



Welcome to our Sunday Worship
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A, Proper 20
September 20, 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").

Notes throughout the service will inform you of the suggested posture: seated, standing, or kneeling.

PRELUDE: Open my eyes, Lord *Manibusen*

Please stand.

Surely the presence Worship #131 (green book)

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.**

GLORIA

Refrain

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Refrain.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Reading Exodus 16:2-15

After their miraculous deliverance from slavery in Egypt, the Israelites pressed on into the wilderness. When faced with hunger, worrying about starvation, they complained to Moses. God responds faithfully setting up a common pattern during the 40 years of the Israelites "wilderness wanderings."

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him--what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has

heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

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

from Psalm 105 *(from The Book of Common Prayer)*

The story of God's providence to the Israelites in the wilderness is recalled in this hymn of thanksgiving. The events have been idealized, cleansed of such distractions as the people's waywardness and complaints. Nonetheless, the psalm teaches that God's hand has guided them and provided for them.

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 **Sing to him, sing praises to him, ***
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 **Search for the LORD and his strength; ***
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 37 **He led out his people with silver and gold; ***
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.
- 39 **He spread out a cloud for a covering ***
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 **He opened the rock, and water flowed, ***
so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.
- 43 **So he led forth his people with gladness, ***
his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 **That they might keep his statutes ***
and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading Philippians 1.21-30

This was probably the last of Paul's letters written from prison in Rome. The apostle's triumphant faith in the face of his impending trial and death rings through every sentence.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well--since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Please stand.

GRADUAL HYMN: Rise up, ye saints of God **Hymnal #551 (blue book)**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 20.1-16

To our materialistic minds, this is a very troublesome parable. It seems so grossly unfair. But the parable has nothing at all to do with the money paid for work done. It is the kingdom of God - the absolute sovereignty of God's love - which is at issue. The currency of the kingdom is grace, not coinage. Grace comes to us as the gift of God totally unmerited in spite of all our worthy efforts.

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

[Jesus said,] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against

the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

GRADUAL HYMN: Rise up, ye saints of God Hymnal #551 (blue book)

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

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.

Please stand or kneel.

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 Anglican Church of Australia, 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 William Jackson, Tony Krembs, Carol Wood, and Rosemary LaRose; and those celebrating the anniversary of their marriage.

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. **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

Please be seated.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY: The Lord hears the cry of the poor

Foley

DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Old 100th

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 2

Please stand.

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

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. 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. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or stand.

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

Worship #740 (green book)

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: Just a closer walk with Thee

Worship #504 (green book)

Please stand.

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: Guide me thou, O great Jehovah
book)

Hymnal #690 (blue

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.**

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>	Diane Augustus
<i>Usher(s)</i>	Barb & Dave Abernethy

Active Altar Guild Members: Joan Allison, Diane Augustus, Rose Poremba, 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>	Marybeth Rein
<i>Sexton</i>	
<i>Music Director</i>	Jacquie Scaduto

Vestry

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



3901 Davis Blvd. Naples, FL 34104
239 643-0197 welcome@saintpaulsnaples.org
www.saintpaulsnaples.org