



*A Service in Celebration of the Life and Ministry
of The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray*

Hosted by St Mark's Episcopal Church
June 29, 2025 5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist-Rite Two

The Word of God or The Liturgy of the Word

Statement of Acknowledgement: During the time of the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray's life (1910-1985), language and expression regarding gender was much different than it is today (2025). We have wrestled with how we might approach the language we use in Rev. Dr. Murray's celebration. We have elected to reduce our use of pronouns through our use of Pauli's name. However, there is some limited use of She/Her pronouns. We hope this both demonstrates the magnitude of Rev. Dr. Murray's impact and further invites a deeper discussion/reflection on gender in the Episcopal Church.

A Word of Welcome

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn 379 (1982 Hymnal-Blue Book)

God is Love

Abbot's Leigh

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

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Hymn 379 Continued

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

All: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

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.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider: Liberating God, we thank you for the steadfast courage of your servant Pauli Murray, who fought long and well: Unshackle us from the chains of prejudice and fear, that we may show forth the reconciling love and true freedom which you revealed in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

(Please be seated)

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 55:10-13

Carolyn Lanier, St. Phillip's

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

- 17 Deal bountifully with your servant, *
that I may live and keep your word.
- 18 Open my eyes, that I may see *
the wonders of your law.
- 19 I am a stranger here on earth; *
do not hide your commandments from me.
- 20 My soul is consumed at all times *
with longing for your judgments.
- 21 You have rebuked the insolent; *
cursed are they who stray from your commandments!
- 22 Turn from me shame and rebuke, *
for I have kept your decrees.
- 23 Even though rulers sit and plot against me, *
I will meditate on your statutes.
- 24 For your decrees are my delight, *
and they are my counselors.

A Reading from the Letter to the Galatians

Galatians 3:23-29

Karen Franklin, St. Mark's

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn 61 (LEVAS II-Red/Black Book)

The right hand of God

Dexter

1. The right hand of God is writ-ing in our land,
2. The right hand of God is point-ing in our land,
3. The right hand of God is strik-ing in our land,
4. The right hand of God is lift-ing in our land,
5. The right hand of God is heal-ing in our land,

Writ - ing with pow - er and with love.
Point - ing the way we must go.
Strik-ing out at en - vy, hate and greed.
Lift - ing the fal - len one by one.
Heal-ing bro - ken bod - ies, minds and souls.

Our con - flicts and our fears, our tri-umphs and our
So cloud - ed is the way, so eas - i - ly we
Our self - ish - ness and lust, our pride and deeds un -
Each one is known by name, and res - cued now from
So won-d'rous is its touch with love that means so

tears Are re - cord-ed by the right hand of God.
stray, But we're guid-ed by the right hand of God.
just Are de - stroyed by the right hand of God.
shame By the lift-ing of the right hand of God.
much, When we're healed by the right hand of God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark
All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then he began to speak to them in parables. ‘A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But those tenants said to one another, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.” So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you Lord Christ.

(Please be seated)

The Sermon

Rev. Katina Williams
Associate Minister
Oak Street A.M.E. Zion Church
Petersburg, Virginia

(Please stand as you able)

Litany of Thanksgiving

Karen Hardison, St. Mark's

God of the prophets, who taught us to let justice roll down like an ever-flowing stream, thank you for placing Elijah's mantle upon Pauli's shoulders.

All: In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to be encouraged by her prophetic invitation, and to remember that it is only as we seek justice for others that we experience your saving health in our lives.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

Author of all freedom, who reminds us that it is for freedom that we have been set free, thank you for Pauli's vision of freedom, beckoning us to make freedom the measure of our souls.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to hear the invitation to embrace spiritual freedom and to see more clearly the ways in which some are still denied their freedoms and liberties.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

God of all tribes and nations, who saw that it was too little a thing that your light should be harnessed within one people, thank you for Pauli's growing awareness of the way in which our world is deeply connected.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to follow the example of Pauli, that oppression may be challenged on behalf of peoples, regardless of race or gender.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

God of our dreams, who guided Jacob with a dream of angels ascending and descending, who convicted Peter of the value of inclusion with a dream of embracing all of Creation, thank you for the dream that Pauli passed onto us, that "none shall rest in any land and none return to dreamless sleep and no tongue be stilled" until anyone may stand in any place, thrust shoulders to the sky, friend and kindred to every other.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to be inspired by the dream of God to respect the dignity of every human being.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

God of the Angels heralding Peace, who invited peace and reconciliation between those who are far off and those who are near, thank you for Pauli's commitment to protest, balanced by a resistance to violence and by a love for the beauty of life and creation.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to know ourselves to be held in the gaze of your love, that we might learn to love, and to embrace all of creation.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

God who knows us before we are born, thank you for Pauli's strong sense of identity that gave her a stability from which she could grow into a person of deep conviction.

In thanksgiving, we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to find those touchstones in our own lives that remind us who we are and what we are called to do.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

Jesus the teacher, who taught through both words and actions, thank you for Pauli's love of learning and her strength to pass that learning on, even in ways that challenged the sensibilities of those around her.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to be mindful of new ways we might learn to see with an eye toward justice and peace for all peoples.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

Gracious God, who called into being a people, helping them see their oppression and then opening the sea that they might pass through to freedom, thank you for Pauli's family and friends who joined in her work and gave her the nourishment to lead others.

In thanksgiving we remember Pauli's work.

Help us to remember the support that surrounds us, enabling us to open paths to freedom for others, even in ways that may seem small in our eyes.

Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

All: Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift:

You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us.

We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom, while building walls between ourselves and others.

We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are, while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, the shape of features, gender identity and expression, or the varieties of human experience.

We have tried to love our neighbors individually while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression.

Forgive us, Holy God.

Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people.

Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love.

Restore us in your image, to be beloved community, united in our diversity, even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit, Holy and undivided Trinity, now and forever. AMEN

The Absolution

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **AMEN.**

The Peace

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

All: And also with you.

(All greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

(Please be seated)

The Holy Communion or The Liturgy of the Table



SCAN to DONATE

Invitation to Holy Communion

(Remain seated)

Offertory

The Seabron Singers

The Offering will support:

He, She, Ze, and We, supporting Transgender and Nonbinary people by empowering their families, communities, and allies to create life-saving, inclusive environments.

—and—

The Hope Center, a union of area faith communities, organizations, and other charitable partners committed to filling the essential needs of Greater Petersburg's financially distressed citizens.

(Please stand as you are able)

At The Presentation, Doxology

Old Hundredth

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.*

(Please stand as you are able)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer 1 *(Enriching Our Worship)*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

Brown

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Hea-ven and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Mark's and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**All: 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,
forever and ever. AMEN.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem, Agnus Dei

Kjos

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.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Holy Communion: *You are welcome to share in Communion.*

Holy Communion

Come forward as the ushers direct you. When you arrive at the front you may put out your hands to receive the bread/wafer. You may then either consume it, dip it lightly into the chalice, or take a sip of wine from the chalice.

If you prefer a blessing only - cross your arms across your chest.

If you require gluten free bread, please let the priest know when you come forward.

If you have any mobility concerns alert the usher. Clergy will bring communion to you.

Prayers for Healing are available prior to, or after receiving communion.

A minister will be available to the right of the stage/chancel area.



1. Light dawns on a wea - ry world when
 2. Love grows in a wea - ry world when
 3. Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when



eyes be - gin to see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty.
 hun - gry hearts find bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed.
 crea - tures, once for - lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born.



Light dawns on a wea - ry world: the
 Love grows in a wea - ry world: the
 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world: the



prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes. The trees shall
 prom - ised green of E - den comes.



clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs; the hills and



moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing! We shall go



out in joy, and be led forth in peace, as all the



world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Communion Hymn

Friend and fellow, let me serve you

Holy Mana



Friend and fel - low, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you;
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such har - mon - y,

pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

We are pil - grims on a jour - ney and com - pan - ions on the road;
I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
Friend and fel - low, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you;

we are here to help each - oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
I will share your joy and sor - row, 'til we've seen this jour - ney through.
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. AMEN.

The Blessing

Rev. Katina Williams

Hymn

Sing a new world into being

1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where each gen - der,
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where the home - less
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient

hope - ful theme. Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings.
 class, and race Brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors
 find a home, Where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger
 proph - ets' cry For a time of health and plen - ty

Lend your voice and dare to dream: Dream a church where
 To God's lim - it - less em - brace; Where the lines that
 But are filled in God's sha - lom; Where all peo - ple
 When all tears have been wiped dry; When com - pas - sion

all who wor - ship Find their lives and loves be - long.
 once di - vid - ed Form in - stead the ties that bind.
 work for jus - tice, Where all hate and venge - ance cease.
 flows like wa - ters, Pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:

Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. The Litany of Thanksgiving was composed by The Rev Dr. Marion Thullbery.

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Worship Participants

The Rev. Katrina Williams, Associate Minister, Oak Street A.M.E. Zion Church

The Rev. Florian Stamm, Deacon, St. Paul's

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett, Host and Rector of St. Mark's

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Church of the Holy Comforter

Amos Goldie, St. Mark's, Minister of Music

Karen Hardison, St. Mark's, Intercessor

Carolyn Lanier, St. Philip's, Lector 1

Karen Franklin, St. Mark's, Lector 2

Paul Shane, St. Mark's, Verger, Crucifer, Chalice

Amy Strite, St. Mark's, Chalice and Gospel Bearer

The Seabron Singers:

Faith Jones, Iva Jones, Lynette Waddey, Shelia Wynn

Usher: Fred Crowley, St. Mark's

Anna Pauline "Pauli" Murray was an American civil rights activist, women's rights activist, lawyer, Episcopal priest, and author. Drawn to the ministry, in 1977 Murray became the first black woman to be ordained as an Episcopal priest and she was among the first group of women to become priests in that church. As a lawyer, Murray argued for civil rights and women's rights. In addition to her legal and advocacy work, Murray published two well-reviewed autobiographies and a volume of poetry.



*"We need not despair because we seem to fail or cannot see the fruition of our efforts on behalf of others. If we build with love and compassion, we can **build with hope**."*
- The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray

Dear friends,

We are heartened by the clear support of community members like you, in response to the ongoing impacts of federal censorship to the Pauli Murray Center. This summer, we will continue to "build with hope" as we work towards a \$50,000 goal to sustain our work. Gifts of all sizes contribute to continual impact.

What does building with hope look like at the Pauli Murray Center?

- \$25 can provide discounted and free field trips for local K-12 Schools
- \$50 supports new collaborations with marginalized artists and creatives
- \$100 makes a new animated series about Pauli Murray for school-age children more publicly accessible
- \$500 protects our continued collaboration with the North Carolina Bar Association for Name and Gender Marker Change clinics
- \$1,000 can help sustain our Social Justice Teaching Fellowship and Firebrand Internship programs

Thanks to the generosity of Susan & Michael Hersfield, we're also excited to share that gifts made to the Pauli Murray Center by July 31st will be matched 1:1 up to \$30,000. Every donation – large or small – creates a significant impact.

In the spirit of Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, we move forward with strength, compassion and most importantly...hope.

Angela Thorpe Mason

Executive Director , Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice

SCAN TO DONATE

