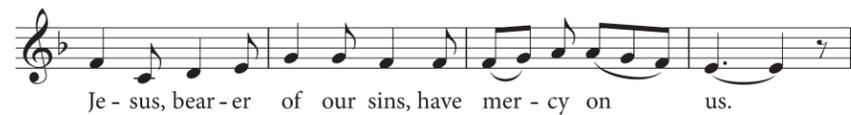


FRACTION ANTHEM *(sung by all)* Franz Schubert



Music: Franz Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx, ©1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE A-729097. All rights reserved.

All are invited to share in the sacrament, coming by the center aisle and returning by the side aisles. Gluten free communion is available at the center stations. If you cannot come to the chancel, please notify an usher.

Gluten free communion is available.

ANTHEM “Tantum Ergo” Maurice Duruflé

*Tantum ergo sacramentum  
veneremur cernui,  
et antiquum documentum  
novo cedat ritui;  
praestet fides supplementum  
sensuum defectui.*

*Genitori Genitoque  
laus et iubilatio,  
salus, honor, virtus quoque  
sit et benedictio;  
procedenti ab utroque  
compar sit laudatio. Amen.*

Therefore so great a Sacrament  
Let us fall down and worship,  
And let the old law  
Give way to a new rite,  
And let faith stand forward  
To make good the defects of sense.  
To the Father and the Son  
Be praise and joy,  
Health, honour and virtue  
and blessing,  
And to him proceeding from both  
Be equal praise. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we commit ourselves to a life in which the glamour of evil is renounced, a life in which we give ourselves to God’s service, a life of love. Amen.

All Stand.

HYMN 670 “Go Forth for God” GENEVA 124

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

When new members are received, the congregation responds in unison:

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and welcome you in Christian love.

As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BENEDICTION AND SOUNDING OF THE CHIMES

VOLUNTARY Prelude in C Major, BWV 531 Johann Sebastian Bach

LAY READER

Julie Countiss

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Nina and Craig Stallwitz and CJ and Lynn Yeoman into the St. Paul’s family.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chancel are placed to the glory of God in memory of Jane and Ralph Rice by the Ragsdale family.

WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL’S

Sunday Morning: 8:30, 9:45, and 11:05 AM in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Communion Service: 12:15 PM in the Chapel

Fe y Esperanza: First Sundays at 5 PM in the Chapel

Evensong for Transfiguration

Sunday, March 3 at 4 PM

Sung by the St. Paul’s Choir and St. Paul’s Choral Scholars with music by Humphrey Clucas, Paul Halley, David Briggs, and Morten Lauridsen

TODAY AT ST. PAUL’S

Exploring St. Paul’s, 11:05 AM in the Parlor (please select a time). All new members are visitors are invited to attend.

Women’s Healing Art Circle, 10 AM in S-300/Open Heart Studio. Contact Helen Spaw at hspaw@stpaulshouston.org for more information. (Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 11:05 AM and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 10 AM)

Children’s Lenten Art Festival, 12:15 PM in J-120. Children age 3 years through 5th grade illustrate seasonal scriptures and themes for the Family Lenten Devotionals.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

United Methodist Women, Tuesday, February 19, at 10 AM in J-204. Program: Jane Williams.

Divorce Healing Art Circle, Tuesdays from 11:30 AM-1 PM in S-300/Open Heart Studio. The sessions are conducted in Spanish and English.

Men’s Lectionary Bible Study Breakfast, Wednesdays at 7 AM in Fondren Lounge with Rev. Tommy Williams.

Healing Circle for Grief and Loss, Wednesday, February 20, at 6:30 PM in S-312.

Primetimers Day Trip to St. George Orthodox Christian Church, Thursday, February 21, departing St. Paul’s 9 AM. Will return to St. Paul’s by 3 PM.

Women’s Healing Art Circle, Thursday, February 21, at 10 AM in S-300.

St. Paul’s Health Ministry: Table for Six, Saturday, February 23, from 12:30 - 2 PM at Carrabba’s (3115 Kirby Dr.). Cost is \$40/person. Guests are invited to sit at tables with the health professional of your choice to discuss community health initiatives in Houston. To learn more and to register, please visit [www.stpaulshouston.org/health](http://www.stpaulshouston.org/health).

UPCOMING

Wesley Singers Sing at Holly Hall Retirement Community, Sunday, February 24, at 2 PM. Parents Matter/Parents P.R.A.Y. concludes “Setting Priorities, Obtaining Goals,” Sunday, February 24. All parents of school-age children/youth are invited for this time of discussion about your children and their academic pursuits. Gather at 5 PM in the Youth Center for dinner, and then discussion will begin at 5:30 PM in the Fellers Room (S-312).

Louisiana State University A Capella Choir in Concert, Sunday, February 24, at 7 PM in the Sanctuary, directed by John Dickson and joined by the choirs of Clear Springs High School (directed by St. Paul’s member Rob Phillips) and Clear Lake High School (directed by Jade Blakey). Admission is free and all are welcome.

ST. PAUL’S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5501 MAIN STREET, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004  
713-528-0527, voice [www.stpaulshouston.org](http://www.stpaulshouston.org) 713-528-7748, fax  
Dr. Matthew Russell ..... Senior Associate Pastor  
Eddie Quaid ..... St. Paul’s Choral Scholars Director

Share your generosity with St. Paul’s by texting “SPUMC” to 73256. Your donation supports the ministry and mission efforts of the church.



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 17, 2019 at 9:45 AM

The St. Paul’s family welcomes you as we worship God together. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the Jones Building. Large print hymnals are available from the ushers. Please silence your cell phone.

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

VOLUNTARY Canzona, from Sonata in C Minor Percy Whitlock

The congregation rises as the crucifer passes.

HYMN 103 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ST. DENIO

GREETING

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace to you also.

Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.

COLLECT

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Listen for the word that God has spoken

Speak, Lord, to our speaking,

Speak, Lord, to our listening,

Speak, Lord, to our soul’s deep understanding. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 1

*Edward Bairstow*

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, no lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed.

## SECOND LESSON

**1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

**HYMN 650**            “Give Me the Faith Which Can Remove”        *CAREY’S (SURREY)*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 6:17-26**

Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please sit. The congregation joins in repeating Psalm 19:14.*

Let the words of my mouth  
**and the meditation of my heart**  
**be acceptable in your sight, O Lord,**  
**my strength and my redeemer. Amen.**

**SERMON**            “The Myth of Personal Piety”        Dr. Matthew Russell

## RESPONSES AND OFFERINGS

*All stand.*

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**, Hymnal 881 (*said in unison*)

*All sit.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*During each petition, a time of silent meditation is held. Each petition concludes with:*

Lord, in your loving grace,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

## INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another. Let us pray.

**Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ’s sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory be to God. Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.*

## REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please register your attendance on the pew card and share any prayer requests you may have on the opposite side of the card. If you would like to become a member of St. Paul’s Church today, please bring the card with you to the front during the last hymn; otherwise, place it in the offering plate.*

## OFFERING

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

*Elizabeth Poston*

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green.  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel, by faith i know, but ne’er can tell  
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly i have bought.  
I missed of all, but now I see `tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I’m weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest a while.  
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*The congregation stands when the acolytes come forward to present the elements.*

**DOXOLOGY** (*sung by all*)

*PUER NOBIS*

**All glory, Jesus, be to thee, for this thy glad Epiphany;**  
**Whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit evermore.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

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

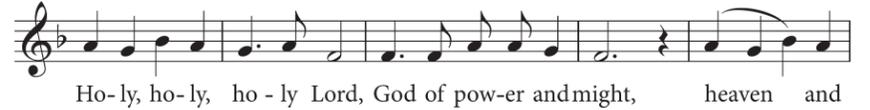
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

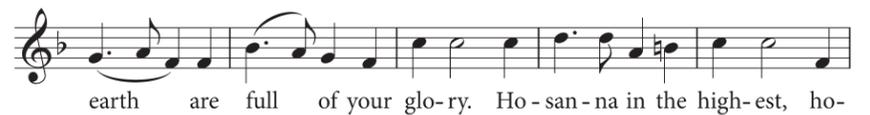
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

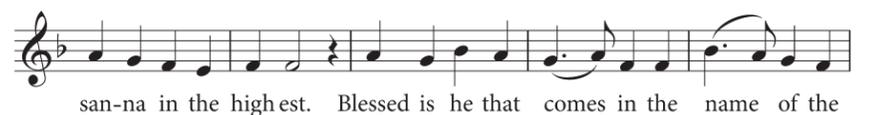
It is with joy and wonder that we give thanks to you, O God our Creator, who paid the ultimate price for your people. You gave hope when all hope had gone, life when loss seemed overwhelming, and embraced the dark night of our despair. In the company of the heavenly host, joining our voices with the angels we praise you God as we sing:

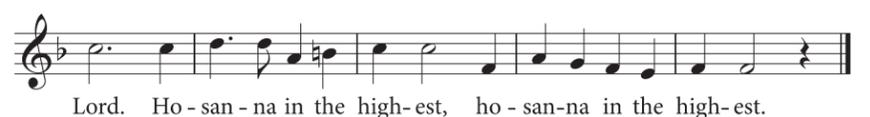
**SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS** (*sung by all*)

*Richard Proulx*

  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and

  
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho-

  
san-na in the high est. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the

  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high-est.

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*The congregation sits.*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He was born in Bethlehem, and from the moment of his birth he became a victim. As a child-refugee he watched the cruelty of the world. He was the suffering servant, the lamb to the slaughter, the scapegoat of those he came to save. Those around him fled as he was murdered before the masses. Disturbing and confounding our expectations, your Son Jesus Christ rose from the grave and gave us the promise of eternal life, where all iniquity and injustice will be banished, where suffering and servility will be stripped away, where we will truly be happy, at peace, and at one with you.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus shared bread and wine with his friends. Breaking the bread he said, “This is my body, receive it in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the last supper he poured wine and said, “This is my blood, receive it in remembrance of me.”

So, gracious God, we gladly say:

**Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate.**  
**Light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Pour out your spirit on this community and these gifts. We pray with confidence that the bread and wine that we have offered here will be to us the body and blood of Christ. By your spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in kinship with all the world. Through your Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit, we exalt you O God, our source of liberation and light. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray.

**LORD’S PRAYER**, Hymnal 895 (*said in unison*)

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND BLESSING OF THE CUP

We break this bread, remembering the divisions of the world.

**Lord, heal our brokenness.**

We break this bread remembering the disunity of the church.

**Lord, heal our brokenness.**

We break this bread, remembering the fragmentation of our lives.

**Lord, heal our brokenness.**