HOLY EUCHARIST

The Conversion of Paul the Apostle

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | JANUARY 22, 2023 - 9:00AM & II:00AM

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer - William Bolcom (b. 1938)

Please stand as the bell sounds.

HYMN IN PROCESSION



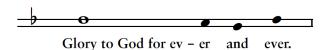
Words: Marty Haugen (b.1950) Music: Two Oaks, Marty Haugen

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

The People respond



SONG OF PRAISE



Words: Sts. 1–3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984) Music: Salzburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622–1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON seated Acts 26:9-21

Paul said to King Agrippa, "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities. With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles-- to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Iews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm is read reflectively, with a slight pause at the asterisk.

Be merciful to us, O God, and bless us, * show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; * may you, our own God, give us your blessing.

May you give us your blessing, * and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

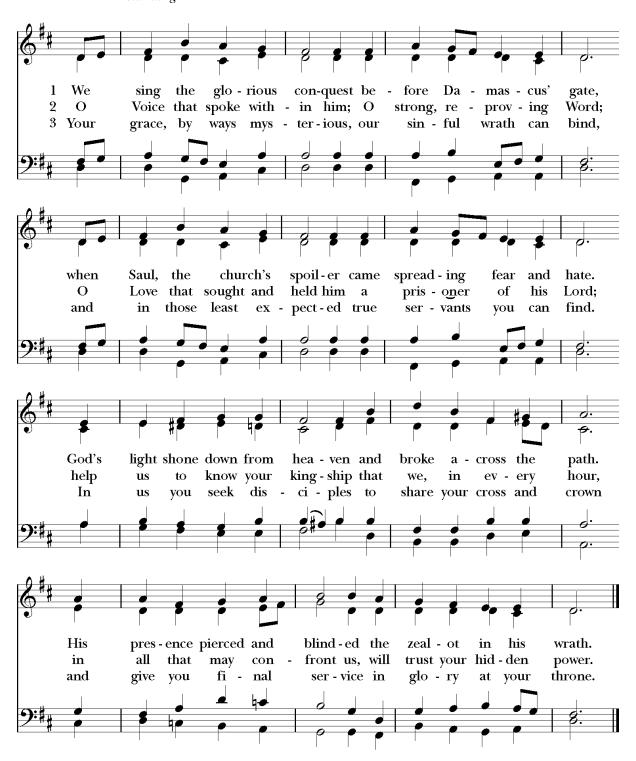
THE EPISTLE seated Galatians 1:11-24

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ; they only heard it said, "The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy." And they glorified God because of me.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

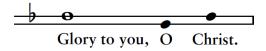
GOSPEL HYMN standing



Words: John Ellerton (1826–1893), alt.

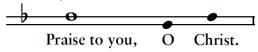
Music: Munich, melody from Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch, 1693; adapt. and harm. Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

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



Jesus said to the twelve, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON The Rev. Daniel Simons

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Praying with the Apostle Paul, we offer our prayers to you, O God.

We pray for this and all nations of the world; may the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant that all may live in harmony with one another, in accord with Christ, that together we may with one voice glorify God. (Romans 15:5-6)

God of peace,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for this local community and our place in it; that God may direct our way and make our love for one another increase more and more, and that God may strengthen our hearts in this work, that we may increase in holiness to God's glory and praise. (1 Thessalonians 3:11-13)

God of faith,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those in any need; that God may fill them with all joy and peace in believing that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, they may abound in hope. We remember those who have asked for our prayers and pray that out of God's glorious riches they may strengthened with power through the Spirit. (Romans 15:13, Ephesians 3:16)

The People may add their own prayers.

God of hope,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for this church, founded in the name of St. Paul; and we pray that, being rooted and grounded in love, we may have the power to comprehend, together with all God's people, what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ, and to abide in that love forever. (*Ephesians 3:17-18*)

God of love,

Hear our prayer.

For what else shall we pray?

The People add their own thanksgivings and petitions.

The Celebrant concludes

Glory to you, O God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to you from generation to generation, here in this church, and in Christ Jesus forever.

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

Giving to St. Paul's

The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends.

You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 855-934-1074 For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.



Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

Thank you for your support!

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY sung by the Choir at 11:00am

5 ,

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

Locus iste

This place was made by God, a priceless mystery; it is without reproof.

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY standing grain and grow - ing, 1.God, who gives food, and shel - ter from the storm, us 2.Pow - er, An - i mat - ing Spir - it, wis - dom through the tests of time. 3.Set a - blaze all hu - man know-ledge, Spark of Ma - jes ty di - vine; gifts fruits di - verse. 4.Nour - ish now God's new cre - a - tion, with these and us one who suf - fers, takes on stri ving hu - man form. comes to as paint - ers, gifts of God sub - lime. Send po - ets, to us us heal - ers, Flame that burns a way old think - ing, leave us skins to hold new wine. un - i - verse. sound through - out the Let your lov - ing, think - ing, sing - ing, One God's is of to be: re - jec ted ru - ler jus - tice yet now death. Nur ture love that lives im - mor - tal, joins us here and con - quers gives Doubt will de stroy our wor - ship of the God who us faith. not ty - rants, Break the chains of just hun - ger, top - ple con - quer fear. un -

free.

peo - ple

meet us

e

the Cre

Cre - a - tor:

ter - nal breath.

- a - tor's grace.

words: Chris Wogaman (b. 1976) music: St. Paul's, Norwalk, Vince Edwards (b. 1968)

sus,

of

tions

thanks

feed

Souls

0

al - ways

our

and

pen

Je

Soul

Ques

Give

(This hymn was commissioned in honor of the 275th anniversary of St. Paul's in 2012.)

ev

Hope

doors

to

'ry

of

to

long - ing,

A - ges,

free - dom,

the Spi - rit,

help

hon

Christ,

us

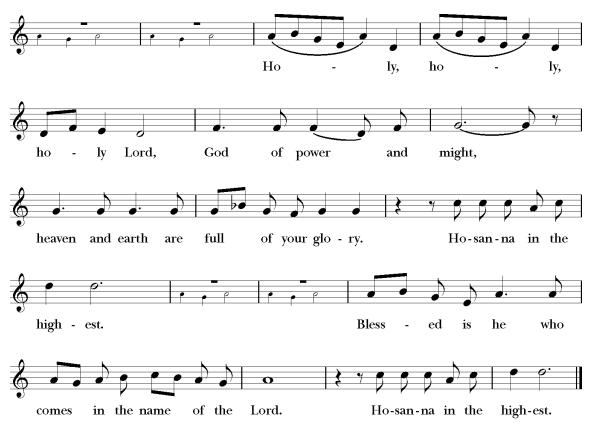
breathe through us

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING drawn from Pauline imagery in scripture



It is truly right always and everywhere to praise you, Lord God our Father, giver of life. In you, already we grow brighter and brighter as we are turned into the glory we reflect. Therefore, forgetting what lies behind us, and pressing forward toward the prize, we lift our voices with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, praising you in the triumphal song:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

The Celebrant continues

Holy God, you created us and set us in the garden of the world to be fruitful and multiply. But we grasped for your power, and divided ourselves against ourselves, until we could not do what we would, but became slaves to sin and death. Even then you did not destroy or forsake us. You gave Abraham and Sarah a new promise of fruitfulness and sent prophets calling the nations to your banquet of peace. And though we were sinners your beloved Son came to befriend us, and feast with us, and offer his life for our life. Laying aside his equality with you, he put his faith in you, and accepted even death on a cross, breaking down the walls that divided us. So you raised him from the grave, a new Adam for a new creation. You raised us with him, freed from sin, and taught us to love one another as one body.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given to thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink of 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come in glory.

Father, send your Holy Spirit to make this bread and this cup the life-giving body and blood of your Son, a foretaste of that feast where we will see you face to face, and know you as we are known. In the power of the Spirit we run to spread the good news, sharing Jesus' sufferings so that we may share his abundant life with all he came to serve.

All this we ask, knowing that every division is ended, and we are one body, and Christ is all in all; we give glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People

A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:



THE COMMUNION

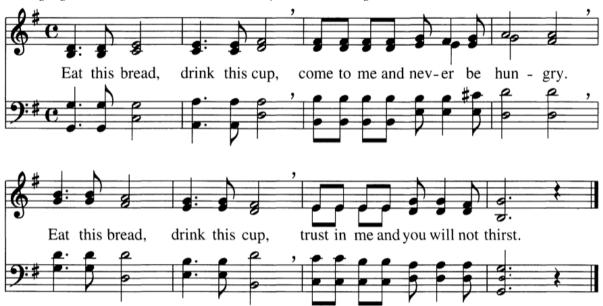
The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

Bread of Life, nourish our souls.

Light of the world, shine in our hearts.

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request, grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups. Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing together three times as the distribution of Communion begins.



Words: John 6:25-59; adapt, by Robert J. Batastini, b. 1942 and the Taize Community. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 ©1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taize, (France)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION sung by the choir at 11:00am

Hymn: The Church's one foundation

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900) Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION standing

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.

THE BLESSING

May the Light of Christ be enkindled in your hearts. And the Blessing of God: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit, be upon you now and remain with you always. **Amen**.



Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818–1856), alt. Music: Westminster Abbey, Henry Purcell (1659–1695), adapt; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929)

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world to share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasy in E-minor – J.K. Paine (1839-1906)

The Worship is Over - The Service Begins

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

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org
The Rev. Daniel Simons Rector
The Rev. Louise Kalemkerian Priest Associate
The Rev. Paul Carling Priest Associate
Will Doreza Interim Director of Music
Josh Ehlebracht Interim Organist
Marsha Dunn Parish Administrator

All music in this leaflet is printed with permission from OneLicense.net, License #A-709109