



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
E P I S C O P A L

CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF CREATION
The Holy Eucharist:
Rite Two
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 21
September 26, 2021
8:00 a.m.

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith,
we welcome you and invite your full participation in today's worship.

A Gentle Reminder about Mask Etiquette

The medical professionals in our congregation want to remind everyone that, while the COVID vaccine is extremely effective, it doesn't 100% prevent infection, and the Delta variant is very contagious. For everyone's sake, please observe proper mask etiquette.

In accordance with instructions from our Bishop, **we wear masks for all indoor activities at St. Paul's**. Masks are available at the entrances to the church, the Great Hall, and the offices. The mask must cover both your nose and your mouth. Please remain masked when you come forward for Communion and do not consume the Host until you have returned to your seat. Sliding the mask down under your chin compromises its effectiveness when you reposition it: we recommend removing it completely by the ear straps for the shortest possible time. Try to touch your mask as little as possible. Thank you for helping to keep our community safe!

This message brought to you by your Cathedral Regathering Task Force

For the link to the webpage with the announcements and bulletins, click here:

<https://stpaulcathedral.org/service-bulletin/>

If you're interested in more information about the cathedral's ministries, we would like to hear from you:

<http://stpaulcathedral.org/im-new/>

Due to the pandemic restrictions we will not pass the offering plates, the offering will be taken upon entry and exit. You may give online now by clicking here: <https://onrealm.org/StPaulsCathedral/give/now> or text stpaulcathedral to 73256 using your cell phone. Thank you!

§ *Please stand as you are able at the tolling of the bell.*

The Word of God

The Presider says

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

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

Presider

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.**

The Presider and people say together

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.**

The Collect of the Day

The Presider says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider **Let us pray.**

The Presider says the Collect.

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.**

§ *Please be seated.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Esther.

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm (said by all)

Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus*

BCP 781

- 1 **If the LORD had not been on our side, ***
let Israel now say;
- 2 **If the LORD had not been on our side, ***
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 **Then would they have swallowed us up alive ***
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 **Then would the waters have overwhelmed us ***
and the torrent gone over us;

- 5 **Then would the raging waters ***
have gone right over us.
- 6 **Blessed be the LORD! ***
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 **We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; ***
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 **Our help is in the Name of the LORD, ***
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Letter of James.

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

§ *Please stand as able.*

The Holy Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

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

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

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into

the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

§ *Please be seated at the introduction of the sermon.*

The Sermon

The Very Rev. Penny Bridges

§ *After a moment of silence, please stand as able for The Nicene Creed.*

The Nicene Creed

(Presider and people)

**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 for the Season of Creation

During the silence after each bidding, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

The Deacon bids the prayers.

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

Intercessor

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help.

The Intercessor offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died.

The Intercessor offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

The Presider says the concluding Collect

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

source: Anne Kelsey

Confession of Sin

The Deacon says to the People

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People together

**Merciful and sustaining God,
we have sinned against you.**

**We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.**

**We confess that we have misused your earth:
grant us amendment of life.**

**We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:
strengthen us in self-control.**

**We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted:
make us urgent now for its protection.**

**Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Presider says

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

The Peace

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

§ *The People offer each other a socially distanced sign of the Peace.*

Welcome and announcements

The Holy Communion

§ Please be seated after the Presider says the Offertory Sentence then stand as able for the offering to be brought forward and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

In this prayer, the lines in bold are spoken by the People.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

God of all power, Ruler 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: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, 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 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.

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 only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open 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:

Sanctus (*Presider and People*)

**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 Presider 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 Ancestors: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Miriam, Deborah, and Ruth; 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 say,

The Lord's Prayer (*Presider and People*)

**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 Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence follows as the Bread is broken.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Invitation

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;

you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before;

you who have tried to follow and you who have failed;

come, not because the Church invites you;

it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

- The Iona Community Worship Book

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After the Invitation has been given, please be seated until you are ushered to the communion stations at the Crossing.

Please take your purse or valuables with you.

The consecrated wafers will be distributed by the clergy at the standing stations at the Crossing. Please come forward, keeping your mask on and return to your seat before removing your mask to consume the Host.

We are not administering wine at this time but the full spiritual benefit of the sacrament is contained in the Host, and if you prefer a blessing to the Host, cross your arms at your shoulders as you approach the priest.

If you need to receive a gluten-free wafer, please go to the section at the extreme left.

§ *After a moment of silence following the distribution of communion, please stand as you are able for the following prayer*

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All **God our Creator,
you feed your people with the bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
that we may come to that place
where your people hunger and thirst no more
and your creation is restored to its full glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Presider may bless the people.

Go forth confident in the hope in which you have been saved; praise God in all creation; follow Christ through whom all things are made; in the power of the Spirit become a beacon of hope to the world; and the blessing of the Creator God, ✠ the Eternal Father, the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always. **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

§ *The clergy, altar party, and people depart.*

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: The Reverend Timothy Kroh

Preacher & Dean: The Very Reverend Penny Bridges

Deacon: The Reverend Canon Brooks Mason

Reader: Jane Batarseh

Head Verger: Canon Lisa Churchill

Altar Server: Daniel Love

Altar Guild: Ellen Hargus, Craig Monsell, Marty Olson, Mary Rathbun, Mary Tranbarger

Usher-in-charge: Rich Davis

Ushers: Norm Friesen, Carl Mattina, Mary Rathbun

Audio Engineer: Bo Anacta

The offices are open for normal office hours and visitors may ask at the office to be let in to the cathedral. Most of the staff will continue to work at home for much of the time. Your continued financial support as we move through this crisis helps us pay our staff and other expenses of the church which do not stop.

A few notes about giving in this time:

1. You may continue to mail donations. Mail them to 2728 Sixth Ave, San Diego, CA 92103. Staff will continue to process mail donations.
2. We encourage you to consider moving to online giving at <https://stpaulcathedral.org/give/>. There you may schedule automatic donations that do not require the staff to handle postal mail, allowing staff to focus on other tasks and reducing contact with paper.

Thank you!

In the unlikely event of an emergency requiring us to evacuate the cathedral please follow the directions of the ushers and vergers, and remain as quiet and calm as possible. Please locate an exit nearest you.

The exit doors are:

- *South porch doors at Nutmeg Street and Fifth Avenue*
- *North porch doors to Fifth Avenue Courtyard*
- *South transept east and west doors to Nutmeg Street*
- *Northeast hallway door to Fifth Avenue breezeway*
- *West chapel (to the left of chapel altar) stairs leading down to landing.*