



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

The Fifth Sunday of Advent
The Holy Eucharist:
Rite Two

December 7, 2025
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.

As a courtesy to others, please silence electronic devices.

For the link to the webpage with the announcements and bulletins, use this QR code:

Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them:

<https://www.youtube.com/StPaulsCathedralEpiscopalSanDiego/live>

*If you're interested in more information about the cathedral's ministries,
we would like to hear from you: <http://stpaulcathedral.org/im-new/>*



St. Paul's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on unceded Kumeyaay land. We value the knowledge, culture, and worldview of Indigenous people. We commit to the vital work of educating ourselves, increasing community awareness, and promoting reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbors. As we examine actions and practices that perpetuate harm against Indigenous communities, we pledge to work toward a meaningful and respectful relationship as we follow their example in honoring this sacred land.

- Approved by the Cathedral Chapter, May 2023

Kneelers are available in the back of the church: please bring one to your seat if you wish to kneel during the service.

Parents with young children are invited to worship with their children in the Playground area of the Nave, where age-appropriate activities are available.

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

The Word of God

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 355

The Acclamation and Collect for Purity:

The Acclamation is a salutation or greeting in the opening dialogue of the eucharistic liturgy arranged by versicle and response and varied according to the liturgical season.

The Collect for Purity has its roots as a private, preparatory prayer of the priest dating back to the 11th century. It draws from Psalm 51 – the great penitential psalm of David. It is a way for all of us to prepare for worship.

The Presider says

Our King and Savior now draws near:

People **Come let us adore him.**

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.**

Kyrie Eleison

In the early church, in the east, the Greek supplication Kyrie eleison ("Lord, have mercy") was the common response to intercessory biddings addressed to the people. It now may be used in the eucharist at the entrance rite in the Episcopal Church. Kyrie eleison may be sung or said in place of the Gloria in excelsis in the entrance rite in seasons other than Christmas and Easter.

Presider Lord, have mercy upon us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Presider Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Collect of the Day is assigned in the Book of Common Prayer (pp 211-261), one for each Sunday and Holy Day of the year.

This concludes the Entrance Rite and brings us to the Liturgy of the Word. It introduces the theme of the day from either the Gospel or the life of the Church and frames the conversation we will have in (and with) our readings. It collects our thoughts and intentions.

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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

§ *Please be seated.*

The Lessons

The Liturgy of the Word is based on ancient Jewish worship: we hear and learn about God's work in the world by listening to Lessons from Scripture. Scripture is read every time God's people gather for worship, whether for Eucharist or for the Daily Office, or for any other prayer service. We are a church grounded in the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures.

We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a Lectionary which is a reading plan that goes through Hebrew Scripture, the psalms, the New Testament, and a Gospel lesson each Sunday. This reading plan is shared by many denominations, and can be found in the Book of Common Prayer starting on p. 888.

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,
 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide by what his ears hear;
 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
 The wolf shall live with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
 The cow and the bear shall graze,
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
 They will not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain;
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.
 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall
 inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Deus, judicium (said by all)*

BCP 685

- 1 **Give the King your justice, O God, ***
 and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 **That he may rule your people righteously ***
 and the poor with justice;

- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Romans 15:4-13

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel reading highlights the Liturgy of the Word because it symbolizes the presence of Jesus the Christ. We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions. This has been a tradition of Christian churches since at least the late 4th century. Proclaiming the Gospel is one of the liturgical roles of the deacon who carries the Gospel book closer to the people. We turn our bodies toward the Gospel, as we hope to turn our hearts, minds, and lives toward the Gospel as well. There is evidence from the 9th century that people made a sign of the cross on their foreheads at the Gospel announcement.

§ *Please stand as able when the Presider stands. The deacon begins to move to the place designated for the proclamation of the Gospel.*

At the announcement of the Gospel, it is traditional for the deacon to make a small sign of the cross, using the thumb of the right hand, on the forehead, mouth and heart following the signing of the book. The people may sign themselves in the same way. May the Gospel touch us in mind, speech, and heart.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

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

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out

to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

The sermon is a personal reflection by the preacher on the Scripture readings, our current situation, and the Christian life.

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Penny Bridges

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

The Nicene Creed

The Nicene Creed is a summary statement of Christian belief. It was adopted by the undivided church in the fourth century and is one of the oldest texts of Christian worship. These are the major points we agree upon as Christians, though we continue discussing what they mean. We pray it rather than merely saying it, because it is a statement of faith, a symbol of unity among all Christians throughout history.

Presider

Let us stand and proclaim our faith in the words of 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 Creed is followed by the Prayers of the People, one of the most ancient portions of our liturgy, dating back at least to the 2nd century. Prayer is the primary way we enter into those relationships as Christians, as we intercede for the whole world. Prayer is offered for the Universal Church, the Nation and all in authority, the welfare of the world, the concerns of the local community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. It is the function of the deacon to bid or lead the prayers.

The Deacon bids the prayers.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on the unsheltered, refugees, and those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The Leader offers thanksgivings on behalf of the congregation.

Silence

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Another way we respond to the proclamation of God's word is by praying for ourselves in the Confession, an acknowledgment of sin, as in Psalm 51: "Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight." A general confession before receiving Holy Communion is a good practice: we are taught that we must examine our consciences before receiving Communion. In community, we acknowledge our own falling short - and the world's - of the goal of true amendment of life, and, sharing abundant peace with each other. As part of the deacon's role to direct the order of the assembly, the deacon bids and leads the Confession.

The Deacon says to the People

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People together

**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 Presider says the Absolution

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.

People **Amen.**

The Absolution is a formal act by a bishop or priest pronouncing God's forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. We follow the Absolution with the Peace when we affirm our reconciliation with one another as preparation for receiving Communion; and it serves as a transition point or bridge between the Proclamation of the Word of God and the Celebration of Holy Communion portions of the liturgy. The Peace is a sign of the reconciliation established by Jesus between God and God's people. It originated as the kiss of peace, and you are exchanging peace with your Christian siblings, the peace of Christ which passes all understanding.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

§ *Please be seated.*

Welcome and announcements

The Offertory

You may give online now by using your phone's camera to scan the quick response code:



or text stpaulcathedral to 73256 using your cell phone. Thank you!

The Holy Communion

The Presider may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page 376 of the Book of Common Prayer or with some other sentence of Scripture.

Representatives of the congregation, the Oblation Bearers, bring the people's offerings, the oblations, of bread and wine to the deacon.

The ushers pass the offering plates or alms basins to the congregants. Collecting financial gifts, or passing the plate, serves as a visible reminder that our whole lives are offered to God, and a part of the riches God has given to us are offered back to God in thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are.

The altar servers assist the Deacon setting the altar. The dressed chalice, the chalice with the corporal and purificator linens and square pall cover, is presented to the deacon who spreads the corporal on the altar before receiving the oblations from the people. Another acolyte brings the paten with gluten free wafers to be placed on the corporal.

We use wine as Jesus did and as he commanded us to do. The deacon pours wine from the cruet into the chalice. A little water is generally added to reduce the strength of the wine and to symbolize the water that poured out of Jesus' side after his death. We typically use vessels made from precious metals as a way of honoring the importance of communion; and the silver and gold used in most chalices don't harbor microbes. We use linen cloths on the altar in ways which are very similar to the way in which you might use linen napkins and tablecloths at a dinner party. Both scripture and Christian tradition often compare communion to a great heavenly banquet or feast of all the saints.

The Lavabo refers to the washing of hands prior to leading the Eucharistic Prayer. An acolyte pours water over the presider's fingers using the lavabo bowl and linen towel. An acolyte completes the preparation of the altar by putting the altar book and stand in place for the presider.

§ *Please stand as able for the offering to be brought forward and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.*

The ushers present the money offering to the Deacon and the Presider may bless the offering and say

"All things come from thee, O Lord,"
*the People may say "**and of thine own have we given thee**" from 2 Chronicles 29:14.*

We enter the Remembering part of our service as we celebrate Jesus' words and actions of the night before he died. We call this whole last half of the service the Liturgy of the Table, or Holy Communion, or Eucharist. The word Eucharist means to "give thanks."

During the Eucharistic Prayer, we focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus which is the heart of the Christian faith. We recall his words to his disciples at the Last Supper, in which Christ commanded us to continue the tradition he was beginning. You will find the clearest expression of the meaning of communion by listening carefully to the words of the Eucharistic Prayer.

The one who presides over Eucharist is always an ordained person known as a presbyter or priest. The Sursum Corda, Latin for "Lift up your hearts," is a phrase dating back to 215 AD and helps us to focus our attention on God's action coming to us.

The Presider continues with the Proper Preface which is seasonal and helps us to further focus on what is happening (BCP 377). It ends with the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord) which is a hymn dating back to the 4th Century based on writings of the Prophet Isaiah (and later St. John the Divine in the Revelation to John) in anticipation of the heavenly banquet.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays as appointed.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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 first part of the Eucharistic Prayer recalls the events of salvation history, and this is called Anamnesis, meaning 'remembering' or 'reminiscence.'

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

The following Words of Institution recall Jesus' words at the Last Supper instructing the disciples to 'do this in remembrance of me.'

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The following Words of Invocation called the 'Epiclesis' are where we ask the Holy Spirit to descend upon these gifts and upon us to make the bread and wine holy and to make us part of Christ's body. This 'validates' the Mass.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. ✠ Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and

at the last day bring us with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Presider and People **AMEN.**

The Great Amen, from the Hebrew meaning “so be it,” is the only word in our Book of Common Prayer in all capital letters. We assent to and affirm what we’ve just heard.

The Lord’s Prayer follows: it becomes the summation of our prayers to God in blessing the Bread and Wine and is also another way of affirming our heritage as the church. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection. In the Lord’s Prayer we ask for daily bread, symbolizing that God’s presence with us is also essential to our getting through the day.

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.

In the Eucharist, the use of silence is active rather than passive and in this silence, we break the bread and recall the body of Christ broken for us. We may hear the sound of the bread breaking, too.

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.

The acolytes bring additional chalices and patens to the altar. The altar ministers divide the sacrament accordingly, and once the communion ministers receive communion, they move to their assigned stations to distribute. The ushers guide the people to the communion stations and lead the communion ministers to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward to receive.

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.

At Communion time we will offer the Host with the option to have it partially intincted (dipped) by the Eucharistic Minister into the wine and placed in the communicant's hand. For the time being we will not offer the option of drinking from the Common Cup. You may choose to receive only the dry Host or to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament.

As you come forward, please use one of these three gestures to indicate your preference:

- ❖ To receive the host with wine, extend both your hands, palm up.*
- ❖ To receive only the host, extend one hand, palm up.*
- ❖ To receive a blessing, cross your hands at your shoulders.*

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

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

*The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.***

or with these words

*The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.***

*The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.***

The altar servers monitor the distribution to ensure there is sufficient sacrament available. When necessary, the Presider consecrates additional bread and wine, using the form on BCP page 408.

As communion concludes, the vergers and acolytes respectfully take the communion vessels to the sacristy for sacristans to clean. The Lay Eucharistic Visitors come forward to the credence table to gather their portable communion kits which now contain sacrament from the mass. The altar is cleared, and the altar ministers return to their seats.

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

Postcommunion prayers date from the fourth century. This is a prayer of thanksgiving after communion that also seeks God's help for Christian service. This prayer expresses the transition of the Christian's attention from the mystery of sacramental participation to the engagement of Christian ministry. We move out to be God's hands and heart in the world. The eucharistic community is sent "into the world in peace" to love and serve God as witnesses of Christ.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All **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 Deacon may send forth the Lay Eucharistic Minister(s) with a prayer.

A Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) may be licensed to go from a eucharist to share the sacrament with members of the congregation who were unable to be present at the celebration because of illness or infirmity.

The Presider may bless the people.

This function of the priest is a sacerdotal pronouncement of God's love and favor, addressed to the people and the Presider may make the sign of the cross (✠) over the people.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

The final act of our common worship is the Dismissal, another liturgical function of the deacon. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. The word "mass" comes from the Latin words "missa est"- "you are sent." Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all that he commanded. This is what we are all called to do, to be a blessing to others.

The Deacon dismisses them with these words

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Following the service, everyone is invited to coffee hour.

The sacristans clear the credence table and begin their tasks of washing the communion vessels and linens. The sacristans transfer any remaining sacrament to the ciborium, the vessel in which the Blessed Sacrament is kept when reserved in the Aumbry on the wall in the Chapel of the Holy Family. Any remaining consecrated wine is poured into the piscina, the sacristy sink with a designated drain which bypasses municipal sewer systems and runs straight down into the earth. The used communion vessels are first abluted or cleansed by rinsing them with water over the piscina.

After the credence table is cleared, the acolytes extinguish the Eucharistic and Office candles.

The altar servers then clear the sanctuary of any items which will not be used at the next service.

The cathedral sound tech collects the microphones and stores them in the sacristy.

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: The Rev. Cn. Richard Hogue, Jr.

Preacher & Dean: The Very Rev. Penny Bridges

Deacon: The Rev. Cn. Brooks Mason

Head Verger: Cn. Lisa Churchill

Reader: Jane Batarseh

Altar Server: Jerry Coughlan

Altar Guild: Joanna Airhart, Rew Carne, Cherie Dean, Almira Fort, Jack Hayman,

Todd Hurrell, Phyllis Lengyel, Paula Peeling, Scott Strickland

Ushers: Christie Batten, Norm Friesen, Carl Mattina, Mary Rathbun

Audio: Lorenzo Nericcio

The Instructed Eucharist texts are adapted from:

Michno, Dennis G. *A Priest's Handbook: The Ceremonies of the Church*. 2nd. ed. Morehouse-Barlow Co.: Wilton, Conn., 1983.

---. *A Manual for Acolytes*. Morehouse Publishing. Harrisburg, PA, 1981.

Instructed Eucharist, St Andrew's Episcopal Church. Encinitas, CA, 2018.

St Andrew's Episcopal Church Instructed Eucharist. Pacific Beach, CA, 2024.



Pledge: Growing in Faith Together

Join us in supporting the cathedral this coming year, consider a financial and time commitment pledge!

You can pledge online today by clicking this link:

<https://stpaulcathedral.org/my-pledge/>

Every pledge, time and money, helps!

Thank you for your generosity.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

DECEMBER 7 Fifth Sunday of Advent

8 am – Holy Eucharist, *in the Cathedral*

10:30 am – Choral Eucharist, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

No Evensong due to 4 pm San Diego Master Chorale's *Messiah Sing*

DECEMBER 14 Sixth Sunday of Advent

8 am – Holy Eucharist, *in the Cathedral*

10:30 am – Choral Eucharist, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

5 pm - Gun Violence Prevention Vigil, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

Join us for the 13th annual Sandy Hook Gun Violence Vigil. We pledged to never forget the children and educators who died on December 14, 2012. We now remember the many thousands more who have lost their lives to senseless gun violence.

Reception to follow.

DECEMBER 21 Seventh Sunday of Advent

8 am – Holy Eucharist, *in the Cathedral*

10:30 am – Choral Eucharist, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

4:30 pm, Lessons and Carols for Christmas, *in the Cathedral and [live-streamed](#)*

Members of the Cathedral Schola offer a heart-warming and beautiful service of Scripture readings and carols, to usher in the Christmas season in the tradition of the Church of England. The service will include favorite carols from our traditional Lessons and Carols service.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

5 pm – Holy Eucharist Family Service, *in the Cathedral*

Join us for a children and youth lead Carol Service on Christmas Eve. A brief “rehearsal” will take place in the Chapel of the Holy Family at 4:30 for young people who wish to participate.

10:00 pm – Choral Eucharist, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

The celebration features members of the Cathedral Choir, instrumentalists, pageantry, carols, and a sermon from Bishop Susan.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, *in the Cathedral*

We celebrate Christmas morning with a service of Eucharist featuring organ and carols. The Rev. Cn. Richard Hogue will preach and Dean Penny will preside at this service.

DECEMBER 28 First Sunday after Christmas

8 am – Holy Eucharist, *in the Cathedral*

10:30 am – Choral Eucharist, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

5 pm – Evensong, *in the Cathedral and live-streamed*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

7 pm, New Year's Eve Service

In the Dean's Courtyard (Entrance on 5th or 6th Ave. Labyrinth located on 6th Ave side)
Join the Cathedral community in a tranquil and meditative service to say goodbye to 2025.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

10:30 am, Holy Name Eucharist, *in the Chapel of the Holy Family (located within the Cathedral)*

Welcome the New Year with a Eucharist service observing “*The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus.*”

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.*