

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 11am

Week 28 of Ordinary Time

Livestreamed worship available at [facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos).

St. Paul's on the Green | 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

THE GATHERING RITE

Gathering Music Prelude on *St. Anne* by Healey Willan (1880-1968)

The Opening Acclamation

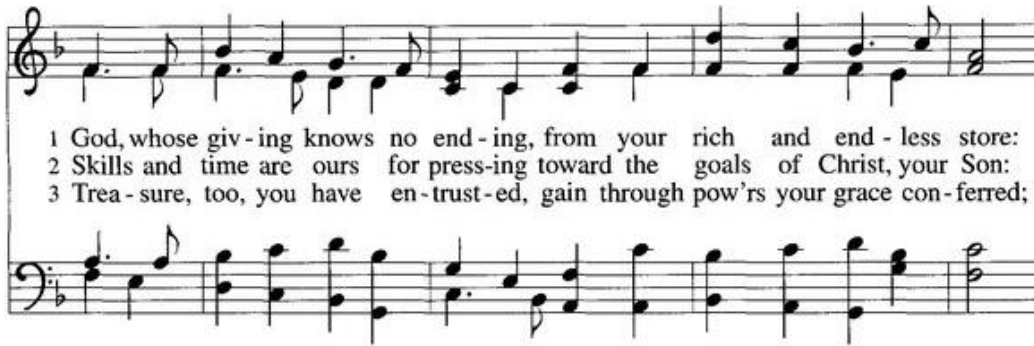
The people's responses are in bold.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

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.**

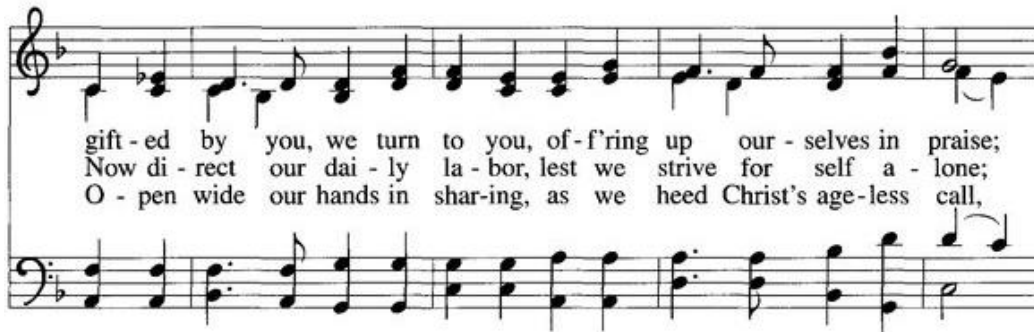
Opening Hymn



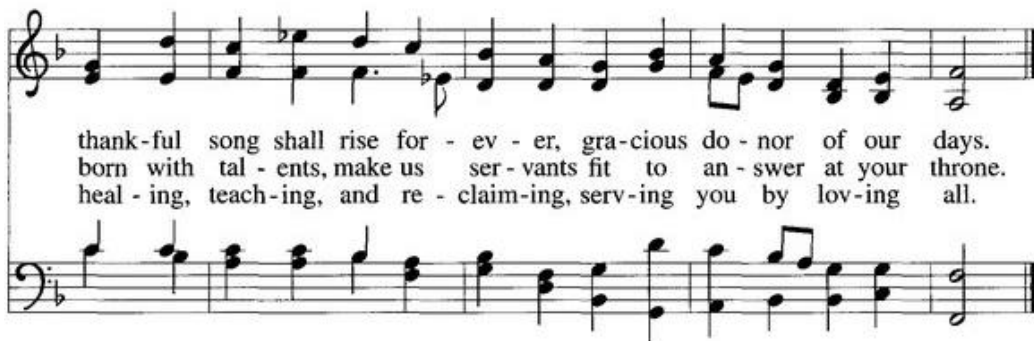
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

words: Rusty Edwards (1915-2006)

music: *Rustington*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

words © 1961, 1989 Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, from whose own abundance all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed, encourage us to use our talents as generously as you have allotted them, so that, being faithful to your purpose, we may become sharers in your glory. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Thanks be to God.

The Response *sung by the choir*

Lord, thou hast been our refuge,
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever the earth and the world were made,
thou art God from everlasting and world without end.
And the glorious majesty of the Lord be upon us;
prosper thou the work of our hands,
O prosper thou our handy-work.

words: Psalm 90:1-2, 17
music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Gospel *Matthew 25:14-30*

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

Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *The Rev. Daniel Simons, Priest-in-charge*

A period of reflection follows 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, 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.**

**The Holy Spirit is the spirit of Wisdom, the feminine Sophia, and the Hebrew Scripture calls the Spirit "ruah," a feminine word, to describe the feminine aspect of the Godhead, the breath of God.*

***Here "catholic" means universal. It refers to the belief that the message of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus is a "universal" one that the Church proclaims to everyone, everywhere and always.*

The Prayers of the People

Please offer your own petitions silently or aloud during the silences, or via a Facebook comment, which we will read aloud at the end of the prayers. The intercessor says

We pray for peace in the world and for peace in our own land. For what other places of the world shall we pray?

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our leaders in the church and in the world, and for all those who serve the common good, including these we now name.

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our enemies: for those who have wronged us and for those we have wronged, particularly for God's reconciliation in what we now name.

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, or facing any challenge, including these we now name.

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died and for those who mourn them, particularly these we now name.

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the blessings of this life and for God's gifts to us. For what else shall pray?

The online prayers of the people are offered.

Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant concludes

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace, joining all the saints in your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share the peace wherever you are: with a comment posted on Facebook, a bow to those nearby, or some other distanced gesture of peace.

The Announcements *available at stpaulsnorwalk.org/sundaymorning*

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Now more than ever, the work and mission of St. Paul's depend on the generous support of its friends and members.

Please consider making an offering to St. Paul's by credit card. Visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or use the QR code to the right.

For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/donate.

Thank you for your generous support!



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Offertory

The Altar-Table is prepared for Communion.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give thanks and praise to you, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do. In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we sing:

Sanctus and Benedictus



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 (1937-2010)

© 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Celebrant continues

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, you showed us the extent of your love. He cared for the poor and the hungry. He suffered with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, shed for you and for all, so that sins may be forgiven." Do this in memory of me."

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of the bread, and share in his undying life.

Loving God, you give us even now a foretaste of that life beyond the grave where all are gathered together around your table. We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, the Risen One, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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
 © 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.
 OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Breaking of the Bread

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
 in the breaking of the bread.

—Luke 24:35

This is the bo - dy of Christ, - bro - ken that we may be whole, this cup, as
 pro - mised by God, true to God's word, cra - dles the Lord: food for the good of the soul.

music and words: John L. Bell (b. 1949)
 music and words © 1998 GIA / Iona Community / WGRG. All rights reserved.
 OneLicense.net License #A-709109

The Communion

During a period of silent reflection the Celebrant prays the following

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who witness anew these holy mysteries may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord. **Amen.**

— Bennet Brockman, alt.

Behold what you are.

May we become what we receive.

— St. Augustine

The Prayer After Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

— Enriching Our Worship

THE SENDING RITE

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God, strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in the world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

— Celtic blessing

Go in peace to love and serve Christ in all places and all people.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Vivace* by Carl Geissler (1802-1869)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

[Click here](#) to join in small group conversation and catching up on Zoom!

St. Paul's on the Green
The Rev. Daniel Simons, *Priest-in-charge*
60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851
stpaulsnorwalk.org | info@stpaulsnorwalk.org