



“You are the light of the world!
You are the light of the world!
But if that light is under a bushel,
It's lost something kind of crucial
You've got to stay bright to be the light of the world.”
— Godspell

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, September 29th, we embarked on our annual stewardship campaign with a theme of “Shining Our Light.” Taken from the fifth chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, this theme speaks metaphorically about the importance of bringing our light out for all the world to see. And, as we make our light visible, we keep our salt flavorful, as Jesus puts it in these words:

“Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? . . . Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.” (Matthew 5:13-16, *The Message*)

As we reflect on stewardship, I ask you to consider how God is calling you to **go public**, to **shine**, and to risk **flavoring** the world with your time, talents, and treasure.

I continue to be moved by and grateful for the many ways our parish family keeps our light shining brightly, through participation in worship, hospitality, and our many ministries. I also realize that none of these good works would be possible without the generosity of Saint Mark's members, so each of us is asked annually to make a generous financial pledge for the coming year.

Enclosed you will find a pledge commitment card for 2020. Over the next several days, I invite you to prayerfully consider making a pledge on or before October 27th that will empower Saint Mark's ministries to shine our light brightly, bring out the God-colors, and help us realize our vision to be a beacon of Christ's presence in the world.

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church



In closing, this time borrowing from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, "And in the East, the dawn was breaking, the world was waking ..." A light is shining. God's Kingdom is coming. Thank you for helping us make a heavenly dream come true.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul St. Germain".

Paul St. Germain (The Rev. Dr.)
Rector