

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Brunswick, Maine
The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Season of Creation
September 6, 2026

9:30 a.m. Life Together Eucharist 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
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27 Pleasant St., P.O. Box 195
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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

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Joyful, joyful

The Hymnal 1982 #376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

OPENING SENTENCES (*all standing as able*)

Celebrant: This is the day the Creator has made.

Response: God is here!

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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the powerful who oppress and dominate Creation, so you never forsake your creatures who live in harmony with nature's order; 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 Exodus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

St. Helena Psalter

1 Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; *
sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let the people of Israel rejoice in their Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their Monarch.

3 Let them praise God's Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.

4 God takes pleasure in the people *
and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their rulers in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all God's faithful people. Alleluia!

'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find our - selves in the place just right,
'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light.
When true sim - pli - ci - ty is gained to
bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will
be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: *Simple Gifts*, Joseph Brackett (1797-1822); acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922).

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Scott

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.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS *(It has been our custom for generations to bring forth,
if possible, offerings of coins in the amount of your age. You may do this online at stpaulsmaine.org)*

The people say together:

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be,
keeping them unspotted from the world. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when
discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth
understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, giver of life and love, bless this couple. Grant them wisdom and devotion in the
ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in
perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. And so knit their wills together in your will
and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may live together in love and peace all the days of their life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Instrumental by Christina Spurling

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.

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you. **Fine**

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2. Neigh - bors are rich and poor, neigh - bors are black and
 3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are
 5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

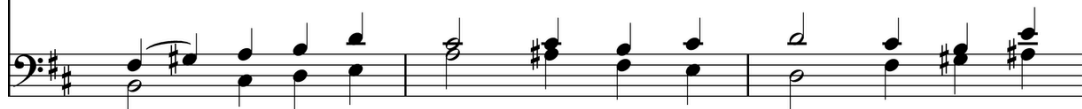
1. feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 2. white, neigh - bors are near and far a - way.
 3. love; all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 4. slaves, this is the way we should live with you.
 5. feet, this is the way we should live with you. **D.C.**



1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.



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. We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser-vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be-hold one vi-sion, a stark re-al-i-ty;
 4. Now let us be u-nit-ed and let our song be heard.

our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min-is-tries are dif-f'rent, our pur-pose is the same:
 the stew-ard of sal-va-tion was nailed up-on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves-sel for God's re-deem-ing Word.

A sin-gle, great com-mis-sion com-pels us from a-bove
 to touch the lives of oth-ers by God's sur-pris-ing grace,
 Yet res-ur-rect-ed Jus-tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Words: Rusty Edwards (b. 1955). Music: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).

DISMISSAL

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

The People respond: Thanks be to God.

MUSIC FOR EXITING

Ministries	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Celtic Morning Prayer Leader Peter Garlid	The Rev. Katie Holicky
Preacher		The Rev. Matthew Scott
Eucharistic Ministers		Lois Kwantz and Tom Nugent
Lectors		Tom Nugent 1st Lesson Cricket Ranen Ps. Intergenerational Reader Pr.
Music		Christina Spurling
Greeter		Ariel Elwell
Ushers		Patsy Oehl and Phil Studwell
Acolyte		Cliff Ruprecht
Altar Guild	Bonny Labonte and Meg Williams	
Fellowship Host	Patsy Oehl and Phil Studwell	

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