

THE HOLY EUCHARIST FULL TEXT

Creation Season*

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

SEPTEMBER 7, 2026 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

2nd movement, "Andantino" from First Sonata for Organ Florence Price (1887–1953)

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 shared by the Roman Catholic Church and many Protestant 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 feel its weight in disrupted seasons and disrupted lives. And yet the ground of our response is not fear but love: a world made good, given into our keeping, and cherished by God before it was ever entrusted to us. In these weeks we return to wonder—learning again to see creation as gift, so that our care for it grows from delight rather than duty, and our worship forms us to cherish what God so plainly loves.

HYMN IN PROCESSION *standing*

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five systems, each corresponding to a system of music. The lyrics are: 1. We have a com - mon call - ing, O God of love and grace— 2. You call us to be part - ners— to no - tice and to care; 3. We'll work to build strong lead - ers; we'll lis - ten to our youth. 4. We see our neigh - bors suf - fering— es - pe - cial - ly the poor— 5. O God, as con - gre - ga - tions, we don't act out of fear; to care for your cre - a - tion, to tend what you em - brace. you make us lov - ing stew - ards of land and sea and air. We'll strength - en con - gre - ga - tions to help them speak the truth. and so we'll work toward jus - tice and toward an earth re - stored. our mor - al ob - li - ga - tions will mo - ti - vate us here. We have one home, one fu - ture; we're not in this a - lone. We see our cli - mate chang - ing; God, show us what to do We'll work with oth - er part - ners in our com - mu - ni - ties— We'll work as lov - ing neigh - bors to plan and to pre - pare. We seek a blest to - mor - row; our voi - ces rise a - bove. We're called to work to - geth - er for this our com - mon home. to care for your cre - a - tion, to heal the earth with you. for mor - al, wise per - spec - tives must shine in times like these. We'll al - lo - cate for cli - mate; the earth de - serves its share. May we, to - day, be faith - ful in this great work of love.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

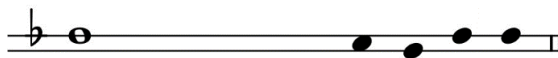
Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818–1876)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Blessed be the God of all creation.

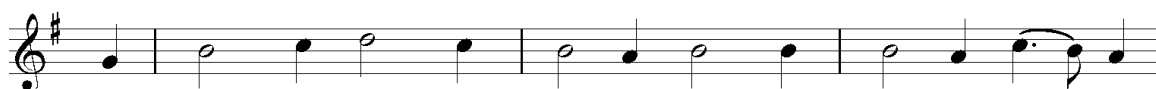
The People respond



Glory to God for - ev - er and ev - er.

SONG OF PRAISE

Hymn 421



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from
2 O Lamb of God, Lord Je - sus Christ, whom God the Fa - ther
3 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One, who came for our sal -



hea - ven, and God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be
gave us, who for the world was sac - ri - ficed up -
va - tion, and on - ly you are God's true Son, who



to all peo - ple giv - en. We bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for
on the cross to save us; and, as you sit at God's right hand and
was be - fore cre - a - tion. You on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and,



your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al - might - y Fa - ther.
we for judg - ment there must stand, have mer - cy, Lord, up - on us.
with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

Words: Nikolaus Decius (1490?–1541); tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984), rev.; para. of *Gloria in excelsis*

Music: *Allein Gott in der Höh*, melody att. Nikolaus Decius (1490?–1541); harm. Hieronymus Praetorius (1560?–1629)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect of the Day.

God of all creation, you formed us from the ground you love and gave it into our keeping; when our work grows heavy and our hearts forget their blessing, return us to the ground of our rest, that we may labor as those who are held in love, and lay down our burdens into your keeping; through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN *standing, all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People*

Hymn 380

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
 2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
 *3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

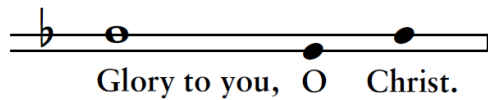
the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
 truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
 shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

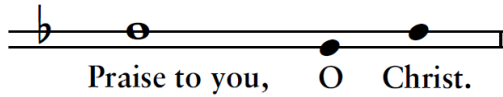
Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

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



At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

The Rev. Paul Carling
Priest Associate

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son, She* is worshipped and glorified.

She has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Holy Spirit in biblical languages is a feminine-gendered word,
and we use the feminine pronoun here to highlight that aspect of God's fullness.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for:

THE GOODNESS OF CREATION
THOSE IN AUTHORITY IN THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD
THOSE WHO MINISTER IN CHRIST'S NAME
THE SUFFERING AND GRIEF-STRICKEN
THE NEEDS OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY
OUR OWN PERSONAL NEEDS
THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

The Deacon says:

Let us pray for the world God has made and given us to tend, and for one another within it.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

*Members of the congregation offer the prayers, and we repeat the prayer in **bold**, above.
The Celebrant prays the concluding collect.*

For the good earth; for the soil that feeds us and the seasons that sustain us, and for hands that tend it with care. We pray for all who make decisions about it on our behalf.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For all whose work goes unseen — those who rise early and rest late, those who are exhausted by their labor, those who long for work and find none; that their dignity would be restored.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For this community, gathering faithfully in our common work, that we would take up what is ours to do and trust you to accomplish all the rest.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For those who carry more than they can bear, the weary and the grieving, that they would know they are not abandoned.

Please add your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For all who have entered your rest, and for the whole creation, which waits with us to be made whole.

Please add your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

The Celebrant prays:

Receive these prayers, O God, from your people, whom you have made and kept; and teach us to labor and to rest within the world you love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Ministry 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. Please consider making a one-time or ongoing sustaining gift
to ensure the enduring and vibrant ministry of this place.
Thank you for your participation and support!



2026

stpaulsnorwalk.org/support

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Cantor*

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY *standing*

Hymn 686



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly

heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a

ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735–1790), alt.

Music: Nettleton, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The prayer continues until

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
Source of all Being,
to give you thanks in every time and place.
You spoke, and light blazed forth;
you labored six days over the world's making
and hallowed the seventh with your rest.
From the ground you raised us, made in your image;
and though we turned our hands to harm,
you did not abandon us,
but came among us in the Word made flesh,
who took up our labor and our weariness,
and called the weary to himself.
Therefore, with the ground and all it brings forth,
with all creatures of your keeping,
and with the whole company of heaven,
we join the song of heaven as we sing:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The prayer continues until

Holy and gracious God,
in the fullness of time you gave us Jesus,
to be born of Mary,
to share our life,
and to offer his life for the life of the world.

On the night before he died for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it,
and gave it to his friends, and said:
"Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."
After supper he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said:
"Drink this, all of you: this is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Alive in him, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

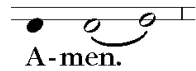
Christ will come again.

Remembering his death, his rising, and his coming again,
we offer you these gifts of your own creation,
this bread of the earth, this cup of the vine;
and we ask you to send your Abiding Spirit upon them,
and upon us,
that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that we may be renewed
for the healing of your world.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Abiding Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours,
Source of all Being, now and for ever.

The prayer continues until

People



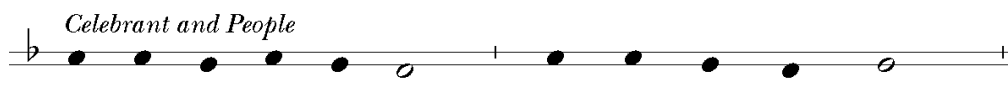
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

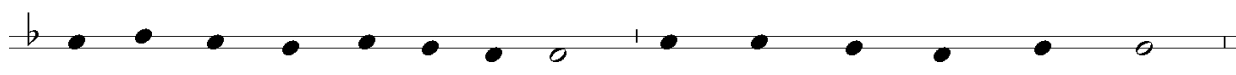


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

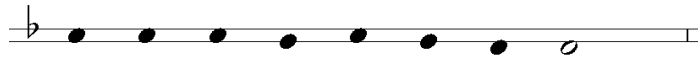
Celebrant and People



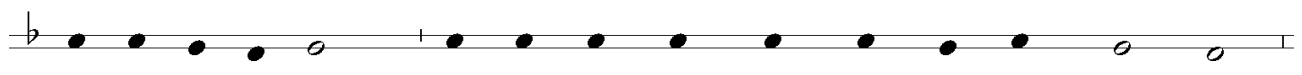
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



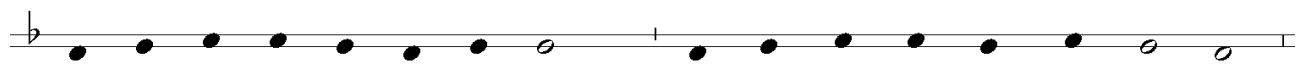
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



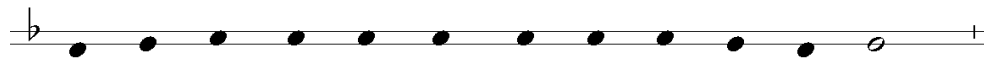
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



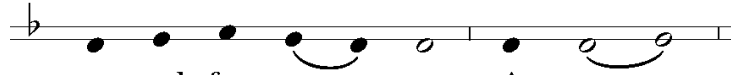
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

Setting: Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens

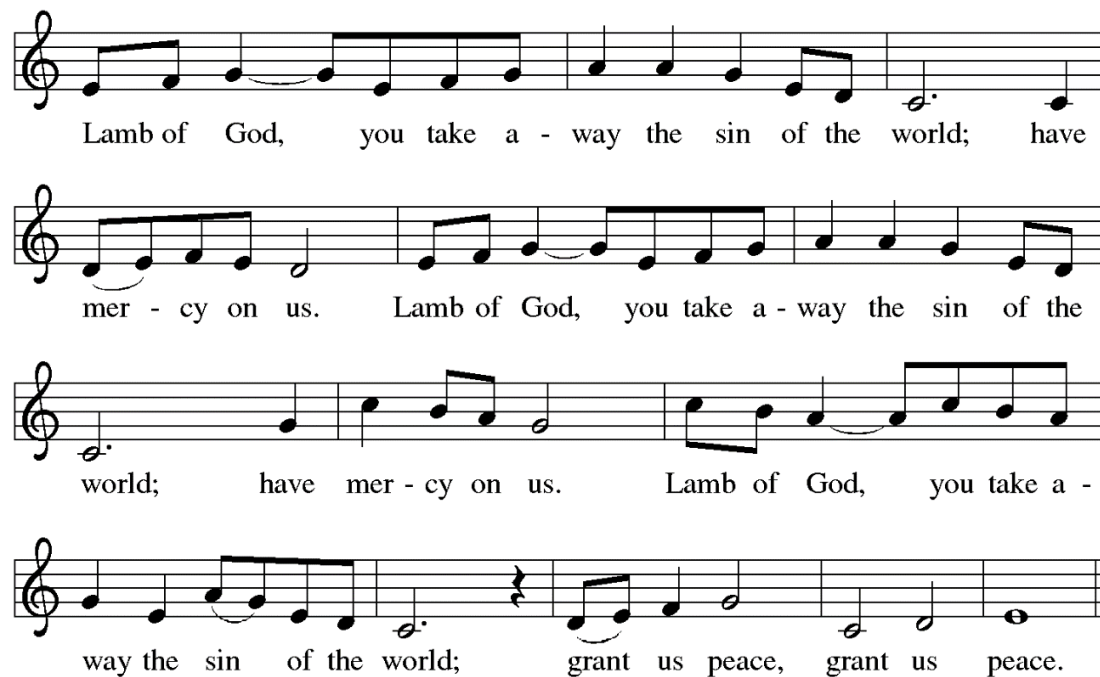
THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and bids the People to Communion.

These are the gifts of God for you, the People of God. Draw near in faith.

Everyone is welcome to receive Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available upon request; non-alcoholic grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups at the side altars. If you don't wish to drink from the chalice, you may simply touch its base when it is brought to you. (For the health of all, we are no longer dipping the bread into the chalice wine by hand.)

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Setting: ELW Setting One S112

MUSIC AT COMMUNION *sung by the Cantor*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

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.

[SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS]

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent out to bring the Sacrament to the sick or homebound, the Celebrant sends them out:

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.

May God, who made the world and called it good,
and blessed it to our care,
flow through you with its abundance;
And the blessing of God eternal,
who creates, redeems, and sustains,
bless you this day and always. Amen.



1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.
 thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!
 thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

Words: Anon. 1625; tr. Theodore Baker (1851–1934)

Music: *Kremser*, from *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Eduard Kremser (1838–1914)

THE SENDING

Go out into the world rejoicing, in creation's richness and diversity, and live in praise for all God's bounty.

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sonata de 1 tono José Lidón (1748-1827)