Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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www.stpaulsharrishill.org

November 8th, 2026
24th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM

Thank you for joining us today!

If you are new or visiting, please fill out a card from the pew and place it in the collection so that we may follow up.

Coffee and conversation take place after the service in the parish hall. Follow the hallway at the right front of the church to the right and past the kitchen.



There are three bathrooms located in the hallway between the church and the parish hall.



Please be advised that we livestream our church services online through various electronic means such as Facebook and YouTube. These broadcasts provide valuable information to visitors to our site and those planning to attend our services in person. We may use any recorded media in materials produced by and for our church.

Would you like to donate - but don't have cash or checks? Visit ***www.stpaulsharrishill.org/give*** *to help support our mission.*

Congregational responses are in bold type.

Serving Today

Officiant	The Rev. Dr. Jason Miller
Deacon	The Rev. Marc Gutierrez
Organist	Rob Boccaccio
Acolytes	Sadie Cudmore, Abby Gerstung
Readers	Bill Weisbeck, Donna Leney
Chalice	Brian Miller

Notices

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Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing.

♫ **Hymnal 436 vv 1-3 – "Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates"**

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

The Officiant may say
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Reading Wisdom 6:12–16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.

To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

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

The Response Wisdom 6:17–20

Please remain seated and pray the response as indicated.

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,
and concern for instruction is love of her,

and love of her is the keeping of her laws,
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,

and immortality brings one near to God;
so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

The Second Reading 1 Thes 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

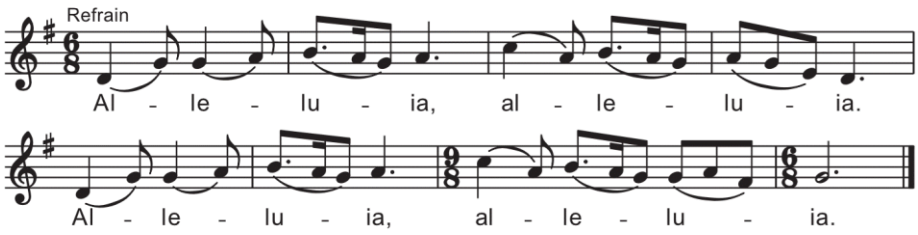
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise as you are able for

The Sequence Hymn

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker



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The Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

The Sermon

Please rise in body or in spirit for

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

Deacon/Officiant: Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community. We are generous with our gifts
Because we are Rooted in Abundance

I ask your prayers for the Church, for all who worship God this day. For our clergy, our diocesan leaders, and for our congregation. We pray especially for this season in which we celebrate our stories of leadership and our support for mission. We are generous with our gifts of leadership,
Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

I ask your prayers for our Nation and all nations; for refugees fleeing climate change and war; for conflicts of resources and land; for lawmakers, peacekeepers, and informed citizens. We pray for a distribution of wealth that helps the poor and the marginalized. We are generous with our gifts of peace,
Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

I ask your prayers for the sick, the lonely, the lost, and those who grieve. We remember those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now in silence or aloud…

Irving & Margaret Brewster, Malinda Gay, Marje Hagberg, Susan Lee, Donna Leney, Gail Michaels, Sue Petherick, Toni Spence, Norman Zaccagnino

A brief pause is given to state additional intentions

We are generous with our gifts of healing,
Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

I ask your prayers for those who have died, those who are dying, and those who mourn. Especially those we name now in silence or aloud …

Pause to state your intentions

We are generous with our gifts of support,
Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

I ask for your remembrances of thanksgivings and blessings, for we are given time, talent, and treasure to share with the world. We are generous with our gratitude,
Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Officiant: Hear the prayers of your people, Creator God. May we, who are blessed by so much wealth and wisdom, share our works with a world in need.
Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Together, all say

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we
have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may
abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

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

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

Please greet one another with a visible sign of God's peace.

Announcements

Please be seated for a brief list of announcements.

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing.

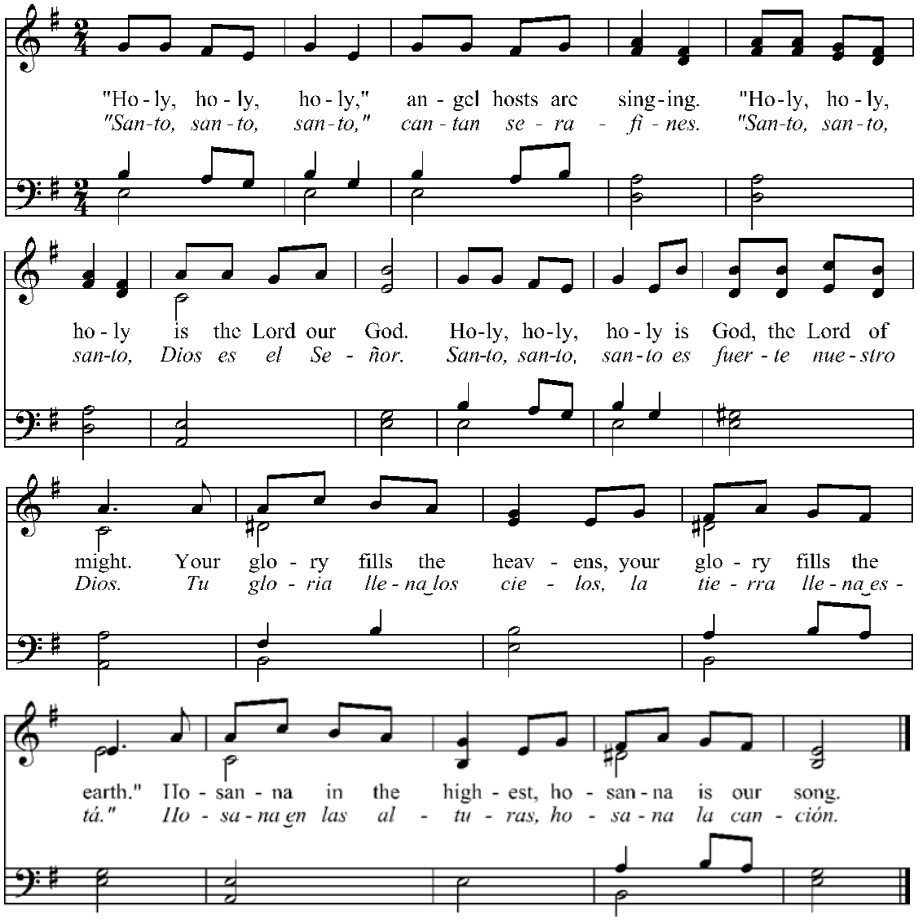
♫ ***The Doxology*** **– Hymn 380, verse 3**

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A)

God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Words: based on *Isaiah 6:3*, English paraphrase Bert Polman, 1985.
Music: *Merengue*, Spanish; harm. AnnaMae Meyer Bush, 1985 © 1987 CRC Publications, 2850 Kalamazoo Avenue Southeast, Grand Rapids, MI 49560 [www.crcpublications. org].
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The people kneel or remain standing

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Please come forward to receive communion one row at a time. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms when approached with the bread.

Communion Music

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God of Abundance and Grace,
by the provision of this feast,
the Sacrament of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
you have united us together in purpose and place.
May we who have gathered and broken bread
now share the living Word,
being rooted in Abundance;
serving you with joy and steadfast faith,
through Jesus Christ, our head. Amen.

The Blessing

Please respond **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

♫ **690 – "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah"**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Rooted in Rest

As the long Season after Pentecost begins to draw toward its conclusion, I find myself thinking about roots.

Our theme this year, *Rooted in Abundance*, reminds us that God's blessings are not scarce. God's grace, love, and generosity are constantly nourishing us, often in ways we do not notice until we stop and pay attention. And perhaps that is one of the gifts of November. The trees have shed their leaves, the harvest is complete, and the world around us seems to invite a slower pace. It is a season for noticing what has sustained us.

I sometimes imagine the Holy Spirit taking a moment to catch her breath during this season. Pentecost begins with rushing wind, tongues of fire, and the dramatic outpouring
of gifts upon the Church. But after the excitement comes the
patient work of growth. Like roots stretching quietly beneath the surface, the Spirit continues her work long after the spectacle has faded.

Many of us know that rhythm well. By this point in the year, we may be feeling tired. The energy that carried us through spring and summer has been spent in work, ministry, family life, and the countless commitments that fill our days. Yet even as we feel our limitations, God's abundance remains. The question is not whether God continues to provide. The question is whether we are

making space to recognize the gifts already surrounding us.

The call of this season is not simply to do more. It is to become more deeply rooted in the life God is already giving. Through prayer, worship, friendship, generosity, rest, and gratitude, we discover again that we are sustained by more than our own effort. Like a tree nourished by deep roots, we draw strength from sources that endure beyond any single season.

As Advent approaches and we begin to look toward a new church year, perhaps this is a good time to pause and ask:

- Where have I experienced God's abundance this year, even in unexpected places?
- What practices, relationships, or experiences help keep me rooted in God's life and love?
- Where might God be inviting me to trust abundance rather than scarcity as I prepare for the season ahead?

May these final weeks of the Season after Pentecost be a time of gratitude, renewal, and deeper roots. And may the Holy Spirit continue her quiet work within us, preparing us for whatever new thing God is about to do.