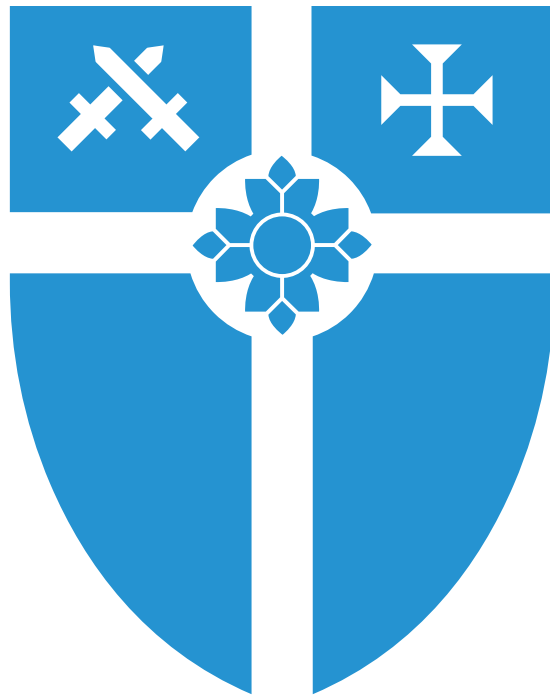


# The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026, at 10:00 AM



## stPaul's

Holy Eucharist Rite II with Holy Baptism

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S.** Wherever you are on your journey, we are grateful you are here today. If you are new, you can connect further by filling out a welcome card and leaving it in the offering basket or by visiting [www.stpaulsws.org/hello](http://www.stpaulsws.org/hello) and introducing yourself.

*Childcare for infants through 4 years is in Room 233 (past the second floor office area).*

By entering the St. Paul's premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, inclusion on websites, and/or any other purpose by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem (St. Paul's). You release St. Paul's, its staff, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, and/or publication of photographs, computer images, video and/or sound recordings.

Thank you for helping us extend the worship  
of St. Paul's to those joining us from home.

VOLUNTARY | Cantabile

César Franck (1822-1890)

## The Word of God

*All stand and sing*  
HYMN 414

*Stuttgart*

*Descant*

6 All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee; thee shall all thy

1 God, my King, thy might confess - ing, ev - er will I  
2 Hon - or great our God be - fit - teth; who his ma - jes -  
3 They shall talk of all thy glo - ry, on thy might and  
4 Nor shall fail from mem - ory's trea - sure works by love and  
5 Full of kind - ness and com - pas - sion, slow to an - ger,

saints a - dore: King su - preme shall they con - fess thee,

1 bless thy Name; day by day thy throne ad - dress - ing,  
2 ty can reach? Age to age his works trans - mit - teth,  
3 great - ness dwell, speak of thy dread acts the sto - ry,  
4 mer - cy wrought, works of love sur - pass - ing mea - sure,  
5 vast in love, God is good to all cre - a - tion;

and pro - claim thy sov - ereign power.

1 still will I thy praise pro - claim.  
 2 age to age his power shall teach.  
 3 and thy deeds of won - der tell.  
 4 works of mer - cy pass - ing thought.  
 5 all his works his good - ness prove.

6 All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee;  
 thee shall all thy saints adore:  
 King supreme shall they confess thee,  
 and proclaim thy sovereign power.

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**  
*Celebrant* There is one Body and one Spirit;  
*People* **There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People* **One God and Father of all.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 55:1-5

Thus says the Lord:

“Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
 come to the waters;  
 and you that have no money,  
 come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk  
 without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
 and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
 and delight yourselves in rich food.  
 Incline your ear, and come to me;  
 listen, so that you may live.  
 I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
 my steadfast, sure love for David.  
 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
 a leader and commander for the peoples.  
 See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
 and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
 because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
 for he has glorified you."

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

PSALM 145: 8-9, 15-22

Chant: Plainsong

*Refrain sung by all, verses sung by the choir.*



- 8 The LORD is gracious, \*  
 slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The LORD is loving to everyone \*  
 and his compassion is over all his works.
- 15 The LORD upholds all those who fall; \*  
 he lifts up those who are bowed down. **Refrain**
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, \*  
 and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand \*  
 and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
- 18 The LORD is righteous in all his ways \*  
 and loving in all his works.
- 19 The LORD is near to those who call upon him, \*  
 to all who call upon him faithfully. **Refrain**
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; \*  
 he hears their cry and helps them.
- 21 The LORD preserves all those who love him, \*  
 but he destroys all the wicked.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; \*  
 let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever. **Refrain**

## THE SECOND LESSON | Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

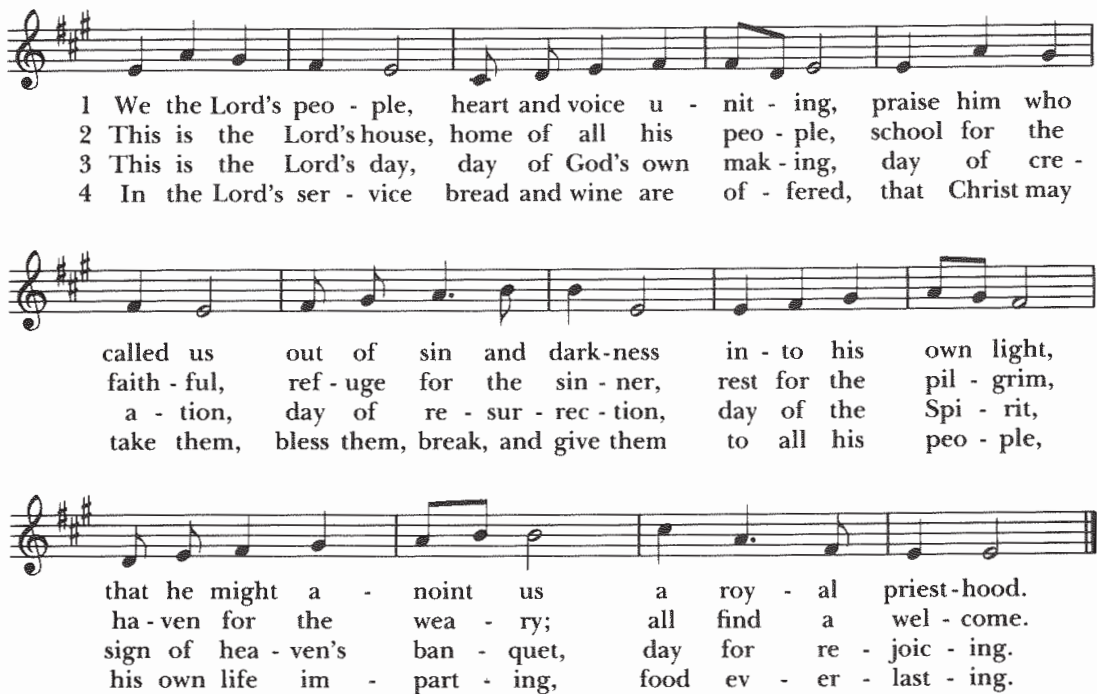
*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand and sing*

HYMN 51

*Decatur Place*



1 We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who  
2 This is the Lord's house, home of all his peo - ple, school for the  
3 This is the Lord's day, day of God's own mak - ing, day of cre -  
4 In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may

called us out of sin and dark-ness in - to his own light,  
faith - ful, ref - uge for the sin - ner, rest for the pil - grim,  
a - tion, day of re - sur - rec - tion, day of the Spi - rit,  
take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,

that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest - hood.  
ha - ven for the wea - ry; all find a wel - come.  
sign of hea - ven's ban - quet, day for re - joic - ing.  
his own life im - part - ing, food ev - er - last - ing.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL | Matthew 14:13-21

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

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

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Lucy B. Strandlund

## Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

*Celebrant*            The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

**Cecelia James Lowers**

*Daughter of Anna and Zack Lowers*

**Elizabeth Ann Morgan**

*Daughter of Helen and John Morgan*

**Charles Shepherd Reece**

*Son of Rebecca and Charles Reece*

**Lyla Holcomb Reece**

*Daughter of Rebecca and Charles Reece*

**Melissa Margaret Taylor**

*Daughter of Melissa and Michael Taylor*

**Julian Eliodoro Trujillo - Wahl**

*Son of Julie Ann Wahl and Eliodoro Trujillo Hernandez*

*Parents and Godparents*    I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*When the candidates have been presented, the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

*Celebrant*            Will you be responsible for seeing that these children you present are brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents*    I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*            Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents*    I will, with God's help

*Then the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the candidates*

*Question*            Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer*              I renounce them.

*Question*            Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer*              I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*All stand.*

*The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**

## PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

*Celebrant* Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the

land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## THE BAPTISM

*Each candidate is presented by name to the Priest who then pours water upon them saying*  
N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Then the Priest marks the sign of the cross on their forehead and says*  
N, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant invites all to stand and says*  
Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*All* **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

*All stand.*  
THE PEACE

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

*All greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Thank you for supporting St. Paul's and giving generously so that our ministries and programs can continue to share the Gospel. You can easily make a contribution by visiting this link: <https://www.stpaulsrs.org/> or scanning the QR code located in the at St. Paul's newsletter.*

# The Holy Communion

## ANTHEM

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received,  
the memory of his Passion is renewed in us,  
our souls are filled with grace,  
and the pledge of everlasting glory is given unto us.  
Alleluia.

*All stand and sing*

HYMN 288, *Stanza 1*

Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days;  
Bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ;  
All to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | [Eucharistic Prayer C](#)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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.

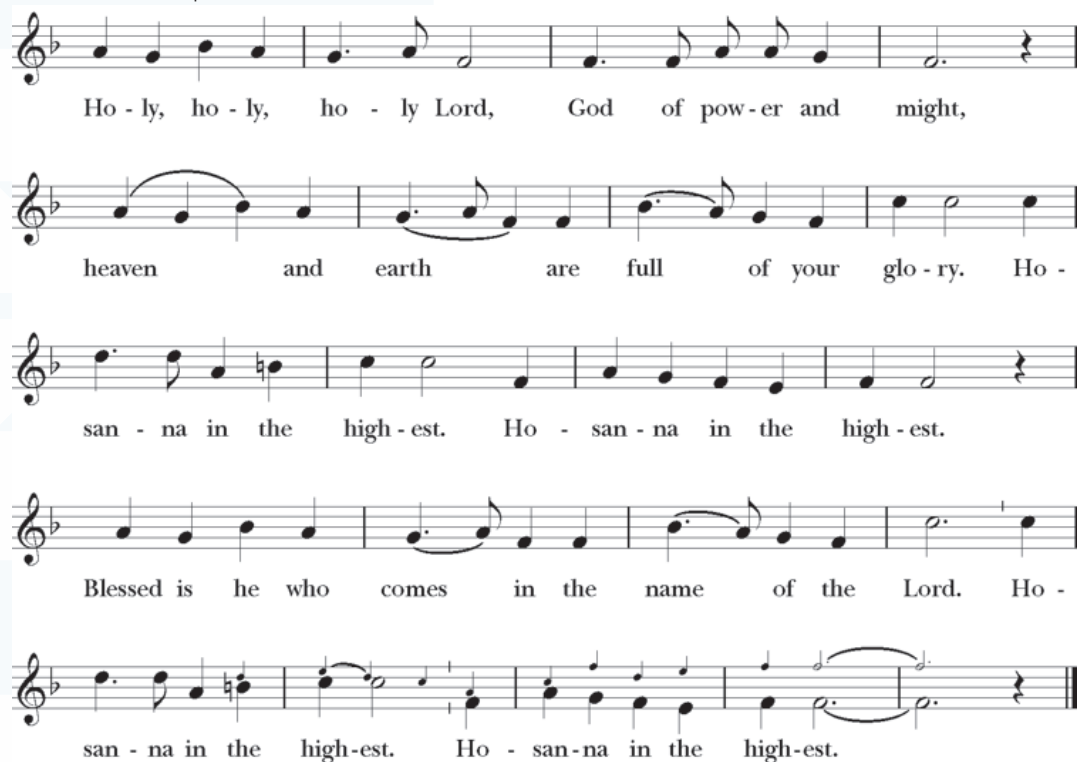
**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

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:

*Sung by all.*

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS | S 125

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant 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; 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,  
**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM | S 151

David Hurd (b. 1950)

The musical score for 'The Fraction Anthem' is written for a Cantor and an All (congregation). It is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The Cantor part is marked 'Cantor' and the All part is marked 'All'. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are for the 'Al - le - lu - ia' refrain, and the last two staves are for the 'Christ our Pass - o - ver' section. The Cantor part is on the top staff of each pair, and the All part is on the bottom staff.

*Facing the People, the Celebrant says the following invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*All baptized Christians of any denomination are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. Please come forward at the guidance of the usher, or let an usher know if you need communion brought to your seat. Receive the bread (a wafer) with open and outstretched palms. Receive the wine either by drinking from the cup (guiding it to your lips) or by touching the wafer lightly to the wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please let us know by crossing your hands across your chest. Receiving only the bread or the wine is considered full participation in the Eucharist, and gluten-free wafers are available*

upon request. If you would like to receive prayers for healing during communion, a member of the healing prayer ministry will be stationed at the Side Altar.

## ANTHEM

Franck

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum;  
Dat panis cœlicus figuris terminum:  
O res mirabilis!  
Manducat Dominum  
Pauper, pauper, servus et humilis.  
Pauper, pauper, servus et humilis.

The bread of angels becomes the bread of men;  
The heavenly bread gives an end to earthly symbols.  
O wondrous thing!  
The poor, the poor, the servant, and the humble  
Feed upon their Lord.  
The poor, the poor, the servant, and the humble.

*Sung by all.*  
HYMN 304

*Land of Rest*

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

## THE SENDING OUT OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*The Minister and the People say the following*

**In the name of this congregation, we send you out bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.**

*All kneel.*

### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Celebrant blesses the People, then all stand for*

### THE DISMISSAL

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

1 We will ex - tol you, ev - er - bless - ed Lord; your ho - ly  
2 Age shall to age pass on the end - less song, tell - ing the  
3 You, Lord, are gra - cious, mer - ci - ful to all, close to your

Name for ev - er be a - dored; each day we live our  
won - ders which to you be - long, your might - y acts with  
chil - dren when on you they call; and slow to an - ger,

psalm to you we raise; you, God and King, are wor - thy of all  
joy and fear re - late; praise we your glo - ry while on you we  
mer - ci - ful and kind, in your com - pas - sion we your bless - ings

praise, great and un - search - a - ble in all your ways.  
wait, glad in the know - ledge of your love so great.  
find. We love you with our heart and strength and mind.

VOLUNTARY | Andante con moto

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

*The flowers on the high altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of*

Jones Pharr Byrd Sr.

Virginia Pharr Byrd

Worth Miller Byrd

Sara Ogburn Mawyer

William Melvin Mawyer

# About our Lay Ministry in Worship



The Book of Common Prayer famously defines the ministers of the Church as “lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.” It is not accidental that lay persons, sometimes called “the laity,” are listed first. The ministry of lay persons is foundational to the Church’s life; it is not something added on top to the ministry of the clergy like icing on a cupcake. Lay ministry is the primary ministry of the Church—the whole Body of Christ in the world.

In describing the ministry of the laity (which you can find in the catechism on page 855), the BCP includes this phrase: “The ministry of lay persons is ... to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.” In other words, no aspect of Church life can happen without the laity assuming their role—including worship. And the place of lay persons in worship is far more than simply sitting in the pews. Nowhere is this clearer than in the worship at St. Paul’s!

There are, of course, particular liturgical functions that only a priest or a deacon (or a bishop) can fill. Presiding at the Eucharist, pronouncing absolution or blessing, proclaiming the Gospel—clergy are ordained, lifted up by the Church, specifically to fulfill these roles. But most of the work that makes our worship possible is done by the laity. Proofing our weekly leaflets, serving as an usher or as part of our welcome team, preparing the silver for use at the altar, singing, playing the organ, serving as an acolyte or a vergers, reading the lessons, offering the

laying on of hands, serving the chalice, cleaning up and preparing for the next service—all of these are lay ministries, and all of them are absolutely necessary in order for us to worship God in the beauty of holiness.

On Saturday, August 15, St. Paul’s is offering an Open House for anyone who is interested (or is currently) serving as a lay minister in worship. If you aren’t sure how you would best serve our worship, that’s okay—the worship ministries here offer a wide variety of experiences for a wide variety of people. If you are detail-oriented, you might serve on the Altar Guild. If you love nothing more than meeting new people, maybe the welcome team is for you. If you enjoy studying scripture and preparing texts to be read, you could serve as a lector—and if you would never want to read aloud, but you love our liturgical processions, you could help with the acolytes. There are ministries here for every kind of personality and every interest. I encourage you to come to the Open House so that we can help you find the best fit.

While St. Paul’s already has a large number of dedicated, passionate lay ministers, the truth is that in a worship space like ours, with the number of services we offer, we are, right now, in need of your help. There is a need for your talents here, a real need for you to take your place in the life and worship of the Church.

Where might God be calling you to serve?

The Rev. Erika Takacs



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