

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## Visitation of the Bishop Suffragan Proper 21 in Ordinary Time

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | OCTOBER 1, 2023, 11:00AM

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### PRELUDE

*Fanfare for Organ (Psalm 81 v.1-3) - John Cook (1918-1984)*

*Please stand as the bell sounds.*

### HYMN IN PROCESSION



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely  
2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and  
3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and  
live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to for-  
true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign a-  
wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice  
give. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of  
new. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's  
meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and  
grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: All are welcome,  
grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The Bishop says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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 and Father of all.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM     *sung by the Choir*

*Psalms 25:1-8*

To you, O God, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O God, \*  
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O God, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O God.

Gracious and upright are you; \*  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right \*  
and teach your way to the lowly.

Anglican Chant: Henry Stonex

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
 2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
 3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
 shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
 ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

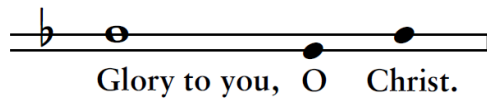
now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
 with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
 help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619–1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829–1878); alt.

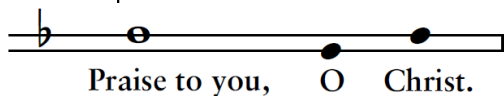
Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625–1673); alt. Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch, 1687;  
 harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846–1926)

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



When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

*The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens  
Bishop Suffragan*

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

*The Bishop alone stands, and invites the People to renew their Baptism, saying*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

*Bishop*            The candidates will now be presented.

*The candidates stand by group when presented.*

*Presenters*       **We present these persons for Confirmation.**

*James McNutt, Lucas Kopreski*

**We present these persons to be received into this Communion.**

*Christina Carneglia, Will Doreza, Bethany Gugliemino, Anthony Gravante, Stephen Kim,  
Don Parker-Burgard, George Peet, Rebecca Pisano, Liz Wernqvist*

**We present these persons who desire to reaffirm their baptismal vows.**

*Dana Belcher, Paul Carling, Audrey Cozzarin, Erika Kitano, Daniel Simons*

*The Bishop then invites all candidates to stand together.*

*Bishop*            Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

*Candidates*       **I do.**

*Bishop*            Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*Candidates*       **I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.**

*The Bishop addresses the People and invites all to stand*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?  
**We will.**

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Bishop*            Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ  
and renew our own baptismal covenant.

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.**



## BAPTISMAL PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

*The Cantor intones*

Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*After each petition, all sing*



Open our hearts to your grace and truth.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send us into the world in witness to your love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.

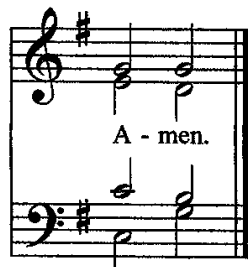
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

And for what else shall we pray?

*Free prayer may be offered*

*The Bishop says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.



*All now sit, except for the candidates, who kneel before the Bishop.*

#### FOR CONFIRMATION

*The Bishop lays hands upon each candidate and says*

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant N. with your Holy Spirit; empower *them* for your service; and sustain *them* all the days of their life.

**Amen.**

#### FOR RECEPTION

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you.

**Amen.**

#### FOR REAFFIRMATION

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom.

**Amen.**

*All now stand. The Bishop says*

Almighty and everliving God, let your gracious hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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.*

*The undesignated gifts in today's offering will be given to Bp. Ahren's discretionary fund, which is used to meet emergency pastoral needs.*

### **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](http://stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard), or text to give at 855-934-1074**

For other means of giving, visit [stpaulsnorwalk.org/support](http://stpaulsnorwalk.org/support).

**Thank you for your support!**



### MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Choir*

#### **The Spirit of the Lord**

*Philip Stopford (b. 1977)*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor:  
He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,  
to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to preach the acceptable year of the Lord;  
To give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,  
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;  
That they might be called trees of righteousness,  
The planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.  
For as the earth bringeth forth her bud,  
and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth;  
So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY *standing*

1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my  
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly

heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good  
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a

ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering  
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from  
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735–1790), alt.

Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934)

## 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.**

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:

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —'.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938–1984)

*The Celebrant continues*

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. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**


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 children, that with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, and all your saints, 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.

**Amen.**

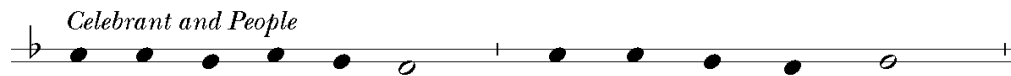
## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant*

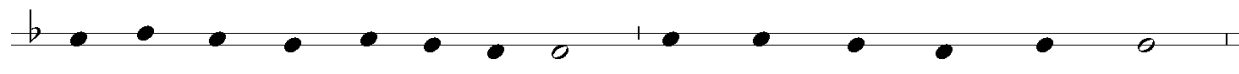


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

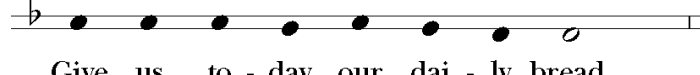
*Celebrant and People*



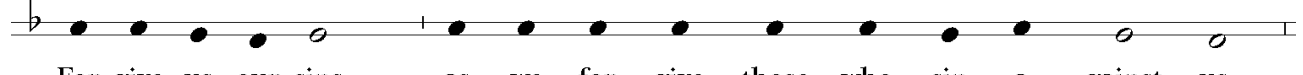
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



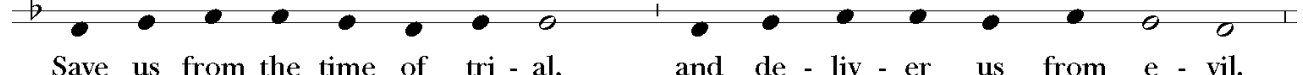
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



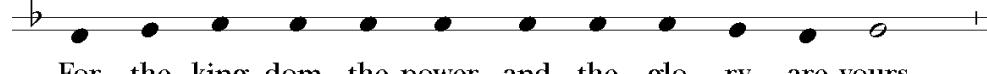
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



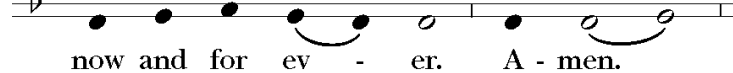
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



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

## THE COMMUNION

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

This is the Bread of Heaven.

**Broken for the life of the world.**

*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.*

*All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:*

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in a key of one sharp (F#) and common time (C). The first system of music has the lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry." The second system of music has the lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst." The music is a simple, hymn-like setting with a steady rhythm.

Setting: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

## MUSIC AT COMMUNION

*sung by the Choir 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

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

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

# HYMN IN PROCESSION

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com-fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890), alt.  
 Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Finale from Symphony No. 1 - Louis Vierne (1870-1937)*

## *What do we mean by Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation?*

Today we have the joy of being joined by Bishop Laura in worship. Over a dozen of us are being Confirmed, Received, and Reaffirming our faith. For those who wish to understand a little bit more about what the Episcopal Church means by those terms, read on below:

### **Notes from the Episcopal Dictionary of the Church**

*NOTE: BCP" refers to the Book of Common Prayer*

#### **CONFIRMATION**

The sacramental rite in which the candidates "express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop" (BCP, p. 860). Those who were baptized at an early age and those baptized as adults without laying on of hands by a bishop are expected to make a mature public affirmation of their faith, recommit themselves to the responsibilities of their baptism, and receive laying on of hands by a bishop (BCP, p. 412). Adults baptized with the laying on of hands by a bishop are considered to be confirmed. The Episcopal Church's theology of Confirmation has continued to evolve along with its understanding of baptism. Confirmation is no longer seen as the completion of Christian initiation, nor is Confirmation a prerequisite for receiving communion. Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's body the church (BCP, p. 298). Accordingly, Confirmation has been increasingly understood in terms of a mature, public reaffirmation of the Christian faith and the baptismal promises.

#### **RECEPTION**

Baptized persons who have been members of another Christian fellowship and who wish to be affiliated with the Episcopal Church may make a public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their baptism in the presence of a bishop. The bishop lays hands on each candidate for reception and says, "We recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion" (BCP, p. 418). Candidates for reception normally have made a mature commitment in another Christian fellowship.

#### **REAFFIRMATION**

The BCP refers to those persons already baptized who are presented to the bishop in the context of a service of Baptism or Confirmation to reaffirm their baptismal vows. These might be persons returning to the church after a period of unbelief or those who have entered a new level of spiritual life. The BCP does not specify who these persons are, and a variety of interpretation exists. The BCP provides a form to be used for reaffirmation of baptismal vows instead of the confirmation formula (BCP, p. 419).

As we do every time we baptize a new member, the whole community reaffirms their faith, so today includes us all. God is calling us all into a deeper experience of knowing that we fully belong, as does everyone and everything else!

## **THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS**

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

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Rector*

The Rev. Paul Carling *Priest Associate*

Molly Cooke *Seminarian*

Will Doreza *Interim Director of Music*

Josh Ehlebracht *Interim Organist*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*

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