



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

The Holy Eucharist:
Rite Two
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 20



The Season of Creation
September 20, 2026
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.

Assisted hearing devices are available from an usher.

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 Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity:

§ *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.

People **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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

§ *Please be seated.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Jonah.

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:1-8 *Exaltabo te, Deus* (said by all)

BCP 801

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you *

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

there is no end to his greatness.

- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

§ *Please stand as able.*

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Allisyn Thomas

§ *A moment of silence follows the sermon.*

The Nicene Creed

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 Prayers of the People for the Season of Creation

Form 3

(on the theme of water)

The Deacon bids the prayers.

In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. Mindful of the many ways water affects our lives, let us pray for our waters and for the life of the world around us.

Leader

For all people of faith, and for the transformations in their lives that are marked by the sacredness of water: at the Red Sea, in the Jordan River, in ritual baths, in the washing of feet, and in Holy Baptism, we pray:

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations, corporations, and communities around the world, that they may exercise wise stewardship over the waters of their lands, so that all people may have clean water to drink and may live free from waterborne diseases, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

For the wisdom to shape creative solutions to conflicts over water in the dry places of our planet, and for justice and peace in desert lands, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

For all the waters of the earth: for oceans and seas, for rivers and streams, for lakes and ponds, for watersheds, marshes, and swamps, for the waters beneath the ground; and for all creatures that live in the waters of the earth, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

For all who travel or work at sea or on inland waterways, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

For all afflicted with too much water in flood or tsunami, storm or ice; and for those people and creatures who suffer as glaciers and ice floes melt and shrink, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

For all those engaged in conservation, in aquaculture and fishing, that the health, fruitfulness, and beauty of the natural world may be sustained alongside human activity, we pray:

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

The Presider concludes the Prayers with this or another suitable collect.

Blessed God, fountain of life: Grant that we may see all water as holy, and so protect and preserve the waters of the earth and the life they sustain. In the name of Christ, the living water, we pray.

People **Amen.**

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.

People **Amen.**

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

§ *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*

The Presider may say

All things come of thee, O Lord,

The People may say

and of thine own have we given thee. (2 Chronicles 29:14)

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

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.

People **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 Fathers: 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.

All **AMEN.**

Presider

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

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

BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,	as we forgive those who trespass
hallowed be thy Name,	against us.
thy kingdom come,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy will be done,	but deliver us from evil.
on earth as it is in heaven.	For thine is the kingdom, and the
Give us this day our daily bread.	power, and the glory,
And forgive us our trespasses,	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 God. It is made ready for those of us who love God, and those of us who want to love God more. So, come, those of us who have much faith, and those who have little; those of us who have been here often, those who have not been for a long time or ever before, those of us who have tried to follow, and those of us who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites us, it is Christ and he invites us to meet here.

- amended from *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 altar. 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 Clergy into the wine and placed in the communicant's hand. Alternatively, after receiving and consuming the Host you may proceed to the extra Chalice Bearer to sip from the Common Cup. You may choose to receive only the dry Host or to receive a blessing by the Priest instead of the sacrament.

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

- ❖ *To receive the Host intincted with wine, extend both your hands, palm up.*
- ❖ *To receive only the Host, extend one hand, palm up, then you may consume the Host and move to the Chalice Bearer to sip from the Common Cup.*
- ❖ *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 gluten-free station will also offer a separate Common Cup.

§ *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 Deacon may send forth the Lay Eucharistic Minister(s).

The Presider may bless the people.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses them with these words

Let us bless our God and all Creation.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Everyone is invited to coffee hour in the Guild Room.

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: The Reverend Robert Bryant

Preacher & Dean: The Very Reverend Allisyn Thomas

Deacon: The Reverend Canon Brooks Mason

Reader: Tom Barb

Head Verger: Canon Lisa Churchill

Altar Server: Jerry Coughlan

Altar Guild: EmmaJean Amann, Tom Barb, Steve Mater, Joyce Vogel, Elaine Wolfe

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

Cathedral audio: Lorenzo Nericcio

Intercessions for today:

The family of Day Joudrey

Robert Mayberry

The family of Skip Amos

Norm Case

Elaine Lyttleton

Howard Kelting

The Kuhne family

Yvonne

Jolie

Helen and John

Angelina and Eric Hicks

Marty Gordon

Craig Shwehlt and family

Mark Nagy

Kevin Talbot and family

Viviana

Spencer

Ed Busch

Victoria Mayor

Ruthie

Kevin VonderHaar

Surya

Tony Bowers

Wayne

for the Departed:

Day Joudrey

Skip Amos

Bob Kuhne

Season of Creation Schedule

In 1989 the late Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed September 1 as a day of prayer for creation. Dimitrios intentionally chose this date to draw parallels between the beginning of the Orthodox Churches year and God creating our earth. Later the World Council of Churches was instrumental in turning this idea into a season of creation care, whereby Christians from all over the world join, not only to pray, but to care for God's Creation. This season extends from September 1 to October 4 (the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi).

This September join St. Paul's in this ecumenical season, as we too care for our beautiful planet. Our schedule below:

Sunday, September 20

- **12 pm - Good Goats! Fundraising** and Advocacy Tabling
Through Episcopal Relief and Development, you can give the gift of a goat to families in need. Why a goat? Goats are hardy, adaptable to a variety of climates, and produce staples such as milk, cheese and manure for farming. Let's see how many goats St. Paul's can send to **Episcopal Relief & Development** to help feed hungry children around the world! Each person who donates will receive a **Goat stuffed animal** (see photo)! We will set up a table in the Guild Room where you can purchase goats in person **today!**
- Season of Creation/International Day of Peace
- **9 am Forum:** Peace Like a River: Sister Water, Conflict and Cooperation in Our World, Dr. Christina Bagaglio-Slantz, Associate Director, Creation Care, Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego

Sunday, September 27

- **9 am Forum:** Dr. Jenni Brandon, Marine Biologist: The Coastline of Water and Faith
- **12 pm** - Advocacy tabling

Sunday, October 4

- **9 am Forum** - Following Francis in God's World
 - **10:30 am - Blessing of the Animals (Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi)**
Bring your furry, feathered or scaled friend to the St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral for a blessing from our priests! Each year St. Paul's Cathedral honors Saint Francis of Assisi, known as the patron saint of animals, with our annual Blessing of the Animals Event where we invite you to bring your pet to our 10:30 am worship service and offer them a blessing afterward in the courtyard. Anyone (regardless of religious affiliation) is welcome to attend this event in its entirety.
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International Day of Peace: Invest in Peace - For Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day

On 21 September, the world marks the International Day of Peace.

Today, amidst staggering volatility, the search for peace feels overwhelming—but it has never been more urgent.

Peace is more than the absence of war; it is the foundation necessary to collectively tackle humanity's challenges. It is the lived experience of safety, dignity, opportunities and cooperation in our daily lives.

Under the theme Invest in Peace: For Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day, this year's International Day of Peace honors the 'everyday architects of peace'—people driving local action, laying the groundwork for stability, and building a lasting peace from the ground up. Remember, peace isn't just built in conference rooms—it is shaped by everyone, everywhere, every day.

Everyone, everywhere can do their part for peace. Take one small step for peace every day: Give your time to help someone else.

Lend your voice to drive positive change.

Host a Peace Circle - an intergeneration youth-led conversation on solutions.

Use your platform to promote a cause or tell a story of peace and hope

Show us how you're building the architecture of peace and justice using #InvestInPeace.

Background:

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to designate the Day as a period of non-violence and cease-fire.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

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.*