

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Brunswick, Maine  
The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Season of Creation  
September 13, 2026  
10:30 a.m. Eucharist with Music in the Nave



Welcome to St. Paul's!  
We are so glad you have chosen to worship here today.

St. Paul's Territory Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we stand on territory that was taken from the Abenaki people of the Wabanaki Confederacy, the people of the Dawnland. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all companions in life. May we learn from our past sins and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world. We ask for inspiration that we might be compelled to take action and support our native neighbors as they continue to seek their sovereignty here in Maine.

[www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org)  
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# HOLY EUCHARIST

*If you find yourself in physical discomfort when standing, especially for extended periods, please feel free to be seated at any time. If kneeling is difficult for you, either stand or sit instead.*

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

*Gonna Sit Down and Rest Awhile*

African American spiritual,  
arr. Sigvald Tveit

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

*All creatures of our God and King*

The Hymnal 1982 #400 (vs. 1,4,5,7)



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
\*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -  
\*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to  
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your  
\*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal  
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

OPENING SENTENCES *(all standing as able)*

*Celebrant:* This is the day the Creator has made.

*Response:* Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

CANTICLE 12 A SONG OF CREATION

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.

In the firmament of their power, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, \*  
praise them and highly exalt them for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.  
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.

Let us glorify the Lord: Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.  
In the firmament of the Lord's power, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise the Lord and highly exalt them for ever.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

SEASON OF CREATION COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

*Lector:* A reading from Genesis

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Lector:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103: 1-7, 8-13

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.]

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

*Lector:* A reading from Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Lector:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

1. When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo-ple go;  
 2. The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;  
 3. They jour - neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;  
 4. Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

1. op - pressed so hard they — could not stand, let my peo-ple go.  
 2. to lead the chil - dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.  
 3. and come at length to — Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.  
 4. and let us all in — Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

Go down, — Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land; —

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE PROFESSION OF FAITH (from South India, Season of Creation)

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND CONCLUDING COLLECT (standing as able)

*(As we pray, please respond to “God, to whom all creation responds,” with “Help us respond to you” )*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins to God.

*All:* Holy and merciful God,  
we confess that we have failed to honor you  
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.  
We have walked heavily on your earth,  
overused and wasted its resources,  
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,  
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,  
holding future generations hostage to our greed.  
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.  
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and  
intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts,  
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace  
of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy  
Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.



## THE PEACE (*standing*)

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### *Receiving Communion*

*Receiving only bread or wine is considered full communion, or you can receive both elements. You may...*

- 1. Receive the bread, placing one hand on the other, facing up*
- 2. Receive gluten-free bread, hands facing down*
- 3. Drink from the chalice (cup) when it's offered to you*
- 4. Decline to drink by crossing your arms; the Eucharistic minister will extend it toward you with the words "The Blood of Christ."*
- 5. Decline both bread and wine, and with arms crossed, receive a blessing.*

**Please do not dip the wafer into the chalice.**

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM      *Elijah Rock*      African American spiritual, arr. Jester Hairston

## PRESENTATION HYMN

The Hymnal 1982 #380 v3 adapted

- 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST      Eucharistic Prayer Creation II

*Celebrant:* The Creator be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* We lift them to the Creator.

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to our loving God.

*People:* It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues:*

It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the waters of the Mere Brook Watershed and Androscoggin River flow, where town, wilderness, farm, and sea are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens. Together with angels and ancestors, lupine and alewife, cedar and moose, pine and eagle, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

*The people join together in the Sanctus, and then the celebrant continues*

*The Celebrant 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup. Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with St. Paul and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come. All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*Celebrant and People:*

Our God in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

*The Celebrant says:* Be known to us Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We are the communion of Christ's Body.

*All:* We share one bread together.

## THE INVITATION

*Facing the people, the celebrant says the following invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Then is said, The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.*

*The ushers will guide the people pew by pew to the altar rail. You may kneel or stand to receive the Sacrament. (Gluten Free is available.) Clergy will distribute the consecrated host to each person. Eucharistic Ministers will hold the cup in front of each person saying, 'The Blood of Christ; the Cup of Salvation.' If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms indicating you'd like a blessing instead.*

# A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

## COMMUNION HYMN 1

*In the bulb there is a flower*

MHSO 86



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple  
 2 There's a song in ev - 'ry si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o -  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter -  
 dy; there's a dawn in ev - 'ry dark - ness, bring - ing  
 ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our

flies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of  
 hope to you and me. From the past will come the  
 life, e - ter - ni - ty; in our death, a res - ur -

win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 fu - ture, what it holds, a mys - ter - y, un - re -  
 rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

*Ubi Caritas*

Maurice Duruflé

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER FOR SEASON OF CREATION

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God,  
that the gifts of your Spirit may work  
in us and renew the face of the earth.  
May we be one with you  
so that our work is yours  
and your work is ours.  
Lead us to transform our lives  
to reflect your glory in Creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior  
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God who established the dance of creation,  
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,  
Who transforms chaos to order,  
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church  
To listen to the voice of all creatures  
That reflect God's glory in creation.  
In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen!

1. I have de - cid - ed \_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Though no one join me, \_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low, \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. The world be - hind me, \_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me, \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I have de - cid - ed \_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Though no one join me, \_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low, \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ The world be - hind me, \_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me, \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I have de - cid - ed \_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Though no one join me, \_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low, \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ The world be - hind me, \_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ No turn - ing back, \_\_\_\_\_ no turn - ing back! \_\_\_\_\_  
 (no turn - ing back,)

## DISMISSAL

*The Celebrant:* Send us forth in the name of Christ.

*The People respond:* Thanks be to God.

## MUSIC FOR EXITING



The Diocese of Maine, The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, Bishop

St. Paul's Staff and Vestry

The Rev. Dr. Matthew R. Scott, Rector  
The Rev. Katie Holicky, Associate Rector

Melissa Carbajal  
Lead Administrator

Patsy Oehl  
Senior Warden

Andrea Lauerman  
Sacred Ground Coordinator

Sunshine Spaulding  
Administrative Assistant

Nancy King  
Junior Warden

Christina Spurling  
Organist/Accompanist

Vestry

Term ending 2027 — Michael Anne Banks, Jonathan Bolton, Mike Sullivan

Term ending 2028 — Roger Barras, Michael Turner, John Bilodeau

Term ending 2029 — Dieuwke Zolas and Leslie Walter