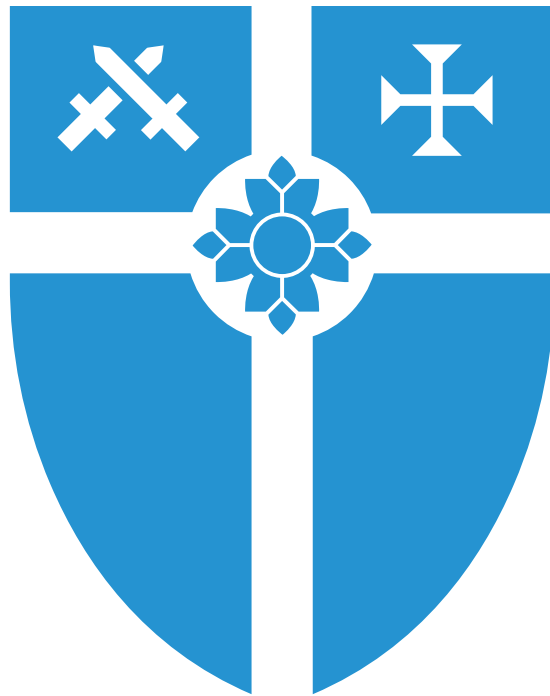


The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026, at 11:15 AM



stPaul's

Holy Eucharist Rite I

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.stpauls.org/hello and introducing yourself.

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

VOLUNTARY | Praeludium in C

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

The Word of God

All stand and sing

HYMN 518

Westminster Abbey

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er



with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Sung by all.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | S 202

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Cantor *All*



1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,
we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly
King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.
4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;
5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the
right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.
8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. thou
on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sung by the choir.

PSALM 80:7-14

Chant: Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)

- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
 you cast out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; *
 it took root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
 and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
 and its branches to the River.
- 12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
 so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
 and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
 behold and tend this vine; *
 preserve what your right hand has planted.

THE SECOND LESSON | Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

All stand and sing
 HYMN 552

Pentecost

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might, Christ is thy
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace, lift up thine
 *3 Cast care a - side, lean on thy Guide; his bound - less
 *4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; he chan - geth

strength and Christ thy right; lay hold on life, and
 eyes and seek his face; life with its way be -
 mer - cy will pro - vide; trust, and thy trust - ing
 not, and thou art dear; on - ly be - lieve, and

it shall be thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 fore us lies, Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
 soul shall prove Christ is its life and Christ its love.
 thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Lucy B. Strandlund

All stand.

THE NICENE CREED

**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 | Form V

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy”.

The People stand or kneel.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

Here and after every petition the People respond

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Sam and Jennifer, our own Bishops, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our President, Josh, our Governor, Allen, our Mayor, and those in Congress, local legislatures, and the courts, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Paul, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All kneel.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All stand.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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.stpaulses.org/> or scanning the QR code.



The Holy Communion

ANTHEM

Noel Rawsthorne (1929–2019)

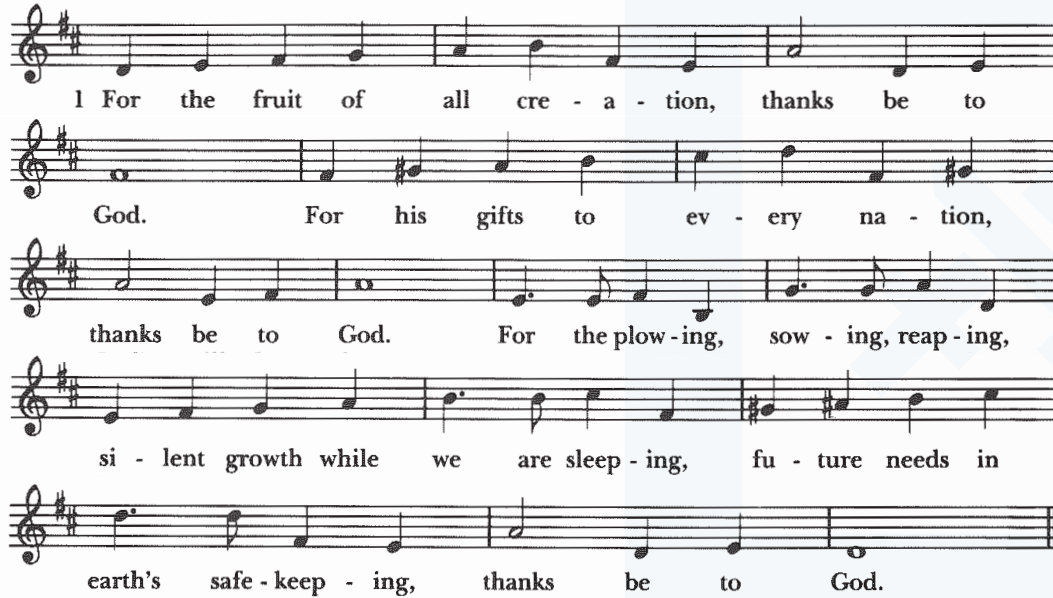
Christ is our cornerstone;
On him alone we build;
With his true saints above
The courts of Heav'n are filled:
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

Here, gracious God, we pray,
Forevermore draw nigh;
Accept each faithful pray'r,
And mark each humble sigh:
In copious stores,
On all who pray,
Each holy day,
Your blessings pour.

Praise to the God of Heav'n,
Praise to his holy Son,
And praise to him be giv'n
Who joins them both in One:
The Holy Dove,
Who gives us grace
To find our place
With God above.

Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring!
Our voices we will raise,
The Three in One to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.

Here may we gain from Heav'n
The grace we now implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore.
Until that day
When all the blest
In endless rest
Are called away.



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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

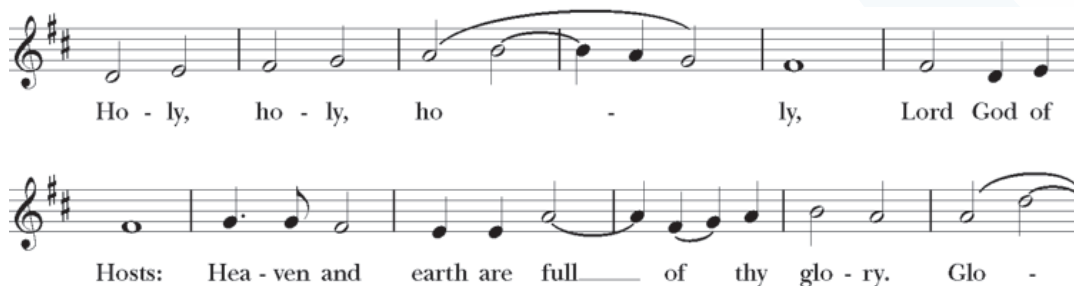
The Celebrant adds a Proper Preface and continues

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sung by all.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS | S 114

Willan





The People kneel or stand as the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 158

Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

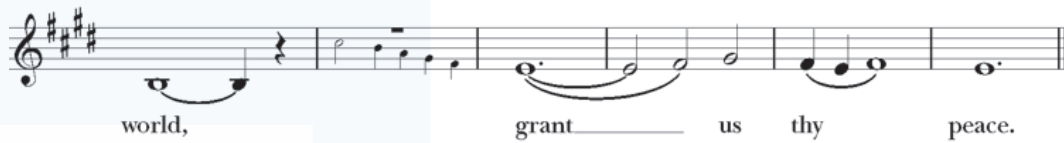
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the



THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

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

Margaret Sandresky (b. 1921)

"I am the true vine, and ye are the branches.

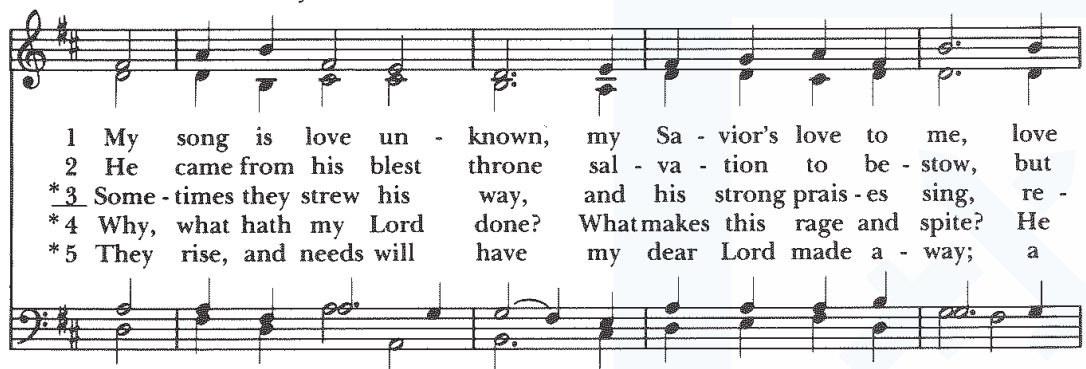
He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

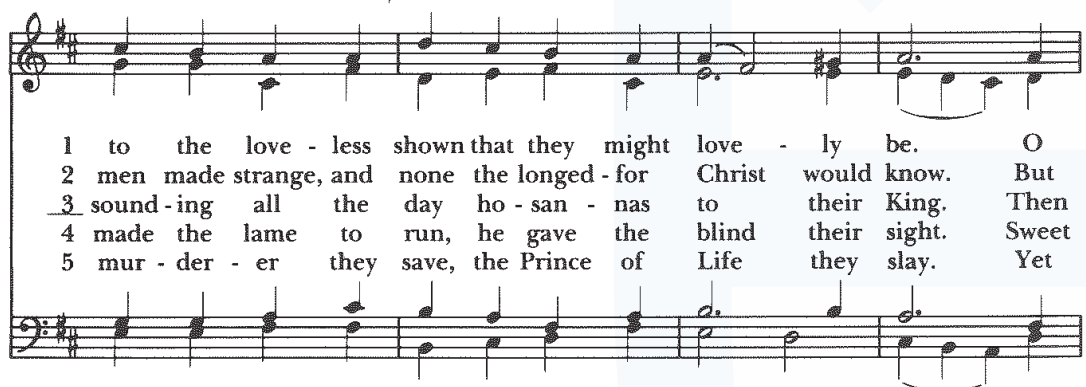
As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you.

This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you."

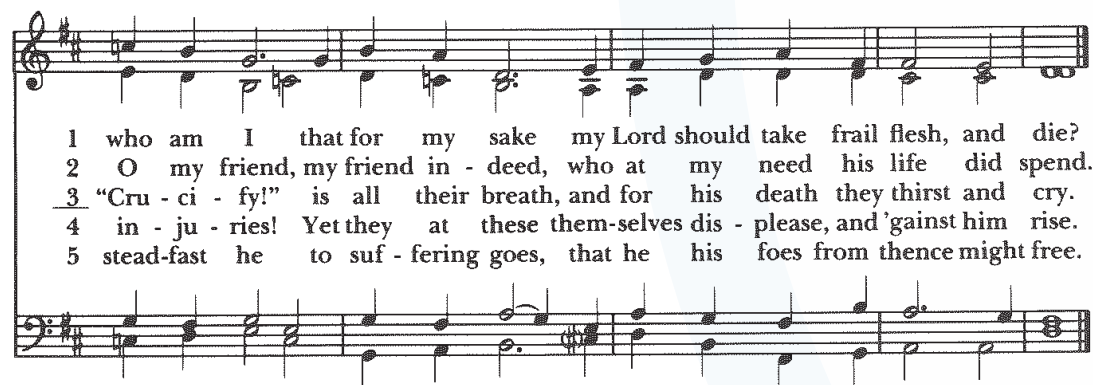
Unison or harmony



1 My song is love un - known, my Sa - vior's love to me, love
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but
 *3 Some - times they strew his way, and his strong prais - es sing, re -
 *4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He
 *5 They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made a - way; a



1 to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. O
 2 men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know. But
 3 sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King. Then
 4 made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight. Sweet
 5 mur - der - er they save, the Prince of Life they slay. Yet



1 who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 2 O my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.
 3 "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
 4 in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.
 5 stead-fast he to suf - fering goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

*6 In life no house, no home
 my Lord on earth might have;
 in death no friendly tomb
 but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heaven was his home;
 but mine the tomb
 wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
 no story so divine:
 never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend,
 in whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 could gladly spend.

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

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Celebrant blesses the People, then all stand for

THE DISMISSAL

People Thanks be to God.

Sung by all.

HYMN 448

Deus tuorum militum



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us tempt - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.



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

About: Why get Confirmed?



In the liturgy for Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, the Bishop prays,

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Confirmation is the sacramental rite in which “we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop” (The Book of Common Prayer, p. 860). The canons of the Episcopal Church are clear that all adult members of the Church should make this mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to their Baptismal vows—it is part of how we as members of the Church communicate that we intend to live into this commitment we have made to Christ and embody the love of God in our daily lives.

Confirmation (or being received into the Episcopal Church if you have been confirmed in another tradition) is also a prerequisite for many leadership positions in the Church because it signifies our commitment to our Baptismal Covenant as our guide. Therefore serving as a Vestry member, chalice bearer, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, and in many other leadership positions requires one to have been confirmed and to be a regular participant in the life of the church.

Next Sunday, October 11, we will begin a new series of Confirmation classes for adults, also called “The Basics of Being Episcopalian.” This class is open to anyone, whether you are a lifelong Episcopalian or a still new-ish visitor getting used to all of the standing, sitting, and kneeling. This series includes listening to podcasts recorded by our clergy covering the basics of our faith, like how Anglicans read the Bible, some church history, the ethos of the Episcopal Church, and more. You might choose to participate in this class because you

are discerning whether the Episcopal Church is where God is calling you to be, or you might have been here a long time and decide that it is the right time to reaffirm your commitment to our Baptismal Covenant. Whatever draws you to the class at this time, it is intended to prepare you to make that “mature commitment to Christ,” should you feel called to do so when our Bishop visits next April.

Join us next Sunday, October 11 at 12:30 PM for lunch and discussion if this speaks to where you are on your journey right now.

God’s Peace,
The Rev. Lucy Strandlund+

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

Albert Louis Butler, Sr.

Annie Medearis Butler

Hugh Chatham Butler

Mary Craig Watson Butler

John Walter McDowell, Jr.

Jane McDowell Williams

The flowers on the side altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

Richard Thomas Vernon, Jr.

from Ann, Matthew, and Kathryn Vernon



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