

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Church Office – 716-632-8221

office@stpaulsharrishill.org

Rector – The Rev. Dr. Jason M. Miller

jason@stpaulsharrishill.org

www.stpaulsharrishill.org

September 13th, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM

The Season of Creation

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.*

<i>Congregational responses are in bold type.</i>

Serving Today

Officiant	The Rev. Dr. Jason M. Miller
Organist	Rob Boccaccio
Acolytes	Seth Brown, Colin Matthews
Readers	Mike Elkan, Paul Mikulski
Chalice	Brian Miller

Notices

The Scripture texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. The text of this service is reproduced from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979, The Episcopal Church, USA, Enriching Our Worship 1, 1998, Church Publishing Incorporated and The Book of Occasional Services 2018, Church Pension Fund.

Hymns are reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE#A-740423. All rights reserved. Streaming permission is granted through ONE LICENSE #A-740423. Hymn images from RiteSong. Copyright 2023 Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission. Used with Permission. CCLI Church Copyright License Number: 11401950 and Streaming License Number: 21466105.

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn

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

🎵 Hymnal 414 vv. 1-3 – “God, my King, thy might confessing”

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 magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Song of Praise: The Song of Judith

**I will sing a new song to my God,
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in
strength, invincible.**

**Let the whole creation serve you, for you spoke and
all things came into being.**

**You sent your breath and it formed them, no one is
able to resist your voice.**

**Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, rocks
melt like wax at your presence.**

**But to those who fear you, you continue to show
mercy.**

**No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, but
whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight
for ever.**

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

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.

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

The Response

Psalm 103:8-13

Please remain seated and pray the Psalm responsively.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

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.

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

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

© 1985,1996,FintanO'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP.All rights reserved.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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

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

Creator, we pray for all Creation and the Holy assemblies of all faithful people;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every creature and all Creation may truly and humbly serve you and one another;

That your Glory may be known by all creatures.

We pray for all bishops, priests, deacons and all spiritual leaders;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments in all Creation.

We pray for all who lead and hold responsibility in the nations and organizations of the human world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We pray for those serving in our armed forces—at home and abroad—protecting peace and defending the vulnerable, and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources or their devastation by war, that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace:

Keep your planet and people in peace.

Give us grace to do your joyful desire in all that we do and refrain from doing;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on all your creatures who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to all departed creatures eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of all Creation, offering up additional names in the silence that follows.

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

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

Eucharistic Prayer with Creation II

The Lord 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 in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the fresh waters of North America flow over your wondrous falls on their way to nourish your people and feed the seas. 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, fox and fawn, sturgeon and salmon, heron and loon, and your children of the Haudenosaunee, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," an - gel hosts arc sing - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
"San - to, san - to, san - to," can - tan se - ra - fi - nes. "San - to, san - to,

ho - ly is the Lord our God. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God, the Lord of
san - to, Dios es el Se - ñor. San - to, san - to, san - to es fuer - te nue - stro

might. Your glo - ry fills the heav - ens, your glo - ry fills the
Dios. Tu glo - ria lle - na los cie - los, la tie - rra lle - na es -

earth." Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na is our song.
tá." Ho - sa - na en las al - tu - ras, ho - sa - na la can - ción.

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].

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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 famers 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 Paul and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, lion and lamb, 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.

This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.

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, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Please respond

Amen.

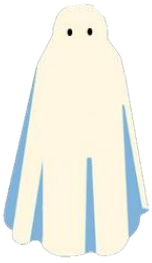
Closing Hymn

♪ 400 vv. 1,4,7 – “All creatures of our God and King”

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GHOSTS!

EXPLAINING THE PARANORMAL



**Don't miss out on this very unique seminar
sponsored by St. Paul's! September 25th &
26th at St. Matthias' Church in East
Aurora!**

THE SPOOKTACULAR MEAT RAFFLE

Saturday, October 10th

**Lancaster Elks Lodge
33 Legion Parkway, Lancaster**

\$15 Presale, \$20 at the door

