



**Welcome to our Sunday Worship
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026 9:00 a.m.**

Welcome to St Paul's Episcopal Church. We hope that your worship with us will be meaningful and a source of blessing and peace. Please take a moment to silence all electronic devices as a way to quiet the business of the world in favor of finding yourself in the presence of God. If you need to depart early, or arrive late, please exit during the hymns discreetly so as not to disturb the worship experience for others.

The music in our service is generally found in the blue Hymnal 1982 (listed as "Hymnal"). Service music (e.g. S-278) is found in the front section of the Hymnal. Additional hymns may be found in the green hymnal Worship and Rejoice, (listed as "Worship").

PRELUDE: Shout to the Lord Zschech

Surely the presence Worship #131

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE Hymnal S-96

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The First Reading Genesis 21:8-21

This version of the story of the woeful drama of Abraham's two sons still echoes in the violent Middle East conflict today between Arabs and Jews. Arabs trace their ancestry to Ishmael and Jews to Isaac. Anyone claiming absolute divine authority for either Jewish or Arab rights to their common holy land must deal with the dilemma of God's blessing of Abraham as the father of both.

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

from Psalm 86 (from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

This lament pleads for God's forgiveness for some unstated transgression. Whereas the petitioner claimed to have a godly character (vs.2) fully devoted to and trusting in the Lord's help, in vs. 5 he also acknowledges that God is ready to forgive."

- 1 Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 **Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; ***
save your servant who puts his trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 **Gladden the soul of your servant, ***
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

5 For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, *
 and great is your love toward all who call upon you.

6 **Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, ***
and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
 for you will answer me.

8 **Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, ***
nor anything like your works.

9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, *
 and glorify your Name.

10 **For you are great; you do wondrous things; ***
and you alone are God.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
 give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.

17 **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; ***
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

The Second Reading Romans 6:1b-11

The passage presents Paul's definition of the benefits of baptism based on faith in God's free gift of forgiveness. One of the problems raised by this new relationship has to do with its ethical implications. Paul's answer is that all Christians obviously should not continue to sin. God's grace has freed us to live new, holy lives with the risen Christ.

...Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN: In Christ there is no east or west **Worship #600**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 10:24-39

This reading contains part of one of five discourses by Jesus which shape the structure of Matthew's Gospel. The disciples' success was not guaranteed (vs. 24-25). Nor is it for any of us who would follow Christ now. As discomfiting as this may seem to us, discipleship is always costly to those who remain true to their commitment. The remaining segment of the reading, however, does offer encouragement and a promise of reward for those who are faithful. The essential element is loyalty to Christ who gave his all for us.

Celebrant
People

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

[Jesus said,] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Gospeler
People

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN: In Christ there is no east or west

Worship #600

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

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 he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Doug, our Bishop; Tom, our Rector; Mary, our Deacon; for The Church of South India (United), and for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.
Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.
Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.
Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.
Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.
Silence

I ask your prayers for _____ .
Silence

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating the anniversary of their birth, especially Albert Pike; and those celebrating the anniversary of their marriage, Gene and Susie Bartley.
Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.
Silence

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, and nurture victims of violence and warfare throughout your world.,

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation and we thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and especially this day, for our fathers, grandfathers and all the men in our lives that have shown forth your virtue and strength and for their loving care which surrounds us on every side. We offer these prayers and praises in the name of Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY: A Father's Heart *Troccolli*

DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all blessings flow Old 100th

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

SANCTUS: Hymnal S-130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Paul, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION ANTHEM: What a friend we have in Jesus

Worship #473

DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: Shall we gather at the river

Worship #522

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body

and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

And finally my brothers and sisters, live in harmony and with compassion. Show kindness and humility. Return no evil nor slander, but return blessings to all. Bless and do not curse for such is your call in Christ Jesus our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit shall be with you this day and all the days of your life. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: Faith of our fathers

Hymnal #558

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of St Paul's truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Welcome visitors!

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Trinity Hall after the service.

<i>Celebrant and Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Tom Thoeni
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Dr. Mary Abrams
<i>Eucharistic Minister/Altar</i>	Dick Emerson
<i>Eucharistic/Chalice</i>	Linda Connelly
<i>Lector/Intercessor</i>	
<i>Usher(s)</i>	Pauline & Gary Dickerson

Active Altar Guild Members: Joan Allison, Diane Augustus, Rose Porembo, Mia Tajawandee, & Cindy Tysiak.

<i>Rector</i>	The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Dr. Mary Abrams, seasonal
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Betty Hernandez
<i>Sexton</i>	
<i>Music Director</i>	Jacque Scaduto

<i>Vestry</i>	
<i>Senior Warden</i> Diane Augustus	<i>Junior Warden</i> Julio Albino
<i>Secretary</i> Jeannie Smith	<i>Treasurer</i> Rose Porembo
<i>Members:</i> Mary Lou Dogoloff, Paul Nelson, Charlene Connolly, Linda Connelly	



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