

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 11am

Week 27 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 *Andante in C* by Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

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 Re - jice! re - jice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.
 music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Brighten your church, O God, with the promise of your kingdom, and waken our hearts to its light. Bid us hasten with faith undimmed to greet the bridegroom's return and to enter the wedding feast. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lesson *Amos 5:18-24*

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!

Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light;

as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

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

Thanks be to God.

The Response *sung by the choir*

Audivi vocem de caelo venientem: venite omnes virgines sapientissime;
oleum recondite in vasis vestris dum sponsus advenerit.

Media nocte clamor factus est: ecce sponsus venit.

*I heard a voice coming from heaven: come all wisest virgins;
fill your vessels with oil, for the bridegroom is coming.*

In the middle of the night there was a cry: behold the bridegroom comes.

words: 8th Responsory at Matins on All Saints

music: Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

The Gospel *Matthew 25:1-13*

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

Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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.

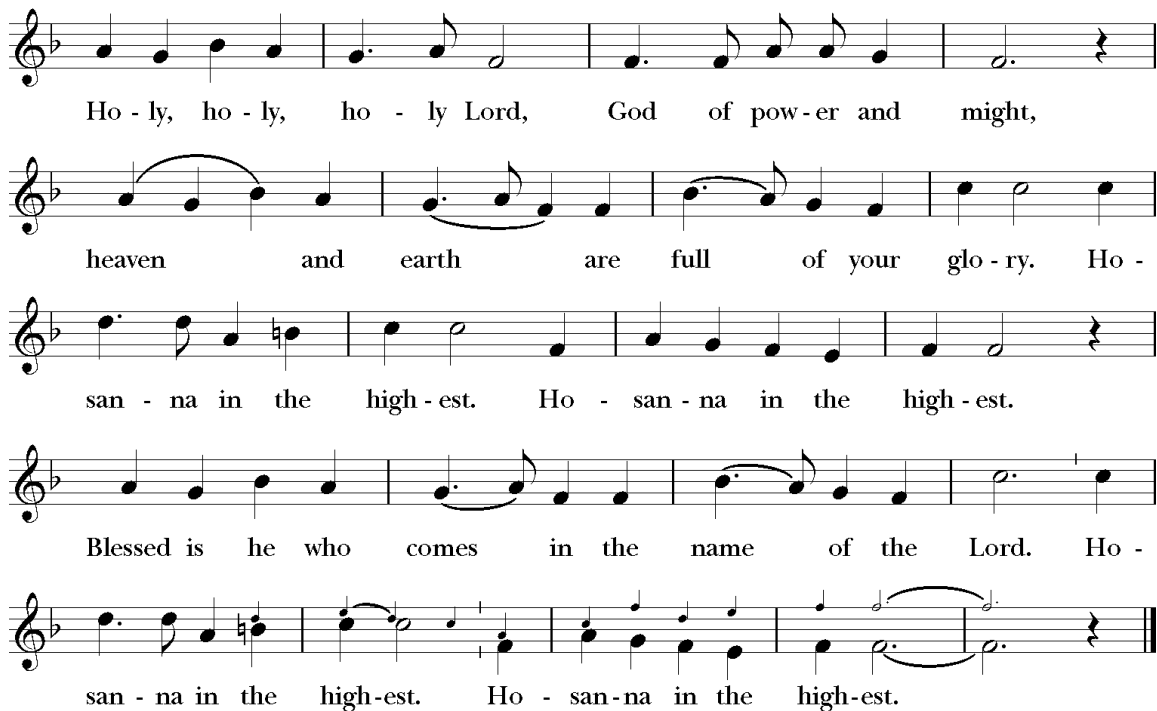
We lift them to the Lord.

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)
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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
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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)
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The Invitation to Communion

Behold what you are.

May we become what we receive.

—*St. Augustine*

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.*

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 *Allegretto* by Julius André (1808-1880)

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
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