

HOLY EUCHARIST

*in Creation Season**

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Andante from Organ Sonata No. 6 – Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)

Please stand as the bell sounds.



This year, St. Paul's joins Christians around the world in celebrating the Season of Creation, which goes through October 4, the Feast of St. Francis. Born in the Orthodox Church in 1989 and now embraced across many denominations, this season calls us to expand our worship and prayer so they reflect the whole Gospel for the whole world. The Episcopal Church has named the climate crisis "an all-encompassing social crisis and moral emergency," and we see its effects in disrupted patterns and disrupted lives. In this urgent time, we turn to worship that forms us for the fullness of God's justice, deepens our resolve and response, and strengthens our commitment to follow Jesus by practicing hospitality and care for all our neighbors—human and all other creatures God has made and blessed.



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2 What God's al-might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
 3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
 glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the



our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
 eye ne'er sleep - eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the



ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640–1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812–1897), alt.

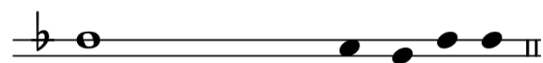
Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from “Une pastourelle gentille,” 1529; adapt. *Pseaumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kischengeseng darinnen die Heubtartikel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

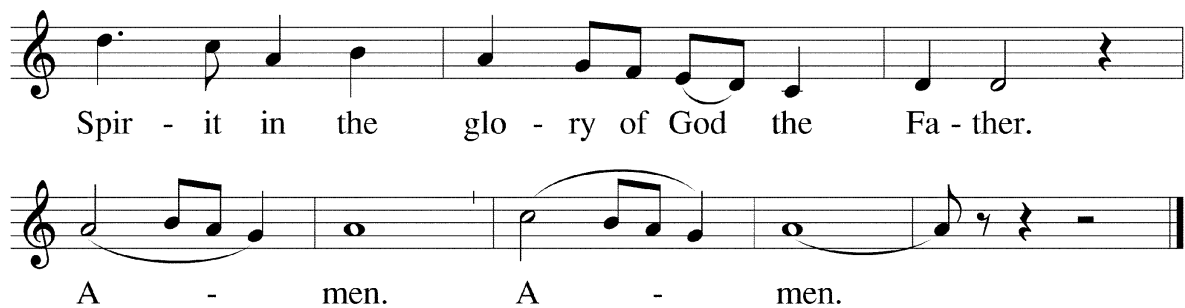
Blessed be the God of all Creation.

The People respond



Glory to God fore-ver and ev-er.

Glo - ry to God in the
high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther, We wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord, God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
mer-cy on us; You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our pray'r, re -
ceive, re - ceive our pray'r.
For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ with the Ho - ly



Setting: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant intones

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God our Savior, you call us into your service. Make us wise and resourceful: children of the light who continue your work in this world with untiring concern for integrity and justice. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON *seated*

Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

*At 9:00am the Psalm is sung reflectively, with a slight pause at the asterisk.
At 11:00am, the Psalm is sung by the Choir*



Alleluia! Give praise, you | servants of God; *
praise the Name of | the Most High.

Let God's | Name be blest, *
from this time forth for | evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its | going down, *
let God's holy | Name be praised.

God is high a-|bove all nations, *
and God's glory a-|bove the heavens.

Who is like our God, who sits en-|throned on high, *
but stoops to behold the heavens | and the earth?

God takes up the weak out | of the dust *
and lifts up the poor | from the ashes,

To set them | up on high, *
with the rulers | of the people.

God makes the woman of a | childless house *
to be a joyful | mother of children.

Anglican Chant: C.V. Stanford

THE SECOND READING

This year, during the Season of Creation, the second reading will be taken from a non-biblical source.

A Reading from *Laudato Si*, by Pope Francis.

When we speak of the “environment,” what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior patterns, and the ways it grasps reality. Given the scale of change, it is no longer possible to find a specific, discrete answer for each part of the problem. It is essential to seek comprehensive solutions which consider the interactions within natural systems themselves and with social systems. We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

Pope Francis (1936 – 2025) was a Jesuit from Argentina. Laudato si' (Praise Be to You) is his first original encyclical with the subtitle “on care for our common home”. In it, the pope critiques consumerism and irresponsible development, laments environmental degradation and global warming, and calls all people of the world to take “swift and unified global action.”

1 Fa - ther all lov - ing, who rul - est in ma - jes - ty,
 2 Bless - ed Lord Je - sus, who cam - est in pov - er - ty,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, cre - ate in us ho - li - ness,
 4 Ho - li - est Trin - i - ty, per - fect in u - ni - ty,

judg - ment is thine, and con - demn - eth our pride;
 shar - ing a sta - ble with beasts at thy birth;
 lift up our lives to thy stand - ard of right;
 bind in thy love ev - every na - tion and race;

stir up our lead - ers and peo - ples to pen - i - tence,
 stir us to work for thy jus - tice and char - i - ty,
 stir ev - every will to new ven - tures of faith - ful - ness,
 may we a - dore thee for time and e - ter - ni - ty,

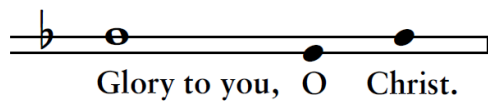
sor - row for sins that for ven - geance have cried.
 tru - ly to care for the poor of the earth.
 flood the whole Church with thy glo - ri - ous light.
 Fa - ther, Re - deem - er, and Spi - rit of grace.

Words: Patrick Robert Norman Appleford (b. 1925), alt.

Music: *Was Lebet*, melody from *Choral-Buch vor Johann Heinrich Reinhardt*, 1754; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

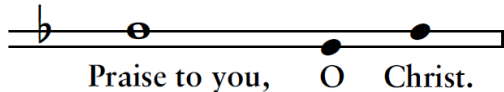
The Deacon or Priest intones

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.



Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

The Rev. Daniel Simons

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Our God,
God of all people,
God of heaven and earth, sea and rivers,
God of sun and moon, of all stars,
God of highest mountain, of deepest valleys,
God over heaven and in heaven and under heaven.

God dwells in heaven and earth and sea and all that is in them.

God inspires all,
gives life to all,
surpasses all,
upholds all.

God ignites the light of the sun,
surrounds the stars and tells them to shine,
makes fountains in dry lands,
and islands in the sea,
and stars to serve the greater lights.

God's Son is coeternal with God and like God.

And the Holy Spirit breathes in them.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.

This Celtic creed is attributed to the 5th century missionary and bishop Patrick, known as the Apostle of Ireland, by the 7th century Irish Bishop Tírechán. It is still used in Ireland.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Creator of all, you called the world into being and declared it good. Hear the prayers we offer for your creation, that heaven and earth may be renewed in your love.

Silence

For your Church, scattered across the nations, bearing witness to the gospel in word and in deed, we pray:

That we may proclaim Christ with reverence for all creation.

For the earth and all that inhabits it, and for the fragile places where life is under threat, we pray:

That we may learn again to walk gently on this earth.

For the peoples of the world, and for those in authority, we pray:

That wisdom and justice may guide us to safeguard the common good.

For those already burdened by drought, fire, storm, or rising seas, we pray:

That they may find relief, protection, and hope.

For neighbors who are sick, poor, or in any kind of trouble, we pray:

That your compassion may heal and uphold them.

Please add your particular intercessions and thanksgivings aloud or in silence.

For the dying and the dead, and for all who long for the new creation, we pray:

That they may rest in the embrace of your mercy.

Please add particular names aloud or in silence.

The Celebrant says

Receive our prayers, O God of life, and make us faithful stewards of your earth, that all creation may sing your praise, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SACRED GROUND COMMISSIONING, CIRCLE 6

at the 11:00am service

The Celebrant invites the Sacred Ground participants to come forward.

Participants in Circle Six

Kate Parker-Burgard, *Facilitator*

Paul Whitman

Pamela Einarsen

Courtney Booth Henry

Greg Farnsworth

Donna Glen

Rich Dellinger

Sofia Alano

Dear People of God, in building Christ's beloved community, we are called to love all people, respect all people, and work for the good of all people. We must stand alongside God's children of every race, language, and culture, and work together as agents of justice, peace, and reconciliation.

You, as St. Paul's fifth circle of Sacred Ground, have given yourselves, with courage and dedication, to the work of learning our country's history of racial division and injustice in its deeper dimensions. As you close this circle of learning, and continue this journey of healing and transformation, you are now called to continue risking yourselves for the sake of God's love, following your call to seek and serve Christ in all people.

Will you continue to persevere in prayer and fellowship?

I will, with God's help.

Will you continue to proclaim the good news of reconciliation in both word and deed?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to see Christ in all persons, those with whom you agree and disagree?

I will, with God's help.

Will you dedicate yourselves to mend what is broken by human sin and greed?

I will, with God's help.

Will you pledge to work toward dismantling the sin of abuse of power?

I will, with God's help.

In the name of God and of this Church, I commission you to continue the good work you have begun; to stand up, speak out, and live into becoming Beloved Community in your lives, in this community, and in the world.

Amen.

The whole congregation prays together this prayer of self-offering.

O God our healer, whose touch is like a refining fire: heal us as we seek to be a healing presence in the communities in which we live. Renew us, and make us witnesses to your wholeness in our broken world; through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Spirit. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes

May Almighty God have mercy on us, grant us courage and conviction, and strengthen us to love others who are unlike us. May God make us compassionate in our actions and courageous in our works, that we may be Christ's Beloved Community in our own day.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *seated*

Supporting the Work of St. Paul's

St. Paul's is fully supported by the contributions of its members and friends. Visit the address below or click on the QR code to learn more about the opportunities to give and to make a one-time or sustaining gift to ensure the enduring and vibrant ministry of this place:

stpaulsnorwalk.org/support

Thank You!



MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Choir at 11:00am*

The Lord is my Shepherd

Howard Goodall (b. 1958)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
For you are with me, you will comfort me,
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
 3 For the har - vests of the Spi - rit, thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - ery na - tion,
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor,
 God. For the good we all in - her - it,



thanks be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
 God's will be done. In our world - wide task of car - ing
 thanks be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in
 for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, in the har - vests
 for the truths that still con-found us, most of all that



earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 love has found us, thanks be to God.

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt.
 Music: East Acklam, Francis Jackson (b. 1917)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Season of Creation, Prayer 1

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
 Lift up your hearts. 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.

Blessed are you, Source of all life, for by your Word the heavens and the earth were formed, the seas teemed with life, and every creature took its place. You made us in your image, entrusting us with the care of your good creation, and calling us into covenant with you. When we turned from your ways and marred the earth, still you did not abandon us, but renewed your promise through prophets and sages, calling all things into your reconciling love.

And so with every creature that breathes, with the earth and stars that sing your praise, we join in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Hymn S125

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 who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Holy are you, O God, and holy is your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. In him the fullness of your new creation has come near: the blind see, the lame walk, the outcast are restored, and the earth itself is healed by his touch. Through his life, death, and resurrection you gather all things into your harmony, and make the broken whole.

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to you, the Creator. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the cup of wine and gave thanks to you. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

And so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

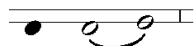
Christ will come again.

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Redeem in us all that destroys, and stir up in us all that creates.

Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew. Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever.

People



A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hall-owed be your Name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
And for - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the po - wer, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.

Everyone, without exception, is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups. Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:

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.

Setting: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*Maurice Bevan (1921 – 2006)*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in His justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow,
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify His strictness
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands.
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.
If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

standing

Holy One,
you feed us with bread from heaven
and the gifts of this bountiful earth.
In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace
and you call us to friendship with one another.
You have given us the gift of reconciliation.
May we who have tasted that gift from you,
offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another
And may you always walk among us as friend.
Amen.

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent out to bring the Sacrament to the sick or homebound, the following charge is given.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that *those* to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

The People respond

We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the People saying

Go forth now to care for God's world
and live in harmony with all creation.

Go out into all the world as prophets and preach the good news to all.

And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit
bless you, that you might be a blessing to others today and always.

Amen.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852–1933)

Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796–1867), alt.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Nun danket alle Gott – Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877 – 1933)

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN – 60 EAST AVE., NORWALK, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Rector*

The Rev. Paul Carling *Priest Associate*

Joshua Ehlebracht *Director of Music*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*

All music in this leaflet is printed with permission from OneLicense.net, License #A-709109

Psalms: © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission