HOLY EUCHARIST

Proper 16 in Ordinary Time

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | AUGUST 27, 2023 - 9:00AM & II:00AM

PRELUDE

Adagio from "Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C Major" - J.S. Bach

Please stand as the bell sounds.



HYMN IN PROCESSION





Words:

John Newton (1725–1807), alt. Austria, Franz Joseph Heydn (1732–1807); desc. Michael Y. Young, (b. 1939) Music:

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

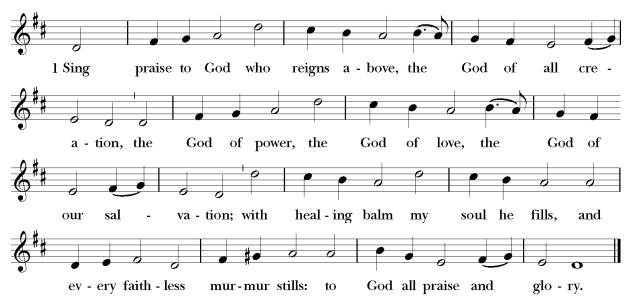
Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

The People respond



Glory to God fore-ver and ev-er.

SONG OF PRAISE



Words: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640–1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812–1897), alt.

Music: Mit Freuden zart, melody from "Une pastourelle gentille," 1529; adapt. Pseaumes cinquante de David, 1547, and Kischengeseng darinnen die Heubtartickel des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset, 1566; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), after Heinrich Reimann (19th cent.)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant intones

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Living God, you sent your Son among us to reveal your wisdom and make known your ways. Increase our faith, that we may confess Jesus as your Son, take up his work on earth, and trust his promise to sustain the Church. We ask this 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 LESSON seated Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION standing, all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People.

The Cantor sings the Acclamation, and all repeat it.



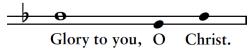


Setting: Evangelical Lutheran Worship, setting 3

THE GOSPEL The Deacon or Priest intones

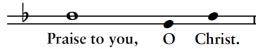
Matthew 16:13-20

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



When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON The Rev. Paul Carling

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the periods of silence, the People offer their own petitions, either silently or aloud.

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 we thank God?

Gracious God.

hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes

God of hope, from you come every blessing and all peace: give us the abundance of your grace, that we may do the work to which you call us, and may be for the world a sign of your presence; through Christ, our Way, our Truth, and our Life.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be 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.



Thank you for your support!

SACRED GROUND COMMISSIONING

Dear People of God, Christ calls us to be a people of reconciliation, serving a world in need. As followers of Christ, we stand alongside God's children of every race, language, and culture, and work together as agents of justice, peace, and reconciliation. This work involves risking who we have been for the sake of who God is calling us to be, moving beyond ourselves in order to seek and serve Christ in one another. We are all called to the work and ministry of God's restorative justice and reconciliation.

Will you now persevere in prayer and fellowship in these circles of study and sharing? I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to see Christ in all persons, both with whom you agree and disagree? I will, with God's help.

Will you seek to mend what is broken by human sin and greed? I will, with God's help.

Will you work toward dismantling the sin of abuse of power? I will, with God's help.

In the name of God and of this Church, I commission you to live into becoming Beloved Community, in these circles of Sacred Ground, in your lives, in your community, and in the world. **Amen**.

The Celebrant gives this charge to all gathered

May God make us all brave. May God root us in our own and others' absolute belovedness. May God grant us a vision for beloved community and lead us with care and boldness on the sacred path toward that dream, we pray. **Amen**.

The Celebrant offers the Welcome to Communion and the Table is prepared.

Circle 4

Lucy Burdick
Kate Parker-Burgard
Don Parker-Burgard
Angela Carey
Tom Carey
Brigid Culhane
Laure Dunne
Joan Frankel
Anthony Howard Crisci
Bethany Gugliemino
Mary Ann MacLachlan
Cecil Wade

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY sung by the Cantor at 11am

Give me Jesus

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Harry Burleigh (1886-1949)

Bel Zufferey, soprano



Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854); para. of Psalm 72

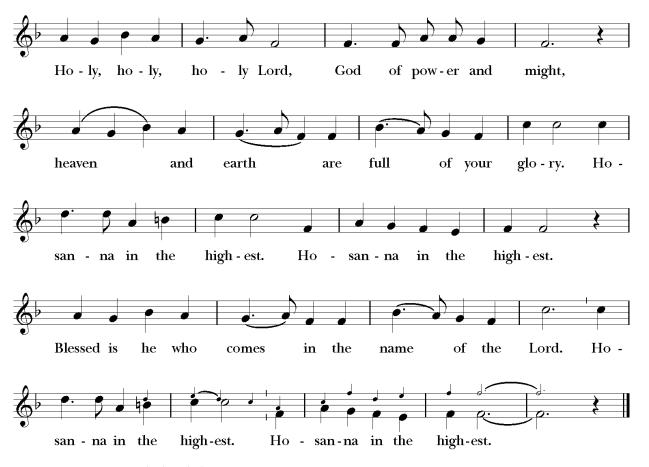
Music: Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein, German folk song; adapt. and harm. A Student's Hymnal, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869–1941)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world. You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:



Setting: A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance 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 cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

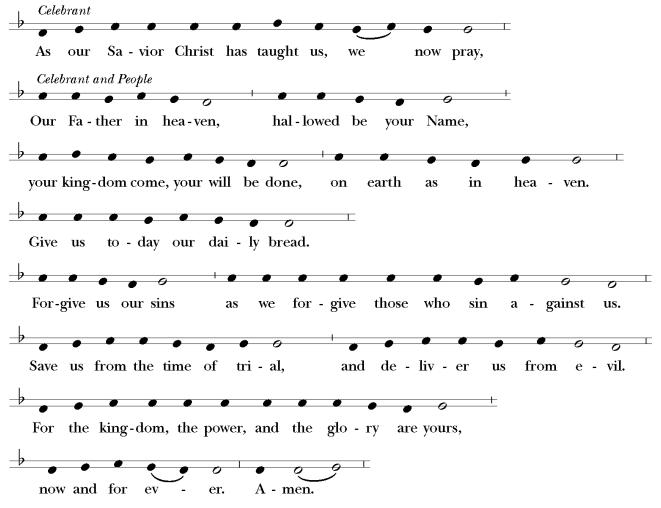
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you, now and forever.

People

A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Setting: Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens

THE COMMUNION

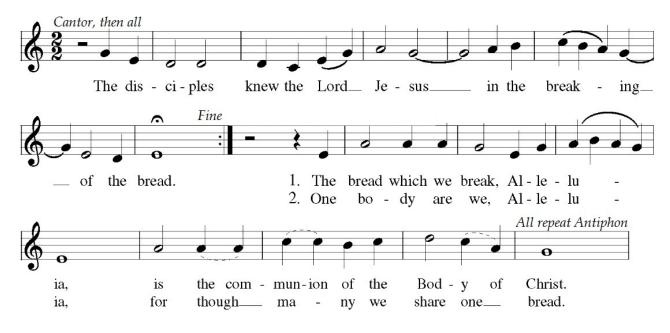
The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups at the side altars. (For the health of all, we are no longer dipping the bread into the chalice wine by hand.)

Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.



Setting: Jack Warren Burnam

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

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 OF THE BACKPACKS

Children and youth are invited to come forth with their backpacks for a blessing.

Gracious and loving God, we ask you to bless these backpacks and the children and youth who carry them, as they begin yet another year of school. Make these backpacks strong for their job of helping our kids to learn. May their straps never break, their padding never give out, their zippers never jam. Give those who carry them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and to be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. **Amen.**

The Celebrant blesses the People with these or other words of blessing

The blessing of God Almighty: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Presence, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90

Music: St. Anne, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world to love and to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Tuba Tune – C.S. Lang

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. Paul Carling Priest Associate
Will Doreza Interim Director of Music
Josh Ehlebracht Interim Organist
Marsha Dunn Parish Administrator

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