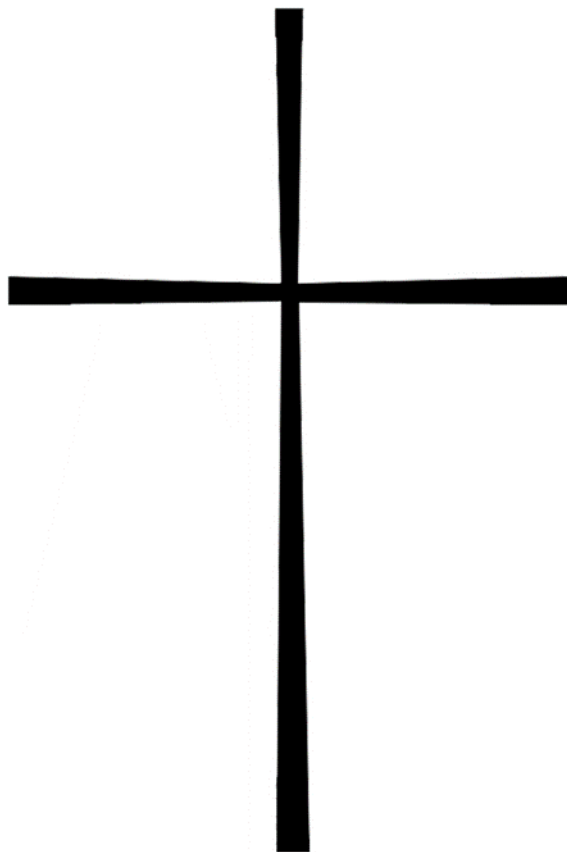


St. Paul's Episcopal Church



The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

10:30 am

Welcome to St. Paul's! We are so happy you are with us today. If you are new or visiting, please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate so we can welcome you personally.

This service is live-streamed on Facebook. If you have privacy concerns, please be aware that the front half of the church may be visible online.

Prelude *At the Name of Jesus*

Benjamin Culli (1975-)

The Hymnal 1982 #435 v. 1-3

At the Name of Jesus

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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.**

Gloria

Wonder, Love, and Praise #900

The Cantor and Celebrant sing,

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heav'nly King, almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant 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 people sit for the readings.

First Lesson

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekial:

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 25:1-8

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The Cantor and Choir sing,

- 1 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.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O God,
and teach me your paths.
- 4 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.
- 5 Remember, O God, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 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.
- 7 Gracious and upright are you;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.
- 8 You guide the humble in doing right
and teach your way to the lowly.

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1-13

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians:

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

The Hymnal 1982 #435 v. 4-6

At the Name of Jesus

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

After the sermon, all stand as they are able and say,

The Apostles Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

A Litany for the Earth

The Intercessor and People pray responsively.

Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures.

I ask your prayers for the mission of the church throughout the world, for sharing the promise of abundant life and working toward it for all. God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

I ask your prayers for the leaders of the nations, and for all who make or influence decisions for the health of our planet and the well-being of its peoples. God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

I ask your prayers for peace with justice around the world, and an end to violent competition for limited resources. God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

I ask your prayers for those who in their daily work are stewards and protectors of God's creation in ways large and small; for gardeners, farmers, and ranchers; for rangers and park managers; for fishers and foresters; for climate scientists, ecologists, and activists, and for all who work to restore care for our Earth. God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

I ask your prayers for those who suffer illness, want, or exile because of environmental degradation or disaster, and for all those on our parish prayer list, especially *[those parishioners on our prayer list and]* all those we name silently or aloud (*pause, during which the people may offer names and concerns*). God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

I ask your prayers for the dead, especially for those holy women and men who taught us to marvel in all God's works, and those we name now, silently or aloud, (*pause, during which the people may offer names*). God of Creation, **hear our prayers.**

The Celebrant offers a concluding collect.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

All say, **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements – Birthdays & Anniversaries

The Offertory

To make a gift by credit card, text the word “give” to 517-901-7150.

Doxology *all stand & sing,*

The Hymnal 1982 #380 v. 3

**Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer C

Sursum corda, The Hymnal 1982 # S-120

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give our thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

People
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus 🛎🛎🛎

Wonder, Love, and Praise #858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven 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 - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues,

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. 🔔

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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." 🔔 🔔 🔔

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." 🔔 🔔 🔔

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Forbearers: God of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.** 🔔 🔔 🔔

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Celebrant breaks the bread, as the Cantor and Choir Sing,

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.
The bread which we break, Alleluia
is the communion of the Body of Christ.

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.
One body are we, Alleluia,
for though many we share one bread.

Everyone is invited to Holy Communion. Gluten free bread is available. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of the bread or the wine, please cross your hands over your chest.

During cold and flu season, we highly recommend using the hand sanitizer in the pews.

After Communion, the Celebrant prays,

O Lord Jesus Christ, in this wonderful Sacrament you have given us a memorial of your Passion: be with those who are worshipping with us online, that as they meditate upon the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood they may perceive within themselves the fruit of your redemption and be nourished by your holy presence in their lives. **Amen.**

After Communion, the Celebrant and People pray,

**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.**

If Lay Eucharistic Visitors are Being Sent,

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these
holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the
communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, because we all share one
bread, one cup.**

The Celebrant blesses the people.

Wonder, Love, and Praise #782

1 Gracious Spirit, give your servants
joy to set sin's captives free,
hope to heal the brokenhearted,
peace to share love's liberty.
Through us bring your balm of
gladness to the wounded and
oppressed;
help us claim and show God's favor
as a people called and blessed.

2 Word made flesh, who gave up glory
to become our great high priest,
taking on our human nature
to redeem the last and least:
let your courage and compassion
shape and guide our ministries;
as our Savior and our Shepherd,
lead us to the truth that frees.

Gracious Spirit, Give Your Servants

3 Loving God, who birthed creation
from the nothingness of space,
kindling life where all was empty,
turning chaos into grace:
when we feel confused and fruitless,
dawn upon our restless night;
give us faith's imagination,
hope's renewing, love's delight.

4 Triune God, eternal Being,
never ending, unbegun,
boundless grace and perfect justice,
righteous and forgiving One:
so enfold us in your mercy
that our wills and yours unite;
through us may the world behold you,
find your love, your truth, your light.

The Celebrant dismisses the people, saying

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *At the Name of Jesus*

Kevin Hildebrand (1973-)

If you depart during the postlude, please do so quietly so others may listen or pray.

Dedications

- ❖ ALTAR FLOWERS for today are given TO THE GLORY OF GOD and IN LOVING MEMORY of my friends Nancy & Ray Hartsuff and Helen McGarry by Betty Thomas; and IN LOVING MEMORY of my beloved husband Jim on his passing September 23, 2023 by Charlotte Portz.
- ❖ THE AUMBRY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK to the Glory of God and IN LOVING MEMORY of Rev. Milton & Eunice Austin by The Women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, ECW.

Worship Ministers

The Rev. Jadon Hartsuff, Celebrant

Julie Baglien, Organist,

Jeff Wilkinson, Choir Director

Eric Magnusson, 1st Reader; Jen Yocum, 2nd Reader

Bob Fowler, Intercessor;

Dennis Marsh & Sandra Kilian, LEM & Acolyte

Barb Duke, Christie Swanson & Laura Orr, Ushers

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Announcements

- **Birthdays:** Autumn Boody, A. P. Cook, Michelle Gibson, Sue Hammett, Father Jadon, Laura Orr, St. Paul's gardener Sue Smar, Dominic Themm, Teri Utz. **Anniversaries:** ?
- **Cold and flu season is here again,** and the latest uptick in COVID cases is a good reminder to follow CDC recommendations, wash your hands, or use hand sanitizer, and PLEASE if you're sick, stay home to avoid spreading it to others.
- **Housewarming Open House!** At Fr. Jadon and Tim's new home, **today from 2-5 pm**, address and details are posted on the bulletin board.
- **All-Parish Forums October 8 and 15 at 9:30am.** Father Jadon will explain and discuss questions about a number of happenings around the parish, including a roof replacement project, recent staffing changes, a potential partnership using our upstairs space, and more!
- **Save the Date also for:**
 - The Blessing Of the Animals at 4:30 pm on Oct. 8th
 - All Saints Day Celebration of New Ministry at 6pm on Nov. 1st
- **The next meeting of the Women of St. Paul's will be on Saturday, October 14th,** with social time at 10:30 am and the meeting at 11 am. Our guest speaker will be Wendy Wight with "Together We can Make a Difference". Food \$5.
- **ECW and Mission & Outreach are teaming up this month to help the Priceless Gift Toy Store** by collecting gently used (or new!) toys, games, puzzles, books, stuffed animals, sports equipment for children and teens of all ages. You can also donate hats, gloves, batteries, and personal hygiene items from now through November 12th.

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