

HOLY EUCHARIST

*in Creation Season**

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | OCTOBER 5, 2025 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

PRELUDE

Lied from 24 Pièces en style libre, Op. 31, V. II – Louis Vierne (1870 – 1937)

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 5, 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.



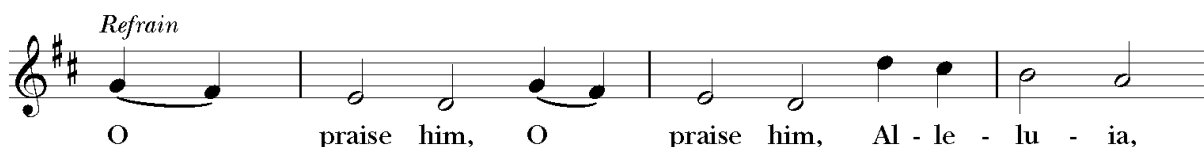
1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

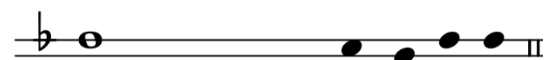
Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926)
 Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

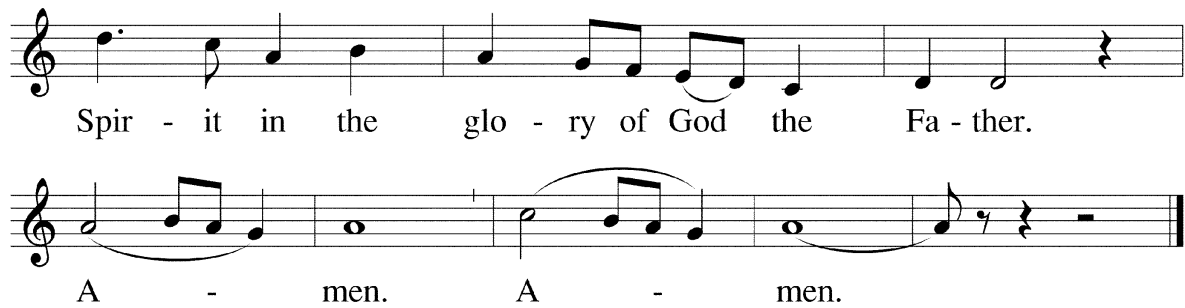
Blessed be the God of all Creation.

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.

Most present, loving, good Creator, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of the human world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may delight in shared life with your whole Creation in perfectness of joy; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON *seated*

Job 39:1–18

The Lord said to Job: “Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong; they grow up in the open; they go forth and do not return to them. “Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to which I have given the steppe for its home the salt land for its dwelling place? It scorns the tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. “Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labor to it? Do you have faith in it that it will return and bring your grain to your threshing floor? The ostrich’s wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage. For it leaves its eggs to the earth and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them and that a wild animal may trample them. It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labor should be in vain, yet it has no fear; because God has made it forget wisdom and given it no share in understanding. When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider.

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*



I lift up my eyes | to the hills; *
from where is my | help to come?
My help | comes from God, *
the maker of hea-|ven and earth.
God will not let your | foot be moved; *
the One who watches over you will not | fall asleep.
Behold, the One who keeps watch | over Israel *
shall neither slum-|ber nor sleep;
The Holy One watches | over you *
and is your shade at | your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike | you by day, *
nor the | moon by night.
God shall preserve you | from all evil *
and is the One who shall | keep you safe.
God shall watch over your going out and your | coming in, *
from this time forth for | evermore.

Anglican Chant: William Crotch

THE SECOND READING

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

A Reading from *The Mystic Treatises*, by St. Isaac the Syrian.

What is a charitable heart? It is a heart burning with love for the whole of creation, for humans, for the birds, for the beasts, for the demons—for all creatures. A heart which is softened and can no longer bear to see or learn from others of any suffering, even the smallest pain, being inflicted on any creature. That is why such a person never ceases to pray also for the animals, that they may be preserved. This person will even pray for the reptiles, moved by the infinite compassion which reigns in the hearts of those who are becoming united with God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

Isaac the Syrian (613-700), also remembered as Saint Isaac the Syrian, Isaac of Nineveh, Abba Isaac, Isaac Syrus and Isaac of Qatar, was a 7th-century Syriac Christian bishop and theologian best remembered for his written works on Christian asceticism.

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -

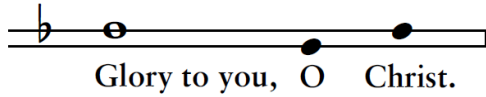
1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182–1226)

Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923–1979)

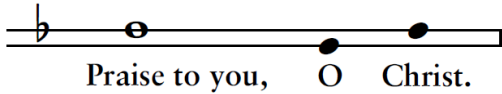
The Deacon or Priest intones

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



Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So, it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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.

RITE OF WELCOME

Those who desire to be welcomed come forward at the invitation of the Celebrant.

We now welcome those who wish to join with this part of body of Christ, the people of St. Paul's Church.

The Celebrant then says to the new members:

Is it your wish to make this community of St. Paul's your church home, and these people those with whom you will share your journey of faith? Is this the congregation with whom you will seek to make sense of the questions of your life: your faith, your doubts, who you are, what and where God calls you to be?

Yes, that is my wish.

Will you share in the worship, the ministry and the support of this congregation?

I will, with God's help.

(to entire congregation)

Will you, who welcome these persons into this congregation, embrace their gifts, their needs, their sorrows and their joys? Will you share what we ourselves have received: the power of prayer, a love for God's word, a desire to follow in Christ's ministry and support for the journey?

We will, with God's help.

Will you share your gifts with them, bear their burdens, and forgive and encourage them?

We will, with God's help.

Together, let us pray:

Loving God, send your Holy Spirit to be among us, within us, and between us. Help us to grow together and to love and support one another. May we, through our common life, come to know you more fully, and to share your Good News of love, hope and reconciliation with this broken world. In Jesus' name we pray. 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*

O How Amiable

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of
hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to
enter into the courts of the Lord
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and
the swallow a nest where she may lay her
young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my
King, and my God

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They
will be alway praising thee
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be
upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands
upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for
years to come, our shelter from the stormy
blast, and our eternal home

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)

Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875–1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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.

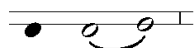
Christ will come again.

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

Be Thou My Vision

Richard Shephard (1949 – 2021)

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's
Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

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.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Hymn 680



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;



1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90

Music: *St. Anne*, melody att. William Croft (1678–1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889)

THE DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Major “Jig” Bux WV 174 – Dietrich Buxtehude (1676 – 1707)

St. Paul’s Financial Health Update

Each month the Vestry will make available to the congregation the topline financial position of the church, as a way of inviting us all into collective responsibility for the stewardship of this body. The numbers reflect the latest report reviewed at the most recent monthly Vestry meeting. Further financial detail is available by contacting Paul Hunter at treasurer@stpaulsnorwalk.org.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025

INCOME as of 8/31	<i>(budgeted YTD at \$408,167) (total annual budget: \$612,251)</i>	\$440,577
EXPENSES as of 8/31	<i>(budgeted at YTD \$412,794) (total annual budget: \$619,191)</i>	\$416,883

PLEDGING DATA

Pledges represent the planned, sustained giving of the congregation, which is our primary source of income. We encourage every member and friend of St. Paul’s to make a sustaining gift, which both increases the stake all participants feel in our ministry, and allows leadership to better plan for our ministry needs. Thank you!

Total number of 2025 sustaining gifts (pledges)		131
<i>(total active households: 221)</i>		59%
PLEDGES RECEIVED	<i>(budgeted YTD at \$274,000)</i>	\$289,191
as of 8/31	<i>(total annual budget: \$411,000)</i>	

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

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

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