

HOLY EUCHARIST

*in Creation Season**

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Prelude on Eventide – Healey Willan (1880 – 1968)

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	Earth and all stars,	loud rush - ing	plan - ets,	sing to the
2	Hail, wind, and rain,	loud blow - ing	snow - storms,	sing to the
3	Trum - pet and pipes,	loud clash - ing	cym - bals,	sing to the
4	En - gines and steel,	loud pound - ing	ham - mers,	sing to the
5	Class - rooms and labs,	loud boil - ing	test - tubes,	sing to the
6	Know - ledge and truth,	loud sound - ing	wis - dom,	sing to the



1	Lord _____	a new song!	O vic - to - ry,
2	Lord _____	a new song!	Flow - ers and trees,
3	Lord _____	a new song!	Harp, lute, and lyre,
4	Lord _____	a new song!	Lime - stone and beams,
5	Lord _____	a new song!	Ath - lete and band,
6	Lord _____	a new song!	Daugh - ter and son,



1	loud shout - ing	ar - my,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!
2	loud rus - tling	dry leaves,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!
3	loud hum - ming	cel - los,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!
4	loud build - ing	work - ers,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!
5	loud cheer - ing	peo - ple,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!
6	loud pray - ing	mem - bers,	sing to the	Lord _____	a new song!



He hath done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Words: Herbert F. Brokering (b. 1926)

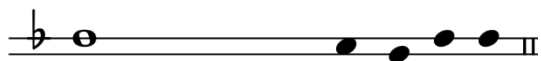
Music: *Earth and All Stars*, David N. Johnson (b. 1922)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Blessed be the God of all Creation.

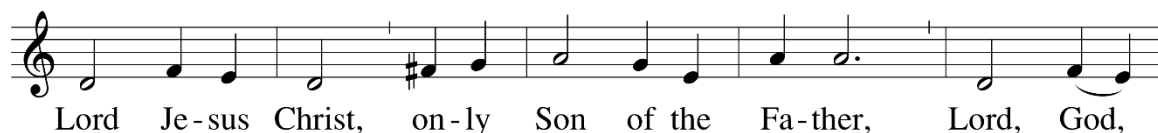
The People respond



Glory to God fore-ver and ev-er.

GLORIA

A Community Mass





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
 Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men. A - men.

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.

Creator God, you are known by your loving embrace of the undeserving and those who suffer:
 Grant us sight of your justice and conviction to love all creatures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom
 of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 146

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! Praise God, | O my soul! *

I will praise God as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any | child of earth, *
for there is no | help in them.

When they breathe their last, they re-|turn to earth, *
and in that day | their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help, *
whose hope is | in their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all | that is in them; *
whose promise a-|bides for ever;

Who gives justice to those who | are oppressed *
and food to | those who hunger.

God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes | of the blind; *
God lifts up those who | are bowed down;

God loves the righteous and cares | for the stranger; *
God sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

God shall | reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Alleluia!

THE SECOND READING

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

A Reading from *Meditations of the Heart*, Howard Thurman

I seek new levels of awareness of the meaning of the commonplace. It is easy for me to take things for granted and to deal with them without sensitiveness. When have you noticed the color in the sky? When have you looked at the shape and place of a tree? What about the light in the eyes of your friend when he smiles? The gracious manner that your child has in meeting people at the door? The moving insight and the power of the words of a hymn, the music of which you enjoy? The renewal of mind and body after a night of restful sleep? The way the cut in your finger healed, leaving scarcely a trace of the opening? The spontaneous response which overcomes you when you are face to face with some poignant human need? The times when deep within your heart you whisper a thank-you to Life, to God, or, as you may say, to the Fates! *I seek new levels of awareness of the meaning of the commonplace.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

The Rev. Howard Washington Thurman (1899-1981) was an American author, philosopher, theologian, Christian mystic, educator, and civil rights leader. As a prominent religious figure, he played a leading role in many social justice movements and organizations of the twentieth century.

1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science

2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to

3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious

4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - rits

quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the

all their due. From love of plea - sure, lust of gold, from

to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to

pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O

mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and

sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us

catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - reft of

God, be with us in the flame; a new - born peo - ple

shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.

with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God.

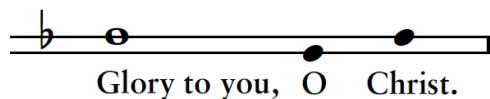
pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord, we cry.

may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841–1918), alt.
 Music: *St. Petersburg*, Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751–1825)

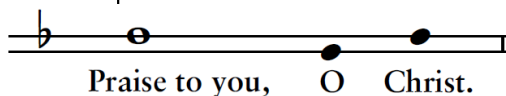
The Deacon or Priest intones

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



Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

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.

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*

Abide with Me

Henry Francis Lyte (1793 – 1847)

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's
power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with
me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy
victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the
skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Music: *Eventide*, William Henry Monk (1823–1889)
Descant: R. Walden Moore

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru-ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair-er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair-er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe-ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an-gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt.

Music: *St. Elizabeth*, melody from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867–1953)

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.

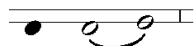
Christ will come again.

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

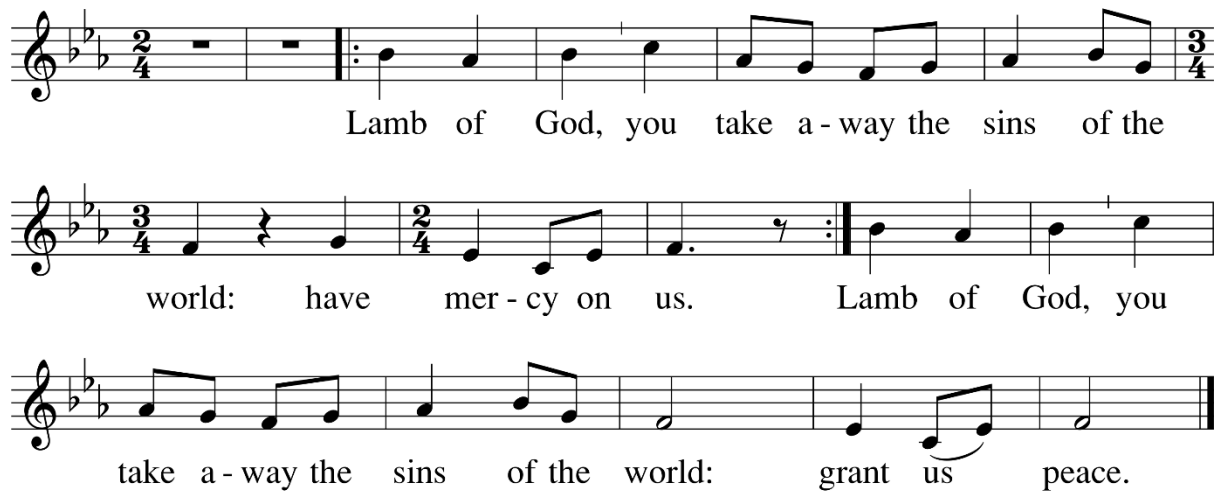
The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

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.

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

God Be in My Head

John Rutter (b. 1945)

God be in my head and in my understanding
God be in mine eyes and in my looking
God be in my mouth and in my speaking
God be in my heart and in my thinking
God be at mine end and in my departing

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 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908), alt.

Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822–1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

THE DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Epithalame – Healey Willan (1880 – 1968)

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

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The Rev. Daniel Simons *Rector*

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Joshua Ehlebracht *Director of Music*

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