



Sleeping Shepherd: Early Morning – Samuel Palmer, 1857



**Welcome to St. David's
Episcopal Church,
Southfield, MI**

**Eighteenth
Sunday after
Pentecost**

**September 27, 2026;
8 am & 10 am**

WELCOME: Howard Rush

PRELUDE: *O Lord, Most Holy*, Cesar Frank – Kathleen Smith, Soloist
At the sound of the bell, all rise

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Vs 1, 2, 4)* **Hymn #390**

We begin our worship proclaiming the sovereign power and sustaining mercy of God, who guides us through every wilderness and grants all that we need for our journey.

THE COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

Our first lesson is from the Hebrew Scriptures and the Book of Exodus. It finds the Israelites testing God in the wilderness. Distressed by thirst and fear, they demand water, leading God to command Moses to strike the rock at Horeb to supply his people.

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?"

May your word dwell in us.

People: And bear much fruit to your glory.

THE PSALM: 105:1-6, 37-45

Refrain: O worship the King, all glorious above!

Hear my teaching / O my people; *
incline your ears to the words / of my mouth.
I will open my mouth / in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of / ancient times.

Refrain: O worship the King, all glorious above!

That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide / from their children.
We will recount to generations to come,
the praiseworthy deeds and the power / of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works / he has done.

Refrain: O worship the King, all glorious above!

He worked marvels in the sight / of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the / field of Zoan
He split open the sea and let / them pass through; *
he made the waters stand / up like walls.
He led them with a / cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a / glow of fire.

Refrain: O worship the King, all glorious above!

He split the hard rocks / in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from / the great deep.
He brought streams out / of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed / out like rivers.

Refrain: O worship the King, all glorious above!

THE SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:1-13

Our second lesson contains St. Paul's famous hymn on Christ's humility. Paul exhorts the church to put aside selfish ambition and embody the mind of Christ, who emptied himself to take the form of a servant.

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.

May your word dwell in us.

People: And bear much fruit to your glory.

SEQUENCE HYMN: *At the Name of Jesus Hymn #435* (Vs. 1-3)

As we prepare to hear the Gospel, this hymn echoes St. Paul's call in Philippians to marvel at Christ, who emptied himself in humility and was exalted as Lord of all.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeler: When Jesus 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."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very Rev. Chris Yaw

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: We believe in God,
whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil that wants to enslave us all,
and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.
Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubting, we trust in God;
and, in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves,
in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace,
to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love;
And in the company of the faithful, to be the Church,
for the glory of God.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sung Response: Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant and People: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

LIFE CELEBRATIONS

THE PEACE | ANNOUNCEMENTS: Steve Rienstra | **GREETING OF ONLINE GUESTS**

THE OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *A Festive Gloria*, Jay Althouse

OFFERTORY HYMN: *He is King of Kings* **LEVAS #96**

As our gifts are brought forward, we sing of the ultimate authority of Jesus Christ—the First and the Last—whose transformative grace calls us to faithful work in his vineyard.

THE HOLY COMMUNION & THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.

We exalt you, Lord God, for the holy extravagance of your salvation. Worthy are you to whom we bow, for in your Son you have knelt before us in humility. You have looked with favor upon your servant Israel; you have scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts and have lifted up the lowly.

People: Your Son, though of the same love and same mind as you,
did not regard equality with you as something to be exploited
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.

Being born in human likeness, he humbled himself even unto his death on a cross You lifted him up in resurrection glory. And exalted him to your right hand on high. And so, on bended knee, we confess him as Lord, With angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, Joining the unending hymn:

SANCTUS (*Sung*)

Celebrant & People:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of hosts.
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.**

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Communing God, make your joy complete By uniting those who share this meal with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.

**People: As we remember his saving mercies,
make us to be of the same love, the same heart, sharing in the same spirit;**

and sanctify this bread and cup that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took the bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup, Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

ACCLAMATION OF FAITH (*Sung*)

Celebrant: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The Celebrant continues

God of every consolation, bring your kingdom among your children who are bowed low under the weight of oppression. Send your Spirit of truth into places where servanthood has turned to exploitation, service has turned into slavery, or humility has turned to blood labor.

People: Empty your church of all that obscures its witness to the cross of Christ.

Make us ready for that one eternal day when we shall kneel around your throne, together with the prophets, apostles, and martyrs, in the company of Jesus our Lord,

**People: Giving praise and glory to you,
God our Father, forever and ever.**

Celebrant & the People (*Sung*): Amen, Amen, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed by 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 forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM: *Lamb of God* (*Sung*)

**All: O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us, Lamb of God, and grant us your peace. [repeat]**

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
I present to you my soul and body
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you,
and, since we are not all receiving you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself with you,
and embrace you with all the love of my soul.
May I live in you, and may you live in me.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless* **Hymn #343**
*Gathering at Christ's table, we recall God's provision of water from the rock and manna
in the desert, praying that Christ will abide with us and nourish us with living bread.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
That we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
And continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Lead me, guide me* **LEVAS #194**
*We depart with a prayer for divine guidance and humility, trusting God to strengthen us
as we strive to live and work in obedience to his will.*

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world to love and serve God and our neighbor.
People: Through worship, outreach, and love for all. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Toccata in F Major*, Dietrich Buxtehude

ALTAR FLOWERS

Donated in celebration of the Birthdays of Debra & John Hawkes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday: Connection hour 11:30 am: Midterm Madness: OU Political Scientist, David A. Dulio

The U.S. elections are under special scrutiny this year as people prepare to head to the polls for next month's midterms. Good friend of the parish and Oakland University professor Dr. David Dulio will join us once again to discuss the political landscape. Come hear this non-partisan, detailed analysis of shared democracy.

Next Sunday, Oct 4: 9 am Learning Hour: St. David's 101 - Part 1: Beginnings

Are you new to St. David's? We've got a class for you! Join us for the first of 4 classes to introduce you to St. David's history and the Episcopal faith. In this first class, parishioner Kitty Kenning talks about our parish beginnings at Oxford School in 1952 and teacher Mike Dagle will relate this to the first promise in our Baptismal Covenant, "Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?"

Next Sunday, Oct 4: Connection Hour, 11:30 am: Join us for Coffee Hour!

Calling All Singers! All singers are cordially invited, and strongly encouraged, to join our wonderful choir. No auditions are necessary, and all are welcome. This is a talented and dedicated group, who sings to the glory of God, and leads the music for our 10:00 service. We rehearse each Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:30, with a warm-up on Sunday at 9:30. Please consider joining this spirited and friendly cohort. You will not only be enriching our worship at St. David's, but growing in your own spirituality and musical knowledge. If you have questions, please call our music director Al Eppens at 248-686-8586, or email him at AJEppens@netscape.net.

A Note from Our Sunday School Director

This year we will be having two Sunday School classes. Both will be small, but it does require more teachers. The classes will be Godly Play for our youngest children and an early elementary class. Please see Jeanne Petersen if you can teach. We are asking for one Sunday a month. Training will be provided.

We're Hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive!

Sunday October 4th, in parish hall from 8 am- 1 pm. Use link to register in advance. <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StDavidsfld>

St. David's 101

Oct 4 - 25, 9a - St. David's 101 - Are you new to St. David's? We've got a class for you! Join us for 4 classes to introduce you to St. David's history and the Episcopal faith. Kitty Kenning, Judy Walsh, Jan Ernst, and Al Eppens join Mike Dagle to teach us about our origins, history, theology, outreach, and what it means to be Episcopalian. Sign up for the fun at the Ministry Hub. That's 9am in the Conference Room

CSB Resumes Program Year

CSB began Monday 9/14/2026. Monday Meetings begin at 7 pm in Parish Hall.

- Cedar Point October 16-18

- Whirly ball November 2nd

- outing to Museum of Illusions in Detroit November 7th

Bouncing Youth Group!

Calling all youth! All kids in grades 6-12 are invited to join our deanery's Bouncing Youth Group. This group meets the second Sunday of the month for dinner, a lesson, and games, and we "bounce" around to a different church each month. Our first meeting will be Sunday, October 11, from 6- 8 p.m. at St. James in Birmingham. We will carpool from St. David's. Questions or want to get on the email list? See Jessica Rienstra.

Calling All Readers!

If you or your family enjoy great picture books, please join us for another season in The Kiddos Reading Room. Retired elementary teacher Judy Walsh reads a story aloud each week and invites you to be part of the fun. Books are geared for kids (and kids at heart) between 5 and 10 yrs of age. Videos are accessed via the St. David's Southfield website & YouTube channel.

St. David's Eco Committee

6 common items that surprisingly are not recyclable:

Receipt Paper

Brightly dyed or metallic/glittery paper

The greasy, cheesy part of the pizza box

Household glasses/mirrors/vases

Pottery/ceramics

Pyrex baking dishes

These items should be disposed of in your regular landfill bound trash, or donated if usable. stdavidseco@gmail.com



MOSQUE TOUR:

Islam, Christianity & the Questions We've Always Wanted to Ask

**SUNDAY, 10/18/2026
1:30 - 4:00 PM**

**19500 FORD RD,
DEARBORN, MI 48128**

Join Fr. Halim Shukair, Priest-in-Charge at Christ Episcopal Church Dearborn, Fr. Chris Yaw, Rector at St. David's Episcopal Church, and Imam Shkieh Ahmad Hammoud, religious leader at the Islamic Center of America (the largest mosque in North America), for a special visit to the mosque in Dearborn, MI. Register using the QR Code.



Welcome!

IF YOU ARE A GUEST Please introduce yourself so we can give you a warm welcome.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE! If you have time this morning, come enjoy some coffee & conversation in Parish Hall following the 10 am service.

ABOUT ST. DAVID'S: A COMMUNITY OF LOVE!

St. David's is a joyful community of Christian people. Everyone is welcome here as we journey together into a deeper relationship with God. Through worship and service we seek to build up our community and the world. While you are here, your talents will be put to use, your voice honored, your needs respected, and your wounds treated with care. At its heart this is who we are at St. David's: compassionate and thoughtful Christians who respect and care for each other and the world. And since we believe we should reflect the open-hearted God whom we worship, we are also a place of warm and generous welcome!

HOW DO I JOIN ST. DAVID'S? A PLACE FOR ALL

Membership in the Episcopal Church is open to absolutely everyone. At St. David's, communion is also open to everyone. Regular Sunday worship will lead you into the heart of this community, which you may join at any level you choose. Those who regularly attend worship, participate in activities and fellowship, and contribute financially to our common work are likely to feel more deeply a part of this church community. To join St. David's, contact the Rector The Rev. Chris Yaw, to set up an appointment. He can be reached in person on Sunday mornings, or by calling the church at (248) 557-5430 and by email churchoffice@stdavidssf.org

Parish Staff

Amy Prather, Parish Administrator
Al Eppens, Music Director
Simone Charter-Harris, Treasurer
John Hawkes, Financial Secretary
Jeanne Peterson, Church School
James Kenning, CSB
Judy Walsh, Lifelong Learning
Dylan & Evelyn, Childcare
Deborah Davis, Pastoral Care Coordinator

2026 Vestry

Senior Warden: Ellen Boyes
Acting Senior Warden: Maureen Mahar
Junior Warden: Hampton Hanable
Carol Wells
Darryl Butler
Dan Bair
Margaret Preston
Gregg Morton
Wayne Atfield
Jeremey Smiley

Parish Clergy

Fr. Chris Yaw, Rector



THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!



SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN
OUR DIGITAL GUEST BOOK

St. David's
Episcopal Church

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16200 W. 12 MILE RD. SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076
PHONE: (248) 557-5430
WWW.STDAVIDSSF.ORG
#STDAVIDSSF