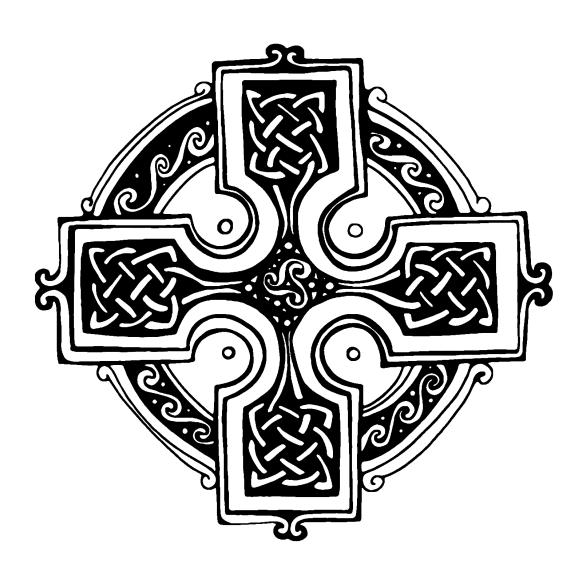
THE CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY

and Welcoming of The Rev. Daniel Simons as the 31st Rector at St. Paul's

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 - 7:00PM



Please stand as the bell sounds.

HYMN IN PROCESSION standing



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

The Bishop says

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

The People respond

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God, Creator of all.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE INSTITUTION OF THE RECTOR seated

The Wardens stand near the Bishop. The Bishop states the purpose of the gathering; and concludes

... People of St. Paul's on the Green: you have reflected on your ministry and discerned your choice for a new Rector.

The Wardens say

We have chosen and called Daniel Simons to be our Rector, and he has accepted. On behalf of the people of St. Paul's, we present ourselves to you and the gathered church to receive God's blessing as we begin a new ministry together.

Bishop I commend your choice and affirm this call.

The Letter of Institution (Book of Common Prayer, p. 557) is read:

Daniel Simons, Presbyter of the Church of God, you have been called to work together with your Bishop and fellow-Presbyters as a pastor, priest, and teacher, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

Now, in accordance with the Canons, you have been selected to serve God in St. Paul's on the Green.

This letter is a sign that you are fully empowered and authorized to exercise this ministry, accepting its privileges and responsibilities as a priest of this Diocese, in communion with your Bishop.

Having committed yourself to this work, do not forget the trust of those who have chosen you. Care alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. By your words, and in your life, proclaim the Gospel. Love and serve Christ's people. Nourish them, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

May the Lord, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

Given under my hand and seal, in the City of Norwalk, on the second day of May, 2023 and in the first year of my consecration.

(Signed) The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello Bishop of Connecticut

The Bishop continues

Daniel, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility with the people of St. Paul's?

Rector I do.

Bishop Are you, the people of St. Paul's, ready to continue in your ministry, with Daniel as your priest?

People We are.

The Wardens escort the Priest from the nave to the front of the assembly

The Members of St. Paul's stand (others in attendance, please remain seated until called to stand).

The Bishop says to the members

Good people of St. Paul's, through Holy Baptism you have been adopted into the community of faith, God's holy fellowship, the Body of Christ, the Church. Together with your rector, you are called to share in God's mission to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

Having covenanted in Baptism to share this work, remember that each of you has resources and gifts for ministry. Join your rector, in prayer, in discerning God's vision and mission for this parish, and in calling forth the leadership, resources and talents to carry out that mission.

People of St. Paul's on the Green, do you commit yourselves to minister in Christ's name, with mutual affection and respect, within this parish, in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, and in the wider community?

The Rector, Wardens and Members of the parish respond, saying

We do.

The Bishop invites visitors, members of neighboring congregations, and members of the local community to stand, then says

Will you, the members of the local community and the wider Church, who witness this new beginning, support and uphold the priest and people of this congregation in their ministry together? We will.

All standing, the Bishop then presents the new minister to the congregation, saying

Greet your new Rector.

The congregation expresses its approval. Applause is appropriate.

THE WORD OF GOD

Lectors present the lectern Bible and say

Daniel, with this Bible we proclaim and hear God's living Word. Join us in the ministry of telling the Good News to the world.

Rector Amen. Let us hear again the Good News of salvation.

THE LESSON seated Jeremiah 31:31,33-34

Look, the days are coming, God declares, when I shall make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah. Within them I shall plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I shall be their God and they will be my people. There will be no further need for everyone to teach neighbor, brother, or sister saying, "Learn to know The Lord!" No, they will all know me, from the least to the greatest, God declares, since I shall forgive their guilt and never more call their sin to mind.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 84:1-6, 10-12

The Cantor sings the Refrain, and all repeat it.



How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts! * My soul has a desire and longing for your courts; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, * by the side of your altars, O God of hosts, my Ruler and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house; * they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you; * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Refrain

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height; * the God of gods will be revealed in Zion.

For God is both sun and shield * and will give grace and glory.

No good thing will God withhold * from those who walk with integrity.

O God of hosts, * happy are they who put their trust in you!

Refrain

Anglican Chant and Refrain: Will Doreza

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 4:7, 11-13, 15-16

Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into the one who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN standing; all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People

The Cantor sings the Refrain, and all repeat it.



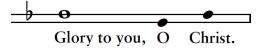
"I call you friends," says the Lord, "you who are my disciples. I make known to you all I have learned from my Father."

all repeat the Refrain

THE GOSPEL The Deacon or Priest intones

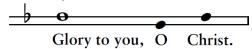
John 15:12, 15-17

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



Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

The Rev. Phillip A. Jackson Rector, Trinity Church Wall Street

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The Bishop stands and says

The water of baptism signifies our eternal covenant with God. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to Christ, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Daniel; people of St. Paul's, in Holy Baptism we received full adoption through God's grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit. Will you work together as partners in God's mission in which the Church participates, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?

People We will, with God's help.

The Bishop blesses the water.

We pray you, O God, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that all who in baptism are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Rector says

Let us renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we renounce Satan and all works of evil, and promise to serve God faithfully in God's holy Catholic Church.

The Bishop leads the renewal of baptismal vows.

The Bishop says

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? **I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? I will, with God's help.

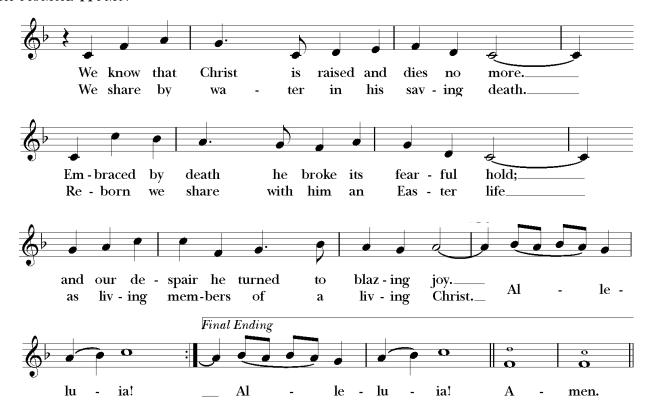
Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will, with God's help.

Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation? I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by God's grace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A baptismal hymn, psalm or other song is sung. The congregation is sprinkled with the water.

BAPTISMAL HYMN



Words: John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932), alt. Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Symbols of prayer are brought forward by Intercessors from the congregation.

Daniel, with this book of prayers we offer our prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings to God.

Holy oil is presented by representatives of the Healing Ministers.

Daniel with this healing oil we bring the reconciling presence of Christ to those who seek healing.

Rector Amen. In the Spirit of God, who searches the heart and knows our deepest needs, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all who yearn for Christ's healing.

Intercessors lead the prayers, saying

Loving God, in faith, we pray:

For reconciliation wherever relationships are broken,

That we may rest in your abiding peace.

For generosity between rich and poor people everywhere,

That we may share the abundance of your creation.

For the growth of love between broken peoples and nations,

That we may shape our common life as your kingdom.

For mutual respect between immigrants and insiders,

That we may welcome your image in all who come to us.

For protection for the weak and humility for the strong,

That we may serve others as you serve us in Christ.

For what else shall we pray?

Please offer your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

For all the joys and concerns of our hearts,

That we may live with gladness and trust.

The Bishop concludes the prayers, saying

God our rock and refuge: keep us safe in your care and strengthen us with your grace, that we may live in the world faithfully and love one another boldly, following the example of Jesus, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Bishop invites the new Rector to bid the peace:

The Peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS seated

Tonight's offering will be directed to the Rector's Discretionary Fund, which is used for pastoral emergencies and other non-budgeted parish ministry.

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY sung by the Choir

God has work for us to do

Mark Miller (b. 1958)

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled; 'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:

God has work for us to do, God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done, and all things are made new, God has work for us, work for us to do!

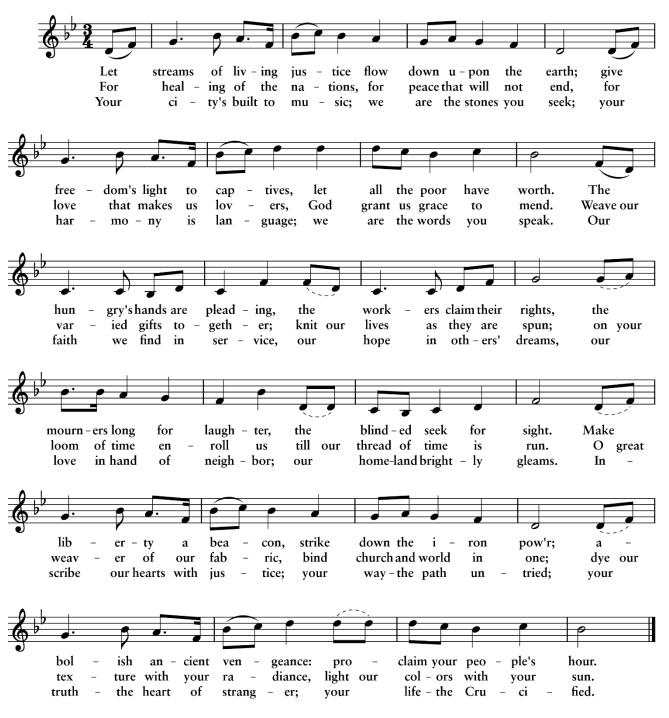
'Til age and race and gender no longer separate; 'til pulpit, press, and politics are free of greed and hate. God has work for us to do... In tenement and mansion, in factory, farm, and mill, in board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still,

In classroom, church, and office, in shops or on the street, in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet, God has work for us...

By sitting at a bedside to hold pale trembling hands, by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands,

By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear, by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near. God has work for us to do.

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY



Words: William Whitla (b. 1934) Music: Thaxted, Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

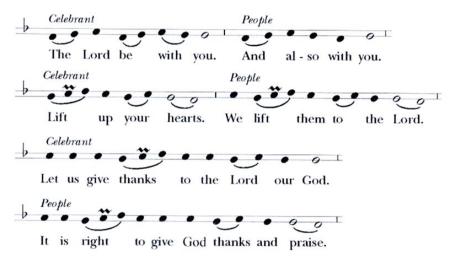
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching Our Worship Prayer 1

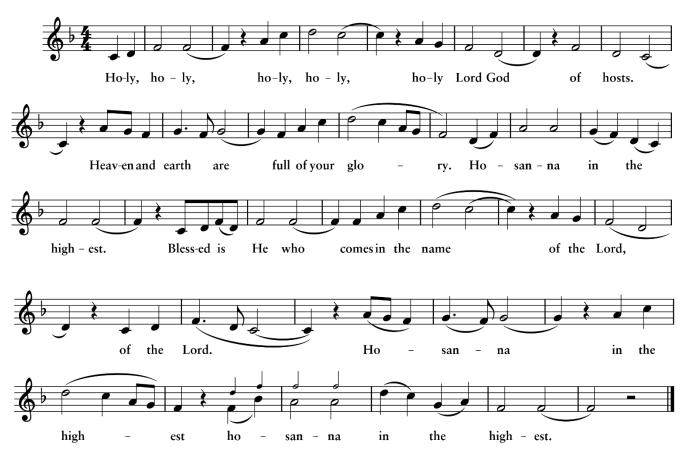
Representatives of the congregation address the Rector and say

Daniel, when we share the bread and the cup, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection until he comes. Join us at God's table to offer and bless our gifts of bread and wine.

Rector Amen. Together, let us keep the feast.



It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love. You have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Setting: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948)

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Dying, you destroyed our death; Rising, you restored our life; Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.

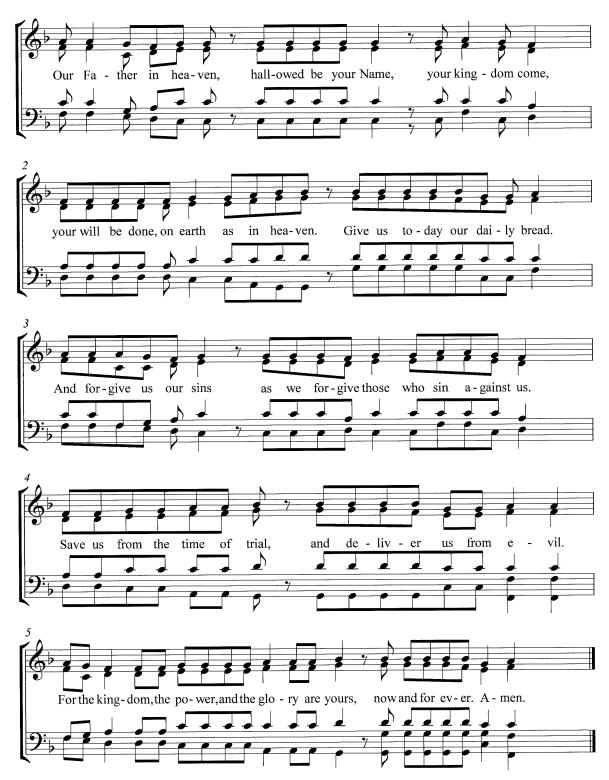
People

A-men

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant intones

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



setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

THE COMMUNION

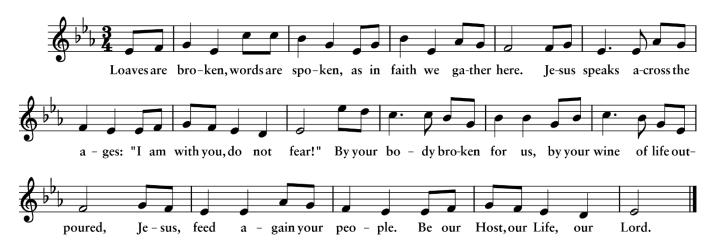
The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to communion, saying

Bread broken for the life of the world.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

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 as the distribution of Communion begins.



Words: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., (1923-2007)

Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

ANTHEM AT THE COMMUNION sung by the Choir

Draw us in the Spirit's Tether

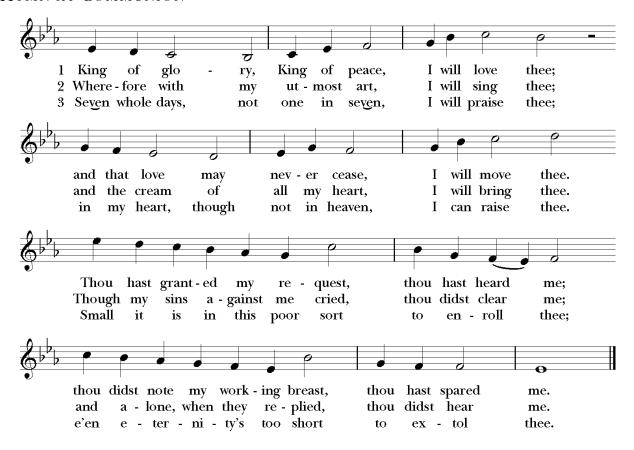
Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
For when humbly in Your name
Two or three are met together,
You are in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now Your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather
In the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father
Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
So now bind our friendship up.

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

All our meals and all our living Make as sacraments of You, That by caring, helping, giving, We may be disciples true. Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

HYMN AT COMMUNION



Words: George Herbert (1593–1633)

Music: General Seminary, David Charles Walker (b. 1938)

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 Bishop says

We have celebrated this new pastoral relationship in the great prayer of the Church. Daniel, I commend to your love and care the people of St. Paul's. My sisters and brothers and siblings in Christ, I commend to your love and care your new Rector, colleague and friend, Daniel.

The Bishop then blesses the assembly.

The blessing of our all-loving God: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always.

Amen.

HYMN IN PROCESSION



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Christ in all persons and all places!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso e Vivace from Sonata no. 2 – Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Please stay for a festive reception downstairs in the parish hall.

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

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