SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We believe that God is healing and restoring the world, and that we are recipients of and participants in that healing and restoration.



Sunday, November 22, 2020 Christ the King: The Last Sunday after Pentecost

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Morning Prayer, Rite II

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able.



Opening Sentence

Officiant: Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Isaiah 57:15

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling:

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 Officiant stands and 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 Invitatory and Psalter

All stand, as able.

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People:

Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: Come let us adore him.

Officiant and People:

Jubilate

Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; * serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; * give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; * and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 95:1-7



We are the peo-ple of his pas-ture and the sheep of his hand.

Come, let us sing to / the Lord;*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of / our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanks/giving*
and raise a loud / shout to him with psalms. [ANTIPHON]

For the Lord is a/great God,*
and a great/King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of/the earth,*
and the heights of the hills/are his also. [ANTIPHON]

The sea is his, for he/made it,*
and his hands have mold/ed the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend/the knee,*
and kneel before the/Lord our Maker.

[ANTIPHON]

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of/his hand.*

Oh, that today you would heark/en to his voice! [ANTIPHON]



Readings

A period of silence will follow each reading.

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The people remain seated.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God**

Silence.

All stand, as able.

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah Ecce, Deus

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, * and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; * see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Creator, and to the Redeemer, and to the Sanctifier: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Ephesians 1:15-23

The people are seated.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able.

Silence.

Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13

Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.

Matthew 25:31-46

The people are seated.

Officiant: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Officiant: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God

Silence.

All stand, as able.

Canticle 21 You are God Te Deum laudamus

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you; Father, of majesty unbounded, your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide. You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free you did not shun the Virgin's womb. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You are seated at God's right hand in glory. We believe that you will come and be our judge. Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

The people are seated.

The Sermon Rev. Paul Moore

Sermon Meditation Questions: Last Sunday after Pentecost

- 1. Who are those you would put at the bottom of the list?
- 2. Do you know anyone who fits that description personally?
- 3. How can you love them as Jesus has loved you?

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Apostles' Creed

All stand, as able.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

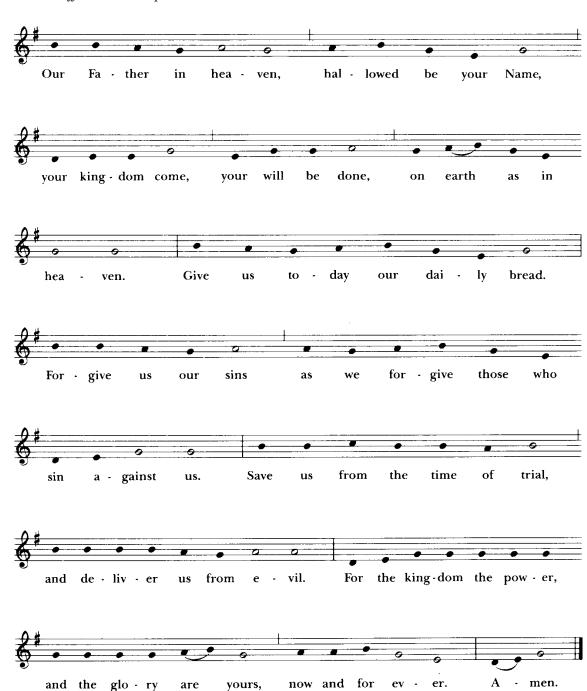
Prayers

All stand, as able.

Officiant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People:



The Officiant and People say responsively:

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. We praise your name for ever.
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. For we put our trust in you.
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. And we shall never hope in vain.

Collects

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly One, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, havingdone your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 544

Jesus Shall Reign



The Prayers of the People

Reader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Silence.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

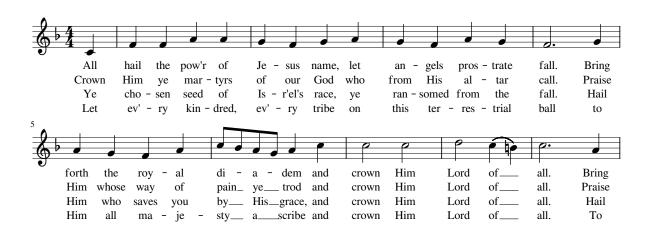
Almighty God, Source of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

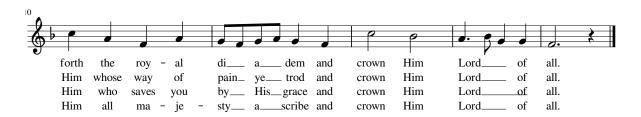
Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia. **People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Closing Hymn 450

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name





Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20,21

Offertory - Thank you for giving!

Please drop your offering in the church's mailbox or mail it to:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church 415 S. 18th Street Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Your <u>Vestry</u> members request your prayers for this congregation and their leadership. They want to be in conversation with you. Speak with them so they know the needs of the congregation:
Bonnie Schuh
Susan Cooper
Sandy McDougall
Dan Niven
Sara Young
Margaret Bird

St. Paul's Prayer Team prays daily for those on the prayer list. Please email Penny Worrell at *penny.worrell@gmail.com*.

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Morning Prayer:

Until we can meet together once again, our Sunday Morning worship will generally be Morning Prayer, as per the Bishop's instruction. For those who remember the days in the Episcopal Church when the Eucharist was only celebrated once a month, these days may have a familiar feel. For those of us who do not, it feels like a Eucharistic Fast. It has been so described by others who have written about our current situation. In the liturgical reforms of the 1970's the Eucharist has become the center of Sunday worship. Now, however, because of the worldwide pandemic, we are back to Morning Prayer as our regular fare.

What is Morning Prayer? It is a rite originally developed for the Benedictine monastic life in England in the Medieval period. Monks and nuns prayed seven times a day. Four of those prayer services became popular among the common people, Morning Prayer (or Matins,) Noonday Prayers (or Non,) Evening Prayer, (or Vespers,) and Compline. Matins and Vespers grew into full-blown services in themselves. Matins came to fill in on Sunday mornings when a priest was not available to preside at the Eucharist.

In the American church, the term Matins is rarely used, preferring the more descriptive, Morning Prayer. The rite became very popular in the western expansion precisely because it could be led by lay people. Our Prayer Books throughout the years have reflected this, always including a well-constructed rite. Our current one is no exception.

Adapted as it is for lay leadership, you will notice that the lay form for the absolution is provided for in the rubrics (instructions written in italics and smaller size.) There is no provision for a sermon. It has always been an Anglican thought that the Bible, read aloud to the people in their own language, was the foundation of spiritual formation in worship. When used as the primary service on Sunday, a sermon is usually inserted where we do it, or after the Creed, or even just before the dismissal. Rubrics for a blessing are also omitted.

The structure of the rite borrows from the synagogue worship of the early Jewish Christians, just like the first part of a Eucharistic service. It follows the same format of an introductory rite, readings from Scripture, prayers and a dismissal. Because Morning Prayer's focus is Scripture and Prayer, the introductory rites and the readings themselves are more elaborately done, and the prayers are more extensive. At St. Paul's, after the Collects, where the rubrics allow for "other authorized intercessions," we insert another set of prayers that focus our petitions on concerns of our time and place.

Because it is not a Eucharistic service, the services do not employ the liturgical colors. Instead of a white alb and stole, the presider often wears a black cassock, a white surplice over it, and a tippet. The tippet looks like a black stole, but it is really an academic vestment. It often has emblems of academic affiliations attached near the tips. Fr. Paul's has an Episcopal shield, and the shields of two seminaries from which he holds degrees. A simple alb with no stole may also be used.

Welcome to Saint Paul's!

What is more important is that you bring your complete self to worship God.

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. We use real wine in the cup. If you wish to receive only a blessing, simply cross your arms in front of you as the priest approaches. If you do not want to drink from the chalice, keep the piece of bread on your open palm, and present it to the chalice bearer, who will then dip the bread into the wine and place it on your tongue. Non-gluten bread is also available. Please inform us if this is your preference.

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