednesday, April 6

8:00 p.m. Meditations from the Cross and & Compline (Zoom & Facebook Live)

8:00 p.m. AA

Friday, April 8

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Zoom & Facebook Live)

Saturday, April 9

8:00 p.m. AA

Sunday, April 10, Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15 a.m. Holy Week Family Festival

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

MINISTERS IN WORSHIP				
	April 3, 8:00	April 3, 10:15		
Acolytes		BB Frierson, Femi Frierson,		
		Ife Frierson		
Prayers of the People	Wendy Van Hoozier	Terrance Frierson		
Reader	Jeannie Paz Hicho	Mike Fritz		
Ushers	Phil & Judy Hamilton	Lynn & Sallie Lyons		
Live Stream		Laurie Jaffe		
Altar Guild	Mary Fenton, Judy Hamilton			
	April 10, 8:00	April 10, 10:15		
Acolytes		Grant Pettersen; Troy		
		Dottoman Zach Dwant		
		Pettersen; Zach Bryant		
Prayers of the People	Jeannie Paz Hicho	Debbie Brown		
Prayers of the People Reader	Jeannie Paz Hicho Fern Brown			
, ,		Debbie Brown		
Reader	Fern Brown	Debbie Brown Mike Fritz		
Reader	Fern Brown	Debbie Brown Mike Fritz Anita Wilson & Michelle		
Reader Ushers	Fern Brown Larry & Sandy Mills	Debbie Brown Mike Fritz Anita Wilson & Michelle Wilson		

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Rev. Deacon Steve Seely, Deacon sseely@stpaulswaldorf.org

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PERMISSIONS

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