

Sunday, September 27, 2020: 17th Sunday After Pentecost

*My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me. (John 10:27)*



ST. PAUL’S COVID-19 RESPONSE

**Welcome!!** During this unique time in history, services will look a bit different than normal and will likely be different for quite a while. We want to care for the whole parish during this time and one way to care for one another is keeping each other safe. As such, we ask you to follow these guidelines while worshiping with us:

* **Experiencing Cough, Fever, or Other Symptom/s?** Go home immediately andplease stay home for fourteen days following the end of your symptoms.
* **Wear a Mask.** All parishioners must wear a mask to all services (as per City of Edmonton bylaw 19408). Exceptions to this include children under the age of two and those with a medical condition where wearing a mask is not possible. Masks may be removed when taking communion but must be replaced immediately following. If you do not have a mask, we have cloth masks available in the foyer.
* **Maintain Physical Distance.** At all times, please remain a minimum of six feet (three seat spaces) from all other individuals not part of your family unit. You will find tape on the floor six feet apart in multiple locations to help you maintain this distance. Please also maintain physical distance outside.
* **Listen to the Ushers.** There will be ushers inside and outside to help direct these new procedures. Please heed their direction as they are trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.
* **Sign-In Upon Arrival.** Please sign-in with the designated usher when you arrive onsite. This will help us track who is in attendance just in case we do have to notify the parish if someone tests Covid positive following a service.
* **Sanitize Hands Frequently.** Please sanitize your hands upon entry and before taking communion. You may also sanitize as often as you would like during the service. Please also try to refrain from touching surfaces and your face.
* **Refrain from Singing.** At this time, congregational singing is not allowed by the government of Alberta. Please listen to the lyrics being sung by the leader/s and meditate upon them. You may also hum along to the music as long as your mouth remains closed.
* **Recycle Bulletins.** Please do not leave bulletins in the pews. A recycle bin is available at the exit door. You may also take the bulletin home.
* **Use of Washroom.** The only washroom available at this time is located at the back of the Sanctuary (just North of the Main Entry doors). Please wipe down all surfaces (including toilet and handle, counter, and faucet) following use.
* **Parts of Building Closed.** At this time, the only accessible parts of the building are the Sanctuary, Sanctuary washroom, and alley foyer. All other rooms are closed for use including the main washrooms, hall, basement, and chapel. Please do not access any closed section of the building without permission.

**Opening Song: *King of My Heart/The River***

Let the King of my heart
Be the mountain where I run
The fountain I drink from
Oh, He is my song
Let the King of my heart
Be the shadow where I hide
The ransom for my life
Oh, He is my song

(*Chorus*) Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care
Take my hand now, lead me closer
Lord I need to meet you there

Let the King of my heart
Be the wind inside my sails
The anchor in the waves
Oh, He is my song
Let the King of my heart
Be the fire inside my veins
The echo of my days
Oh! He is my song (*To Chorus*)

You are good, good, oh
You are good, good, oh
You are good, good, oh
You are good, good, oh (*To Chorus*)

**The Gathering of the Community**

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant:Almighty God,

**All:to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.**

Celebrant: Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among the peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:** **Amen**.

**The Reading of Scripture**

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

*From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

Canticle: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

*1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \**

*incline your ears to the words of my mouth.*

*2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \**

*I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.*

*3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, \**

*we will not hide from their children.*

*4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the
 Lord, \**

*and the wonderful works he has done.*

*12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \**

*in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.*

*13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \**

*he made the waters stand up like walls.*

*14 He led them with a cloud by day, \**

*and all the night through with a glow of fire.*

*15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \**

*and gave them drink as from the great deep.*

*16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \**

*and the waters gushed out like rivers.*

*Prayer: God of pilgrims, strengthen our faith, we pray. Guide us through the uncertainties of our journey, and hold before us the vision of your eternal kingdom, made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.Amen*

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

*If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

**Processional Chorus – *Humble***

We bow our knees
We must decrease
You must increase
We lift You high

**The Gospel Reading**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-32

*When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Worship Through Song**

***Humble***

Humble and human

Willing to bend, You are
Fashioned of flesh

And the fire of life, You are
Not too proud to wear our skin
To know this weary world we’re in
Humble, humble Jesus

Humble in sorrow

You gladly carried Your cross
Never refusing Your life

To the weakest of us
Not too proud to bear our sin
To feel this brokenness we’re in
Humble, humble Jesus

(*Chorus*) We bow our knees
We must decrease, You must increase
We lift You high

Humble in greatness

Born in the likeness of man
Name above all names

Holding our world in Your hands
Not too proud to dwell with us

To live in us, to die for us
Humble, humble Jesus (*To Chorus*)

We lift You high
We lift You high (repeat)

Humble, You are humble
Make me humble like you
We lift You high

***Make Me a Servant***

**Make me a servant, humble and meek**
**Lord, let me lift up those who are weak**
**And may the prayer
Of my heart always be:**

Make me a servant

Make me a servant
**Make me a servant today!**

**Listening Time**

**Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Myron B. Penner – Sermon Notes:**

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**Affirmation of Faith – Modern Affirmation**

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**All: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love,**

**whose mercy is over all creation, and whose will is ever directed to the good of God’s children: who creates, loves and redeems us. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father’s unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death, who will come again in glory. We believe in the Holy Spirit who brings God’s presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and through whom we find strength and help in time of need. We believe in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, “Lord hear our prayer.”

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Remembering today from the St. Paul’s Cycle of prayer: Ryan, Michelle, Carson, Jordan, and Weston Young; Lukasz Mazurek and Ivy Exconde-Mazurek; Lorraine Bednar; and David Lenzi; as well as all of those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer. Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Set free all who are bound by fear and despair.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

**Confession of Sin**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

*Silent Confession*

Celebrant:Have mercy upon us,

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

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:Amen.**

**The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Prayer Over the Gifts**

Celebrant: Eternal God,

**All: in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All:** ***(Said)*** **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.**

Celebrant: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, “Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you.” In the same way he took the cup, saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me.” Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: *(Said)* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**All: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Communion**

*Please listen carefully to the verbal instructions given. You are welcome to receive communion or come forward for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Please sanitize your hands as you approach the front of the church. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please fold your arms over your chest. If you would like to make an offering, please do so after you take the bread.*

**Lamb of God**

*(Said by congregation)* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

**Communion Music - *Special Music***

**Prayer After Communion**

Celebrant: Father in heaven,

**All: strengthen the unity of your Church, so that we who have been fed with holy things may fulfil your will in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.** **Amen.**

Celebrant: Glory to God,

**All:whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

**Congregational Announcements *(Rev. Myron)***

**Closing Song: *This is Amazing Grace***

Who breaks the power

Of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty

And so much stronger
The King of Glory

The King above all kings
Who shakes the whole earth

With holy thunder
And leaves us breathless

In awe and wonder
The King of Glory

The King above all kings

(*Chorus*) [This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me](https://genius.com/5155129/Phil-wickham-this-is-amazing-grace/This-is-amazing-grace-this-is-unfailing-love-that-you-would-take-my-place-that-you-would-bear-my-cross-you-lay-down-your-life-that-i-would-be-set-free-oh-jesus-i-sing-for-all-that-youve-done-for-me)

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan

A son and daughter
The King of Glory, the King of Glory
Who rules the nations

With truth and justice
Shines like the sun

In all of its brilliance
The King of Glory

The King above all kings (*To Chorus*)

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King

Who conquered the grave (3x)
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, worthy, worthy (*To Chorus*)

**The Dismissal**

Celebrant: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Staff/Leadership Update**

**Rector’s Warden:** Peter Jackson resigned as Rector’s Warden at the end of August. We want to thank Peter for his many years of service on Corporation and look forward to continue working with him as he will remain a member of many other teams. Paul Dowie has been appointed as the new Rector’s Warden. Please welcome Paul as he steps into this leadership role.

**Director of Community Outreach:** As announced last week, Michelle Schurek has stepped into this new role at St. Paul’s. Her email is michelle@stpauls-anglican.ca.

**Youth Ministry Leader:** Abigail Harding (née Penner) has stepped into the Youth Ministry role vacated by Victoria Eeles in August. Please welcome Abbi as she begins working with the youth. Her email is stpaulsyegyouth@gmail.com.

**Hands to Hearts Card Ministry Update from Laura Rogers**

The card boxes in the main foyer have been replenished in all sections. Feel free to take cards as needed for people at St. Paul’s or those in your community. We would like to thank our recent card makers: Pat S., Barb D., Carol G., Amanda W. Kay W., and Nancy W-S. Please contact Laura Rogers if there are cards that you would like to be made available. The Hearts to Hands group have collectively made or refurbished about 700 cards to date, with about 500 cards sent.

**Have You Been Blessed?**

We would like to invite everyone to consider taking one or two thank you cards, located at the back of the church, and write a thank you note to someone who has supported you in the past seven months. While you can send a card to a person at St. Paul’s, we would encourage you to give it to someone in the community – e.g. grocery clerk, teacher, custodian, nurse, lab tech, etc. The plastic sleeve can also serve as an envelope. Note that you can also mail the card in the plastic sleeve as long as there are no raised embellishments on the card. Thank you to Laura Rogers and the card making/refurbishment team for providing these cards!!

**Community Corner**

Welcome to Community Corner, a weekly column for interesting connections into Grovenor, Edmonton, and community outreach.

Please take a VIRTUAL VISIT to Grovenor School! Their website is [www.grovenor.ca](http://www.grovenor.ca/) and has a lot of great information about their people and programs.

EAT & SUPPORT LOCAL - do you know the different restaurants near St Paul's? There are a number of local opportunities for GREAT EATS!!

* Little Village (Greek) <http://littlevillagecatering.ca/>
* Tasty Tomato (Italian) <http://tastytomato.ca/Home_Page.html>
* Island Grill Edmonton (Jamaican) <https://www.islandgrillalberta.com/>

PRAYER - please pray as the vision for our involvement with each other and the surrounding community comes together. We have so many opportunities, and it's wonderful to hear all the ways we are already participating. Thanks for all you do!



**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Diocese of Yukon: the Rt. Rev. Lesley WheelerDame, Bishop. St. John the Evangelist, Edmonton: Richard King (s. Shelly), Rector; Cameron Burns, Assistant Priest; Maryann Amor, Curate; Fred George (s. Annette) and Matthew Oliver (s. Bev), Honorary Assistants; Shelly King (s. Richard), Honorary Vocational Deacon; Blake Holt (s. Paula), Pastor for Student Ministries; Melissa Chafee (s. Matt) and Hannah Keim, Children’s Ministries. Buyé Diocese, Murama Parish: Evariste Nsabimana, Rector. Samson Cree Nation.

**Next Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Andrew and Team

Service Team: B and Jackson Teams

Reader/Prayers: Andrew and Nancy W-S.

**This Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Asher and Team

Service Teams: Parker and Heritage

Reader/Prayers: Francis and Jennifer B.

**St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer:**

Ryan, Michelle, Carson, Jordan, and Weston Young;

Lukasz Mazurek and Ivy Exconde-Mazurek;

Lorraine Bednar;
David Lenzi

**For Care/Concern Team
or other prayer requests,** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

 the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130

@StEdmonton

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**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

 Peter Jackson, *Rector’s Warden*

Margot Byer, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Barb Dixon, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

Deanna Kalles, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Carol Rudat, *Vestry Member*

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

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**St. Paul’s Staff:**

 *Rector:* The Rev. Myron B. Penner
*Community Outreach:* Michelle Schurek

*Youth Leader:* Abigail Harding

*Office Administrator:* RJ Chambers