St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, November 8, 2026 ● 10:45am
Celebrating: The Rev. Noah H. Evans
Preaching: The Rev. Guy W. Brown
Deacon: The Rev. Jane Russomano-Esmonde

God loves you, no exceptions.
You are always welcome at God's table at St. Paul's.
St. Paul's is a spiritual home and welcoming community to people of all ages, generations, educational backgrounds, financial means, abilities and disabilities, races, ethnicities, and nationalities, without regard to sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity/expression, and with many different family and religious backgrounds. Some of us are lifelong Episcopalians; some were raised in other Protestant denominations or in the Roman Catholic Church; some are new to the Christian faith; some are not sure what they believe. There is a place here for you.

Give to St. Paul's
The Offering helps to sustain the life and work of St. Paul's. For electronic giving, use this QR code. You can also text **(412) 923-0101** to give or place an offering in the baskets at the entrances.

Thank you!

Prelude: The Peace may be exchanged, from *Rubrics* **Dan Locklair**

Welcome and Greetings

Opening Hymn: This day at thy creating word **Hymnal 52, Music: *Rushford***

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.*

Song of Praise: Glory to God **Hymnal S 280, Setting: Robert Powell**

The Collect of the Day
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

Psalm 78:14-15, 17-19, 23-25 **Setting: Peter Hallock**
(Please join in singing – music is located at the back of the bulletin.)

Sequence Hymn: Rejoice! rejoice, believers, vv. 1-2 **Hymnal 68, Music: *Llangloffan***

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation! at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

The Gospel
Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn: Rejoice! rejoice, believers, v.3 **Hymnal 68, Music: *Llangloffan***

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

The Sermon
The Rev. Guy W. Brown

The 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.

The Prayers of the People
The Prayers of the People are written by the Stewardship Commission. Respond to "Lord, in your mercy" with "Hear our prayer."

Confession of Sin
Celebrant
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People
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.

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 the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Announcements

Stewardship Testimonial
Phil Parr

Give to St. Paul's

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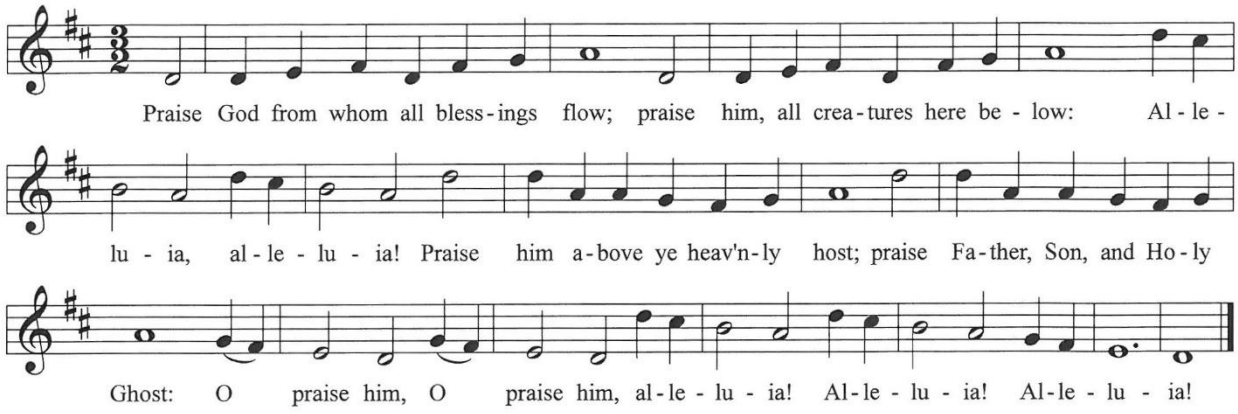
Thank you!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: A Jubilant Song **Mary Lynn Lightfoot**

Cantate Domino canticum novum. Sing to the Lord a new jubilant song!
Cantate Domino canticum novum omnis terra. Sing to the Lord all the earth!
Let the sea roar and the floods clap their hands! Let the hills sing together for joy!
Let the heavens and the earth all rejoice, for the Lord is greatly to be praised!
Proclaim God's salvation! Declare God's great glory!
Lift up a jubilant song and make joyful noise!
Cantate Domino canticum novum. Sing to the Lord a new jubilant song!
Cantate Domino canticum novum omnis terra. Sing to the Lord all the earth!
O, Sing! Cantate Domino.

Presentation Hymn: Doxology **Words: Thomas Ken; Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen***



The Great Thanksgiving, *EOW Prayer 2*
The people may stand or kneel.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People 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
We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

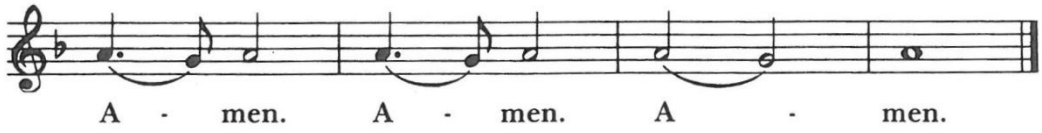
Celebrant and People **Hymnal S 129, Setting: Robert Powell**
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues
Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Paul and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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 **Hymnal S 147, Setting: McNeil Robinson II**



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

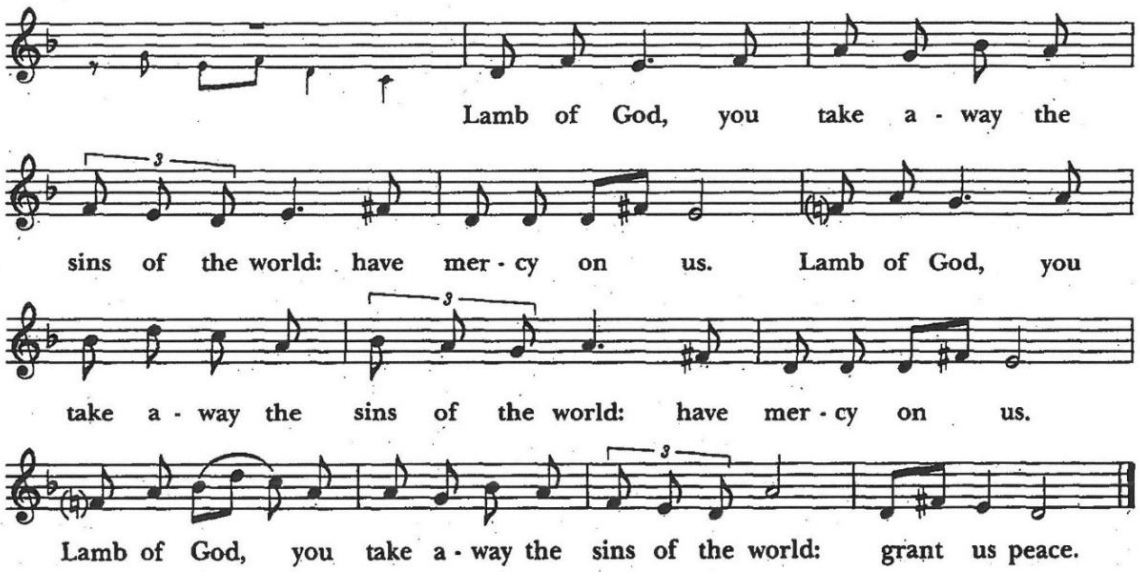
The Lord's Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Fraction Anthem **Hymnal S 163, Setting: Robert Powell**



Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. *Please come forward to receive through the center aisle, returning through the side aisles. You are welcome to receive just the bread, or the bread and the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please take the bread in your hand and sip the wine from the chalice. For sanitary reasons, we ask you not to dip the host in the wine. If someone with you would like communion brought to them, please let a greeter know.*

Healing Prayer

Before or after receiving Communion, you are invited to go to one of the two prayer stations on either side of the altar for laying on of hands and prayers for healing. You may ask for a prayer for yourself, someone you care for, or a general prayer. You may stand or sit for prayer. You will be asked if you wish to be anointed with oil and if you would like a hand placed on your shoulder. Our clergy or trained lay healing prayer ministers will keep all prayer requests in private confidence.

Communion Hymn: Once he came in blessing **Hymnal 53, Music: *Gottes Sohn ist kommen***

Post Communion Prayer—*said together*

Let us 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.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: Praise our great and gracious Lord **Hymnal 393, Music: *Maoz Zur***

Dismissal
The worship is ended, the service begins.
Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 549 **J.S. Bach**

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jud and Dorris Hardy, John and Margot Strong, and the Strong and Headley families.

The St. Paul's Sensory Space, located in the Good Shepherd room on the 3rd floor, is open during church services and special events if you need a sensory break or a quiet moment. There is also a **Nursing Room** available in the Rainbow Room on the 3rd floor.

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Pastoral Care 24/7 Hotline 412-531-7153 x 5
In the event of a pastoral emergency such as serious illness, injury, or death, please call.
A clergy person will either answer or call you as soon as possible.

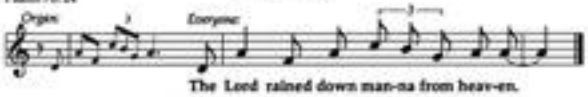
PSALM 78

Peter R. Hallock

Psalm 78: 14–15, 17–19, 23–25

ANTIPHON

Psalm 78: 24



The Lord rained down man-na from heav-en.

Choir: He led them with a cloud by day, and all the night through with a glow of fire. He split the hard rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink as from the great deep.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Choir: But they went on sinning against him, rebelling in the desert against the Most High. They tested God in their hearts, demanding food for their craving.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Choir: They railed against God and said, "Can God set a table in the wilderness?" So he commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Choir: He rained down manna upon them to eat and gave them grain from heaven. So mortals ate the bread of angels; he provided for them food enough.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON