



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026, 10:00am
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
StPaulsSparks.org

Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you're welcome to participate fully in all that we do here. We invite you to say the words in bold throughout the service. Restrooms are outside the sanctuary and down the hall. Turn right at your first opportunity. You're invited to join us for coffee and fellowship after the service in the parish hall. If it's your first time worshipping with us, please fill out the Connect Card in the foyer. Be sure to leave your mobile number if you'd like a text from Mother Hannah.

Prelude

*Chorus: Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.*

*You came from Heaven to earth to show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift Your name on high. (Chorus)*

Announcements & Welcome

The Processional

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.*

The Acclamation & Collect for Purity

Blessed be the one holy and living God. *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.*

"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

*You came from Heaven to earth to show the way.
From the Earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift Your name on high.*

*Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I lift Your name on high.*

Hymn #488 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

*And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.*

*4 That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to
them abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through
him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!*

The Gloria

Hymn #S-280

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly 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*

Let us pray. (*A moment of silence for prayer.*) Lord of living waters you save us from the flood of violence and despair: reach out to us when faith is weak, when we are going under and make us unafraid to walk with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we are raised. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

A Reading from the First Book of Kings (19:9-18)

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

We will say the Psalm responsively by whole-verse.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Second Lesson

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (10:5-15)

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Acclamation

Open Our Eyes, Lord

*Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him,
and say that we love him.*

*Open our ears, Lord,
and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (14:22-33)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Continued

*Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him,
and say that we love him.*

*Open our ears, Lord,
and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord,
we want to see Jesus.*

The Sermon

Silent reflection after the sermon.

The Rev. Kris Gallagher

The Nicene Creed

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 he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Special Prayers

If you're celebrating sobriety, a birthday, an anniversary, or traveling, or any other significant milestone, you are invited to come forward for prayer.

The Prayers of the People

O God, Creator of every star in the night sky, we thank you for our place in your vast Universe. Bless us with an abiding sense of awe and wonder as we go about our daily lives.

We give you thanks and praise, O God.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for the Episcopal Church. O Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Paul's in Elko. O Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

O God, Creator of our beautiful, blue planet among the stars, we thank you for the sky and ocean, clouds and waves, and for every living thing. Grant us knowledge and wisdom to live in harmony with your planet. O Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, Creator of Humanity, we thank you for creating us. Guide us away from harming each other, and towards loving each other and living in harmony. Bless, inspire, and guide all people who exercise power and influence. O Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we pray for the well-being of our families, for those we love, and for our neighbors. We pray especially for you to help us love those people who seem different, who we do not understand, and who we fear. O Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we pray for all who are ill, suffering, or in any kind of distress. We pray especially for Bill Vannoy, Lynne Snell, Faith, Deni, Milt, and those we now name (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we pray for those who have left this mortal life. We pray especially for Moose, Janet O'Day, and those we now name (*pause*). May you bless them and keep them in your sight forevermore. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Priest: O God, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit among us, and to grant our prayers in accordance with your divine will and wisdom, through the mercy and love of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession & Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(*A moment of silence for prayer. Please stand, bow or kneel, as you are able.*)

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Feel free to greet one another with whatever sign of peace (handshake, fist bump, nod, etc.) is comfortable for you.

Communion Instructions & Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

The Offertory

Hymn #513 "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

Your gifts sustain our mission and ministry. Thank you for being generous. You may place your gifts in the offering plate as it comes around. Or you can point your phone camera at the code to the right and follow the instructions to give online. We especially appreciate automated giving, and help with covering fees. When the offering is brought to the front, we stand and sing together:



The Presentation Song

“Freely Freely ”

*God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born
again in Jesus' name, and in Jesus' name I come to
you to share His love as He told me to.*

*Chorus: He said, Freely, freely you have received;
Freely, freely give.
Go in my name and because you believe,*

Others will know that I live.

*All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven, in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to. (Chorus)*

Prayer Over the Offering: All things come of thee, O Lord, **and of thine own have we given thee.**

The Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer C, Inclusive Language

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

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

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

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 eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

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

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: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

On the night he was betrayed Jesus 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, Jesus 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 all 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 Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, 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 Savior. Sanctify us also, and 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.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; 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. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, 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 pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

These are the gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please be seated. Follow the directions of the ushers. If you need gluten-free wafers, please say "gluten free" to the priest. If you prefer not to receive communion, you may still come forward for a blessing; please cross your arms over your chest. Let an usher know if you would like communion brought to you in your seat.

Communion Music

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

*Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth the
peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Parent, siblings all are we
let me walk with my sibling in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me,
let this be the moment now;
with every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment in
peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.*

"You Are Awesome in This Place"

*As I come into Your presence past the
gates of praise into Your sanctuary
till we're standing face to face.
I look upon Your countenance I see the
glory of Your Holy face I can only bow*

*down and say...
You are awesome in this place, Mighty God
You are awesome in this place, Abba Father
You are worthy of all praise
To You our hands we raise*

*You are awesome in this place, Mighty God
(Repeat all)*

The Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray. *(Pause for silent prayer.)* Eternal God, **heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The priest gives a final blessing to which we respond, **Amen.**

The Recessional

Hymn #423 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and
love.*

*Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“Fear Not”

Permission to reprint, perform and stream the music in this service has been obtained from RiteSong, CCLI #2874630.
Biblical interpretation from the New Revised Standard Version.

Flowers Given in Celebration of Colette's First Birthday
Given by her grandparents, Peter and Barbara Papadakos.

Announcements

Welcome to St. Paul's We're so glad you joined us! You're invited to the coffee hour after the service in the parish hall, which is down the hallway from the narthex (entryway) and to the left. If you're new here, please fill out a yellow Connect Card. We would love to get to know you. You can place the card in the offering plate as it goes by, or hand it to an usher. Welcome!

Special Photo Presentation Coffee Hour Today after church Deb Stiver will highlight current practices that protect endangered animals, especially rhino and cheetah. She will also share about how the Katie Adamson Conservation Fund (KACF), and International Development Missions (IDM) partner with other organizations to promote sustainable practices through education and cooperation with local communities. A taste of South African cuisine will be served! We hope to see you there.