

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Brunswick, Maine
The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Season of Creation
September 20, 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
Find us on Facebook — facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswickMaine
admin@stpaulsmaine.org (207) 725-5342
27 Pleasant St., P.O. Box 195
Brunswick, ME 04011

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

Arabesque no. 1

Claude Debussy

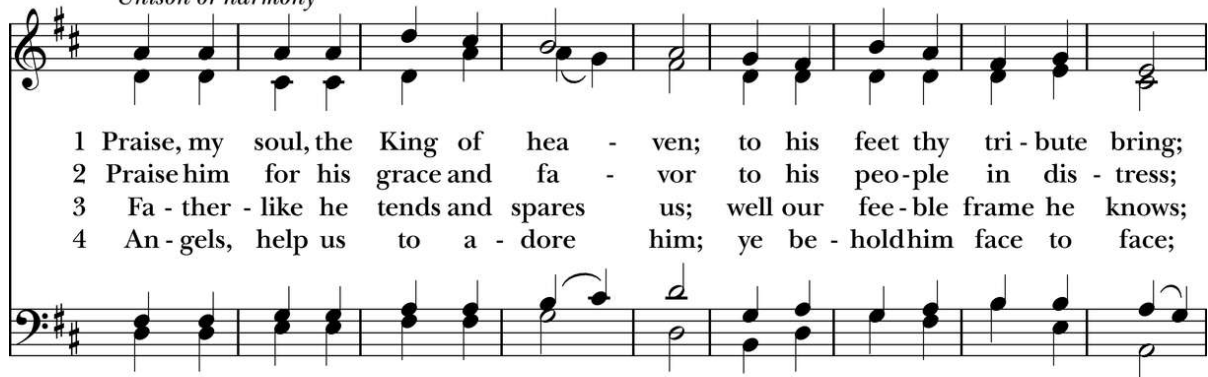
WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

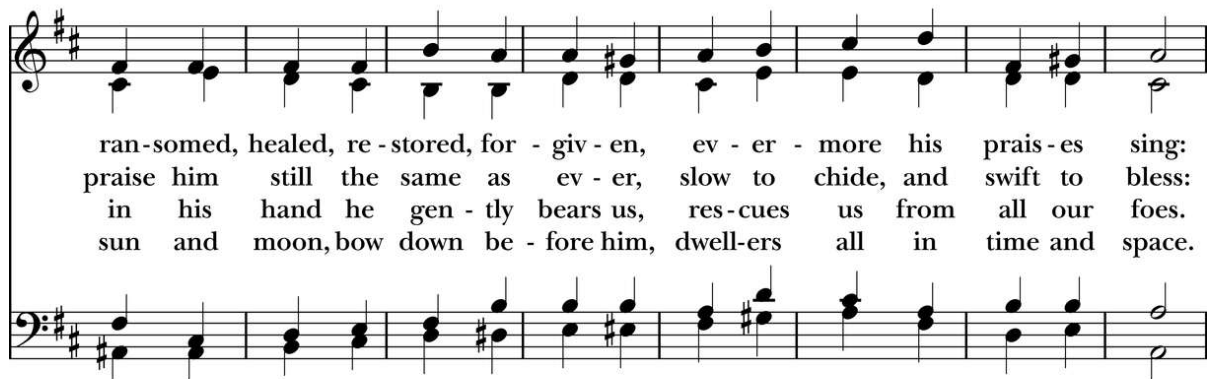
Praise, my soul, the king of heaven

The Hymnal 1982 #410

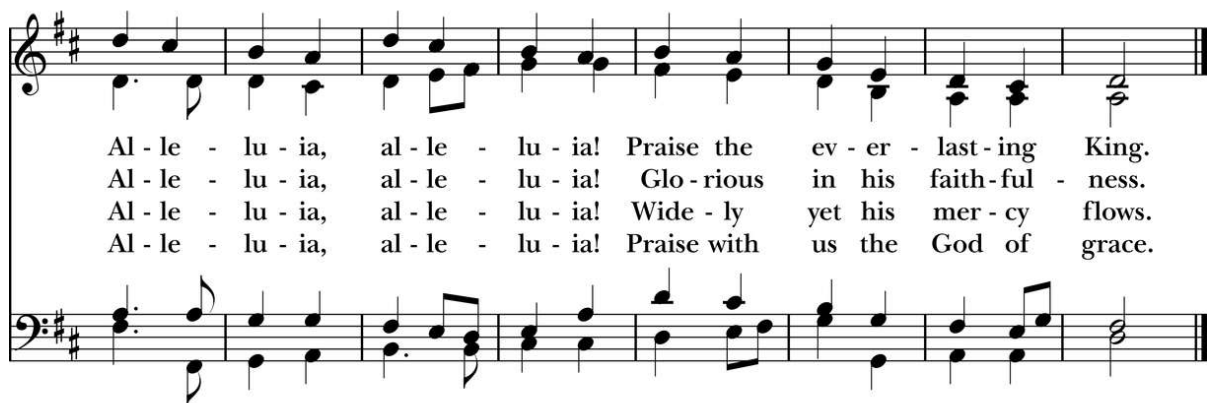
Unison or harmony



1 Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to his feet thy tri - bute bring;
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple in dis - tress;
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him face to face;



ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing:
praise him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
in his hand he gen - tly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space.

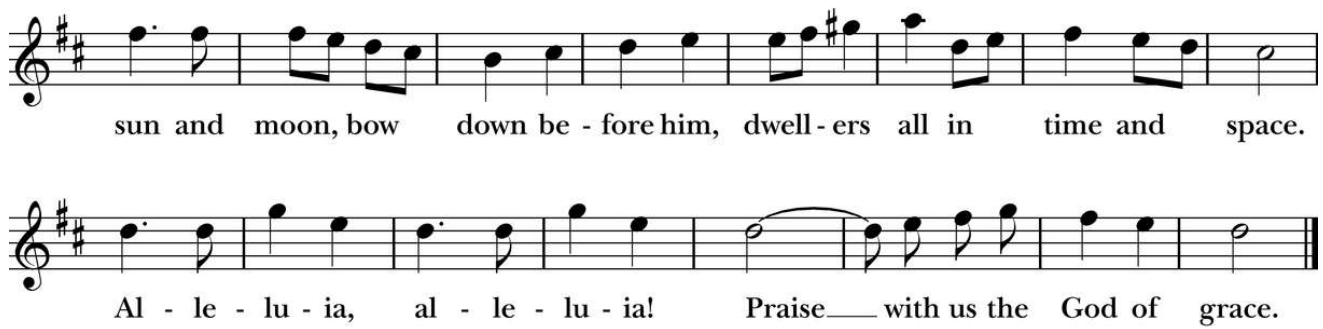


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Descant for use with unison singing



4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him face to face;



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 earth glorify the Lord, *
 praise them and highly exalt them for ever.
 Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, *
 praise them and highly exalt them for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
 O whales and all that move in the waters.
 All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
 praise them and highly exalt them for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
 and all you flocks and herds.
 O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
 praise them 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

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

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15

Lector: A reading from Exodus

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 105: 1-6, 37-45

1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

37 He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.

40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.

42 For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.

43 So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.

44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

45 That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.
Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:21-30

Lector: A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

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

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

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

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round

The Hymnal 1982 #617

Unison or harmony

1 E - ter - nal Ru - ler of the cease - less round
 2 We would be one in ha - tred of all wrong,
 3 Oh, clothe us with thy heaven - ly ar - mor, Lord,

of cir - cling plan - ets sing - ing on their way,
 one in the love of all things sweet and fair,
 thy trust - y shield, thy word of love di - vine;

guide of the na - tions from the night pro - found
 one with the joy that break - eth in - to song,
 our in - spi - ra - tion be thy con - stant word,

in - to the glo - ry of the per - fect day;
 one with the grief that trem - bleth in - to prayer;
 we ask no vic - to - ries that are not thine;

rule in our hearts, that we may ev - er be
 one in the power that makes thy chil - dren free
 give or with - hold, let pain or plea - sure be;

guid - ed and strength - ened and up - held by thee.
 to fol - low truth, and thus to fol - low thee.
 e - nough to know that we are serv - ing thee.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Katie Holicky

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

Touch the Earth Lightly

arr. Albert Mendoza

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

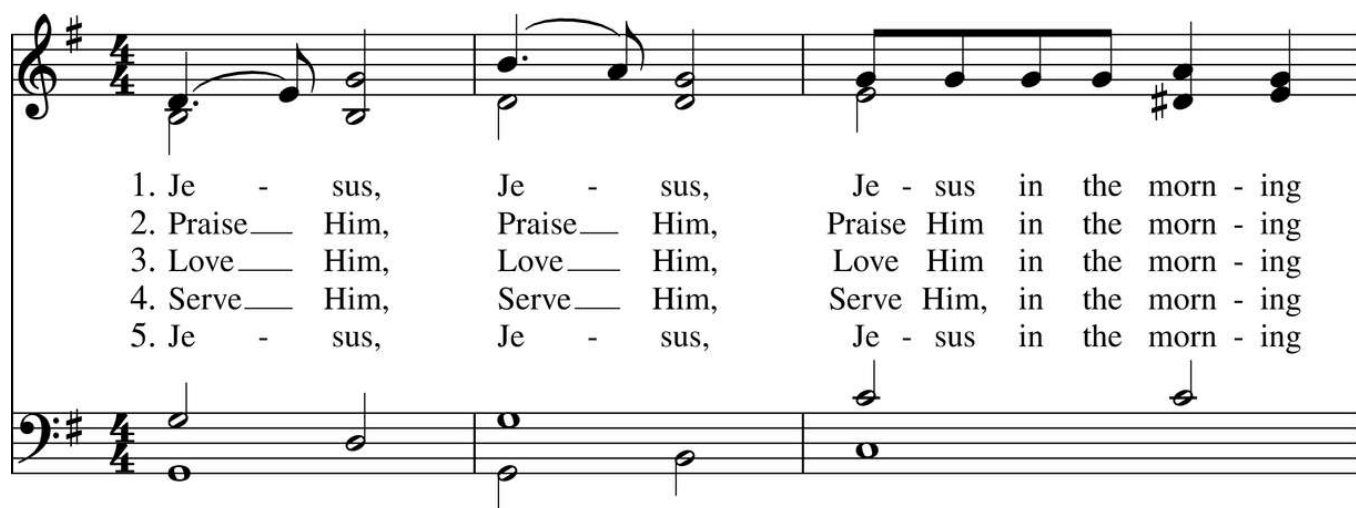
Facing the people, the celebrant says the following invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

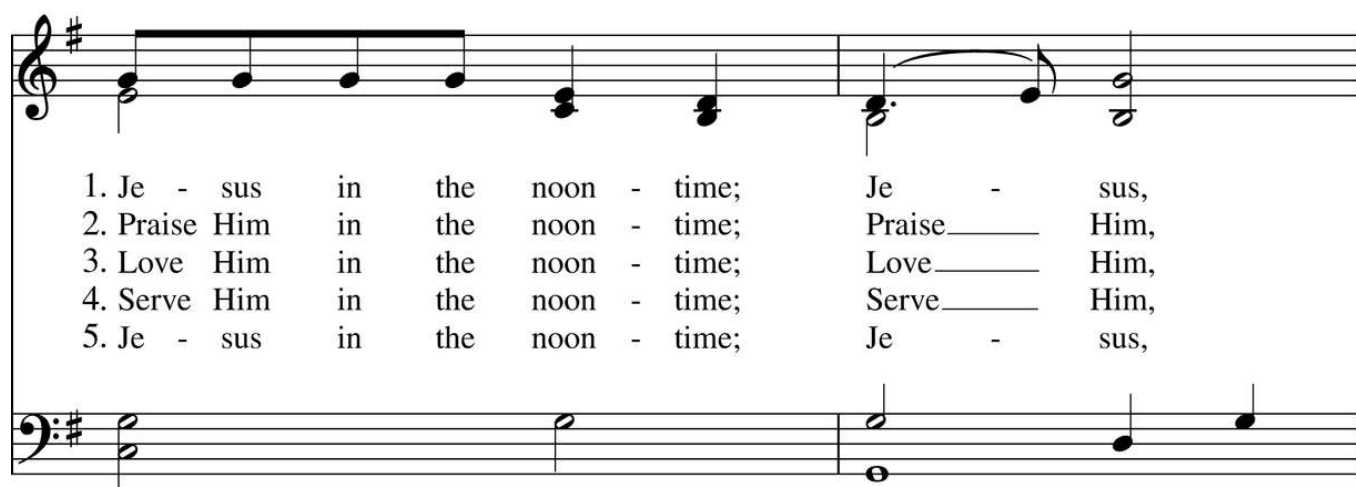
The ushers will guide the people pew by pew to the altar rail. You may kneel or stand to receive the Sacrament. (Gluten Free is available.) Clergy will distribute the consecrated host to each person. Eucharistic Ministers will hold the cup in front of each person saying, 'The Blood of Christ; the Cup 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

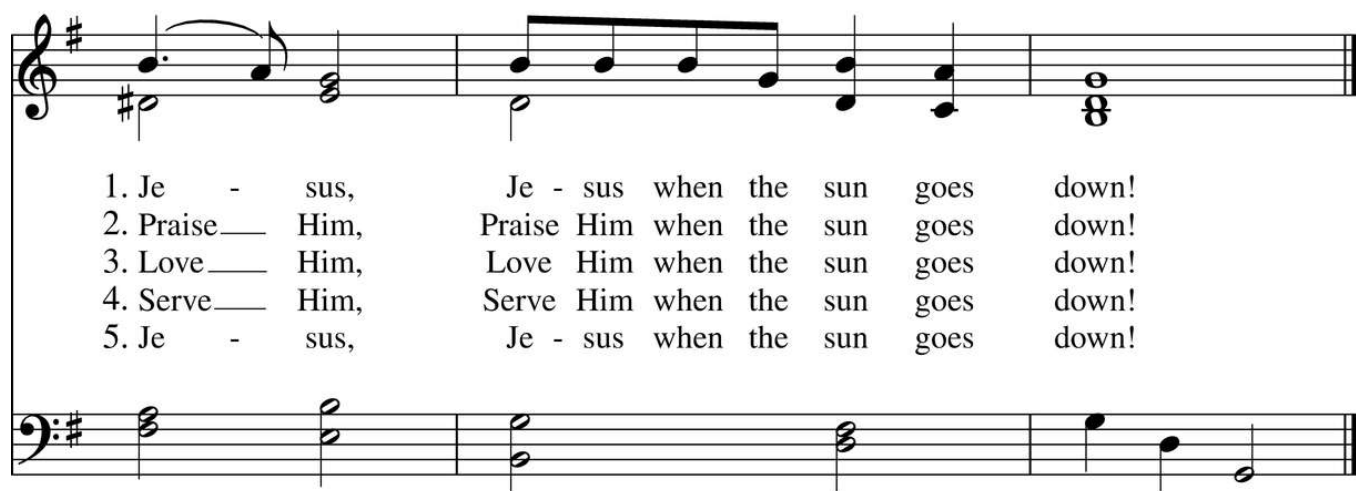
In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you 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.



1. Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus in the morn - ing
 2. Praise___ Him, Praise___ Him, Praise Him in the morn - ing
 3. Love___ Him, Love___ Him, Love Him in the morn - ing
 4. Serve___ Him, Serve___ Him, Serve Him, in the morn - ing
 5. Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus in the morn - ing



1. Je - sus in the noon - time; Je - sus,
 2. Praise Him in the noon - time; Praise___ Him,
 3. Love Him in the noon - time; Love___ Him,
 4. Serve Him in the noon - time; Serve___ Him,
 5. Je - sus in the noon - time; Je - sus,



1. Je - sus, Je - sus when the sun goes down!
 2. Praise___ Him, Praise Him when the sun goes down!
 3. Love___ Him, Love Him when the sun goes down!
 4. Serve___ Him, Serve Him when the sun goes down!
 5. Je - sus, Je - sus when the sun goes down!



1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a
 3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is



is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.



Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who



days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.



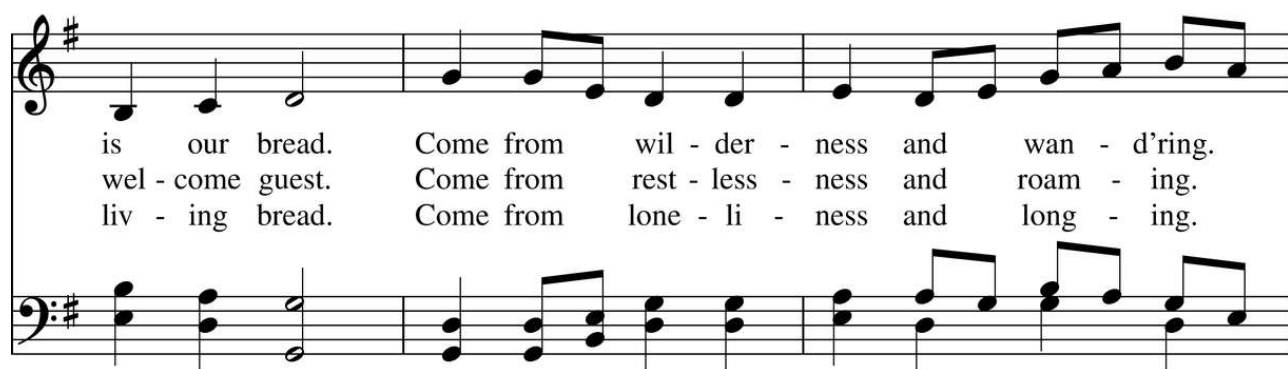
Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see that God is good.

Harmony (the melody is in the tenor)



1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a
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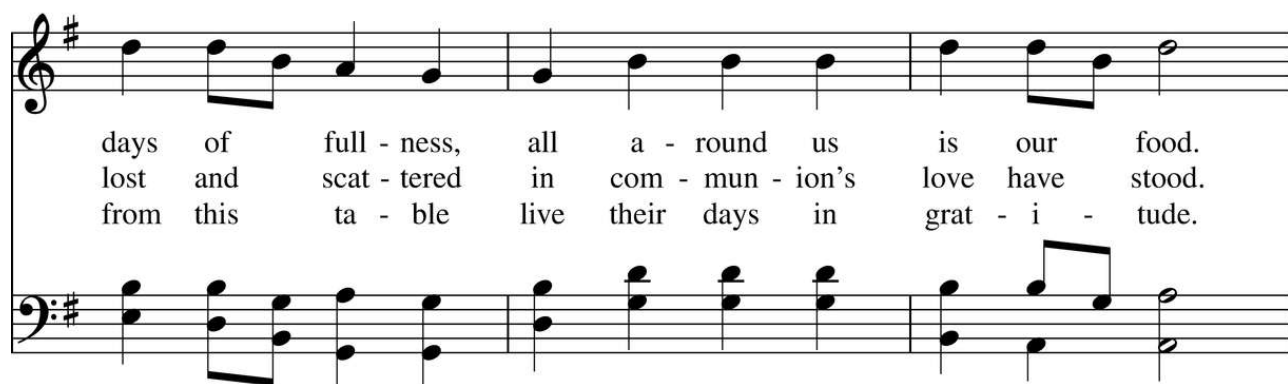




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Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who



days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

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.

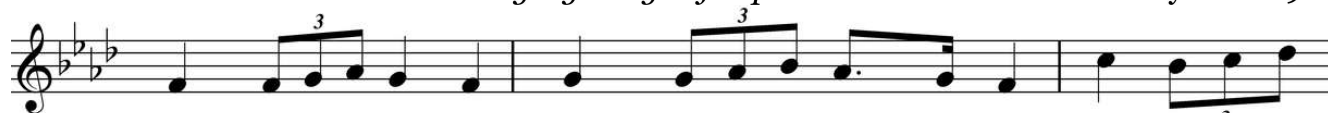
THE BLESSING

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!

THE CLOSING HYMN

Singing songs of expectation

The Hymnal 1982 #527



1 Sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion, on - ward
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence, o'er his
3 One the strain the lips of thou - sands lift as



goes the pil - grim band, through the night of
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the
from the heart of one; one the con - flict,



doubt and sor - row, march - ing to the prom - ised land.
gloom and ter - ror, bright - ening all the path we tread:
one the per - il, one the march in God be - gun:

Clear be - fore us through the dark - ness gleams and
one the ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the
one the glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the

burns the guid - ing light: trust - ing God we
faith which nev - er tires, one the ear - nest
far e - ter - nal shore, where the one al -

march to - geth - er step - ping fear - less through the night.
look - ing for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
might - y Fa - ther reigns in love for ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

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

The People respond: Thanks be to God.

MUSIC FOR EXITING

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Jason W. Krug



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