

THE HOLY EUCHARIST FULL TEXT

Creation Season*

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Festival Prelude Op. 67 No. 1 - Horatio Parker (1863 - 1919)

Please stand as the bell sounds.



**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.*

1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest-home;

2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;

3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har - vest home;

4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest-home;

all is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin;

wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown;

from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;

gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin;

1 God, our Ma - ker, doth pro - vide for our wants to

2 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn

3 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the

4 there, for ev - er pur - i - fied, in thy pres - ence

be sup - plied; come to God's own tem - ple,

shall ap - pear: grant, O har - vest Lord, that

tares to cast, but the fruit - ful ears to

to a - bide; come, with all thine an - gels,

come, raise the song of har - vest - home.

we whole - some grain and pure may be.

store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.

come, raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.

Words: Henry Alford (1810–1871), alt.

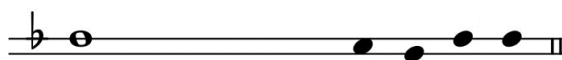
Music: *St. George's, Windsor*, George Job Elvey (1816–1893); desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891–1971)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Blessed be the God of all creation.

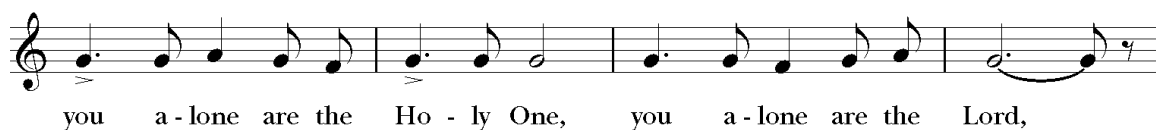
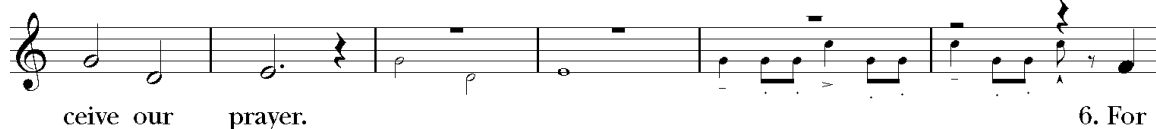
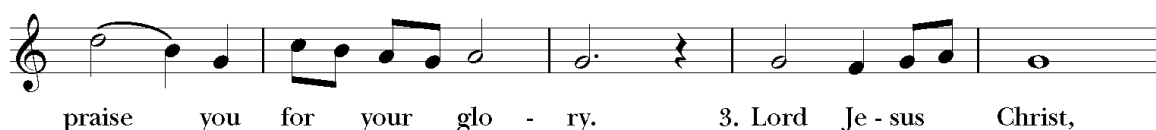
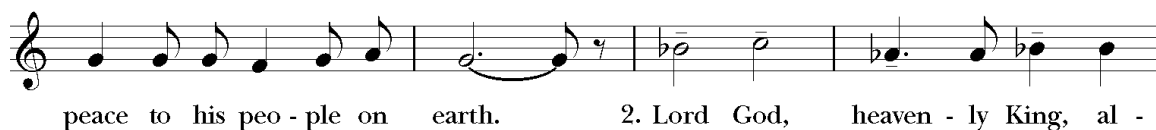
The People respond



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

GLORIA

S278





Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: *Gloria in excelsis*
 Music: William Mathias (b. 1934)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect of the Day.

Gracious God,
 from the abundance of your love
 you clothe the earth with life
 and give us all we need;
 free us from anxious striving,
 that, trusting your provision,
 we may live in gladness and serve you without fear;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LESSON *seated*

Genesis 1:1–5, 26–27, 31

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

At 9:00am, the first verse is intoned by the Cantor, then by all on this tone
At 11:00am, the Psalm is sung by the Choir



Bless the Holy One, | O my soul; *
 O God, how excellent is your greatness;
 you are clothed with maje-|sty and splendor.

You wrap yourself with light as | with a cloak; *
 you spread out the heavens | like a curtain.

You lay the beams of your chambers in the | waters above; *
 you make the clouds your chariot;
 you ride on the wings | of the wind.

You make the winds your | messengers *
 and flames of | fire your servants.

You have set the earth upon | its foundations, *
 so that it never shall move at | any time.

You send the springs in-|to the valleys; *
 they flow be-|tween the mountains.

All the beasts of the field drink their | fill from them, *
 and the wild asses | quench their thirst.

We go forth | to our work, *
 and to our labor un-|til the evening.

Setting: J. Corfe after Henry Lawes

THE EPISTLE

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.
Thanks be to God.



1 Lead us, heaven - ly Fa - ther, lead us o'er the world's tem -
 2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give - ness o'er us; all our weak - ness
 3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend - ing, fill our hearts with

pes - tuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
 thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth be - fore us;
 heaven - ly joy; love with ev - ery pas - sion blend - ing,

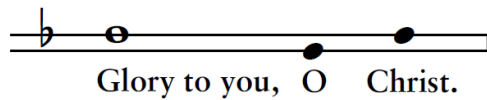
for we have no help but thee, yet pos - ses - sing
 thou didst feel its keen - est woe; yet un - fear - ing,
 plea - sure that can nev - er cloy; thus pro - vid - ed,

ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.
 per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.
 par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

Words: James Edmeston (1791–1867), alt.

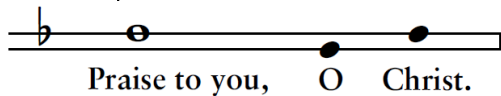
Music: *Dulce carmen*, melody from *An Essay on the Church Plain Chant*, 1782; adapt. *Collection of Motetts or Antiphons*, ca 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889)

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



“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

The Rev. Daniel Simons
Rector

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 earth in its fullness: the seas and all that moves in them, the birds of the air and the beasts of the field, all things that grow, and for our care of what we cannot replace.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For the Church, that we would love the world as you love it, and not mistake using it for keeping it.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For those who hold power over land and water and air, that they would answer to the generations not yet born, and to the creatures who have no voice.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For this town and the ground it stands on, for our homes and our work, our neighbors and our rest.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the afraid, and for all who wake today to more than they can carry, that they would know they are not alone in it.

Please add your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

Daniel prays:

We give thanks for the peoples of the Americas and for the gifts of their cultures, for the Spanish-speaking peoples of this hemisphere and of this region, their leaders, their poets, their prophets, their endurance in adversity. Give us new awareness of the beauty and richness we have overlooked, and curiosity to know our neighbors' heritage in its fullness.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

For all who have died and have entered the fullness of their rest in you, and for all those who mourn.

Please add your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

The earth is yours, O God.

And all who dwell within it.

The Celebrant concludes:

Receive our prayers, O God, and keep us grounded in the world you have made, that we may rejoice to belong to it, and be faithful stewards of all you have given us, 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

Jubilate from Morning Service in C

C.V. Stanford (1852 – 1924)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
Serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before His presence with a song.

For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is
everlasting and His truth endureth from
generation to generation.

Be ye sure that the Lord He is God:
It is He that hath made us, and not we
ourselves; We are His people, and the sheep of
His pasture.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to
the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is
now and ever shall be, word without end,
Amen.

O go your way into His gates with
thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise;
Be thankful unto him, and speak good of His
name.



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 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
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 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,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 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: St. Francis of Assisi (1882–1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855–1933), alt.

Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give God thanks and praise." The notation uses a single melodic line with various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, connected by slurs and beams. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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

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 the light blazed forth; you made the earth and all its creatures and called them good. 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 lived our life, and loved us to the end. 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:

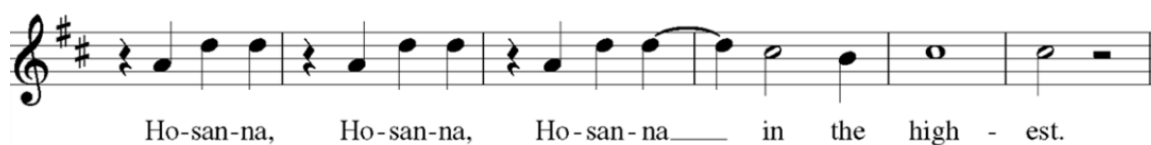
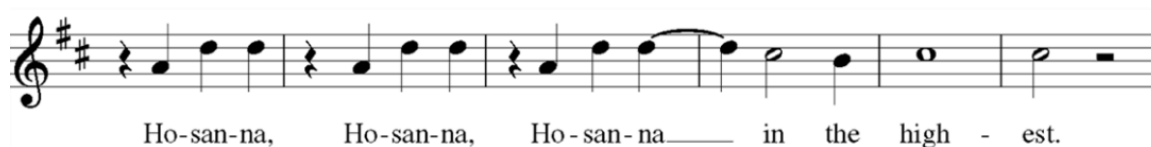
The People and Choir sing together:



The Choir sings alone:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

The People and Choir sing together:



Setting: Richard Arnatt

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 to you, 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.

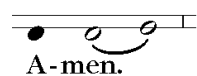
Christ will come again.

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, + that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ. Send your Spirit upon us, + 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. Amen.

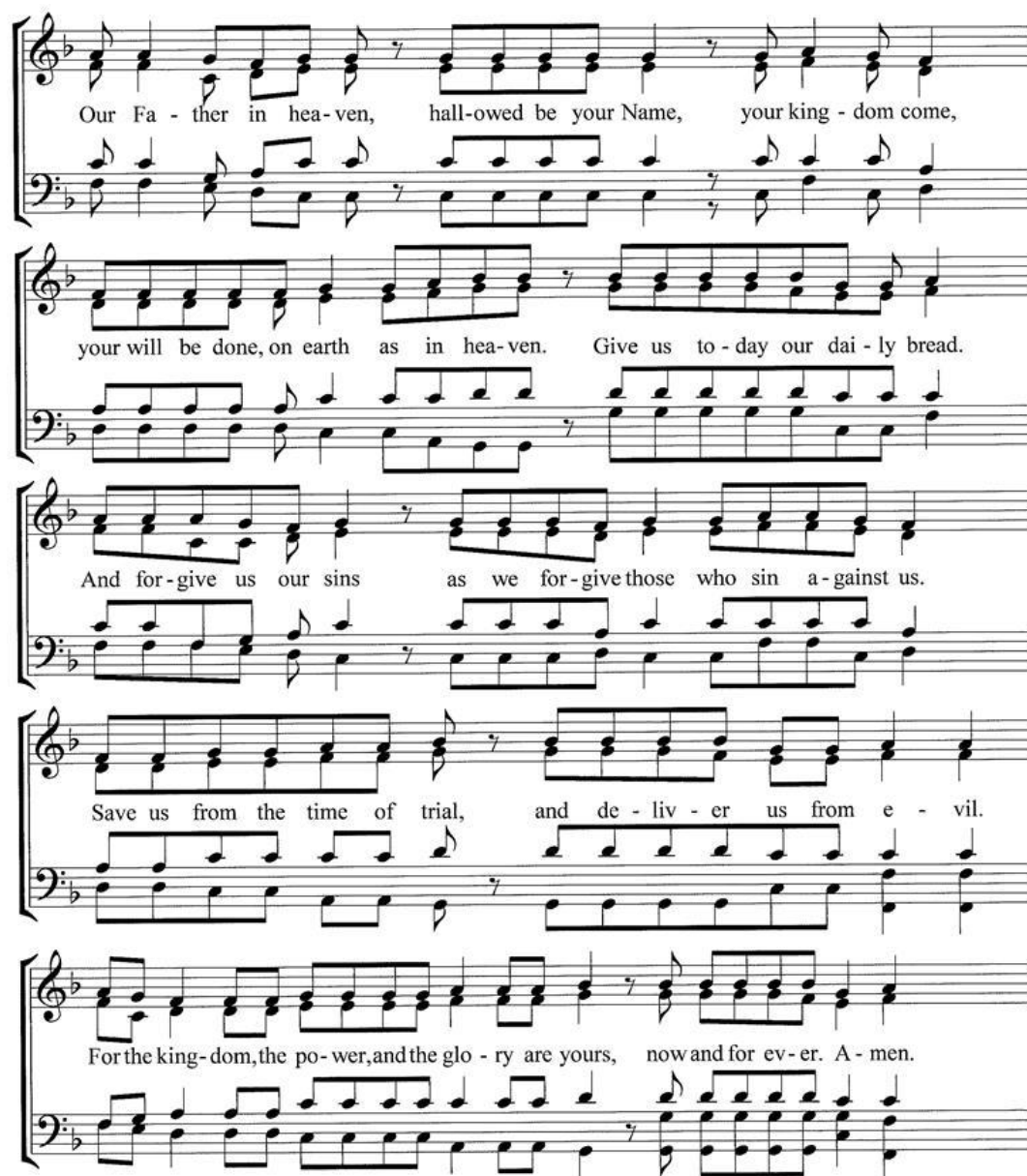
The prayer continues until

People



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.

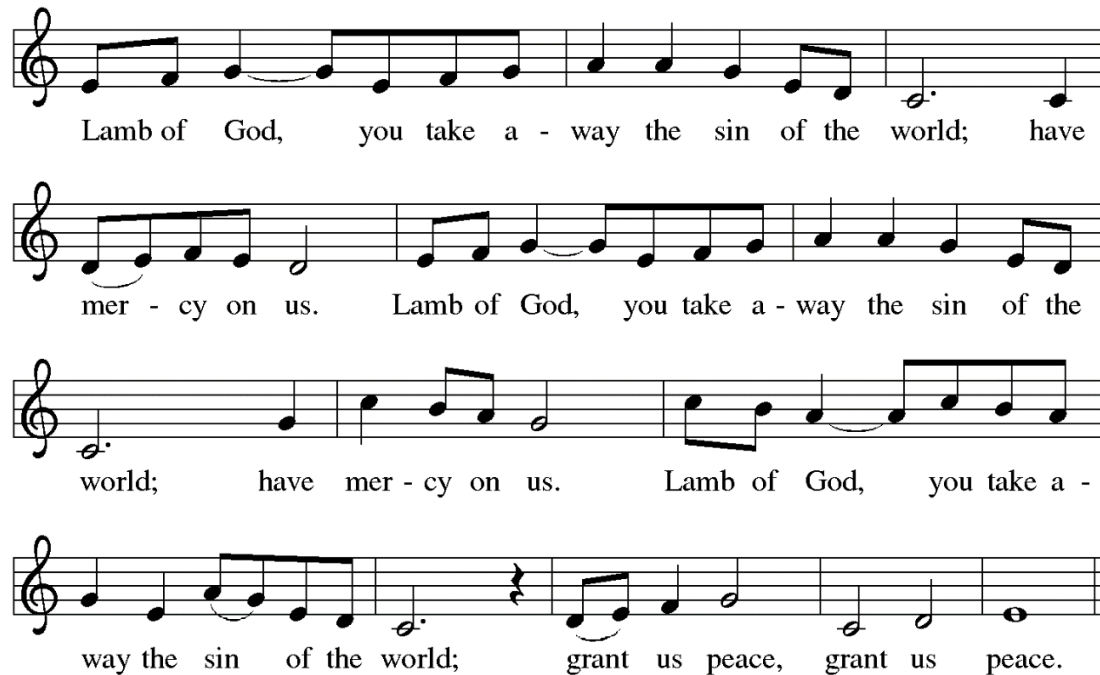
THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and 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 Choir at 11:00am*

O Thou the Central Orb

Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

O thou, the central orb of righteous love
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine

Thy saints with holy luster round thee move
As stars about thy throne, set in the height

Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to
prove

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming ray
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within.
Amen

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. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - - dore Thee, God of glor - y, 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 blessed,

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, o - pening to the 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, flow - ery 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!
 Sing - 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 div - ine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852–1933)

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

THE SENDING

Go out into the world, rejoicing with all creation.

Thanks be to God.

The feasting continues! –

with coffee, lemonade, cookies and conversation on the side lawn of the church.

Ask anyone near the front or rear doors and they will guide you there.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Prelude from ‘Te Deum’ – Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643 – 1704)

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

203-847-2806 | info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons, *Rector*

The Rev. Paul Carling, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Edrice Viechweg, *Deacon*

Joshua Ehlebracht, *Director of Music*

Marsha Dunn, *Parish Administrator*

Jim Hamilton & Henry Rapp III, *Wardens*