

And now, with confidence of the children of God, let us pray.

LORD’S PRAYER, Hymnal 895 *(said in unison)*

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND BLESSING OF THE CUP

We break this bread, remembering the divisions of the world.

Lord, heal our brokenness.

We break this bread remembering the disunity of the church.

Lord, heal our brokenness.

We break this bread, remembering the fragmentation of our lives.

Lord, heal our brokenness.

FRACTION ANTHEM *(sung by all)*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All are invited to share in the sacrament, coming by the center aisle and returning by the side aisles. Gluten free communion is available at the center stations. If you cannot come to the chancel, please notify an usher.

COMMUNION ANTHEM “For the Fallen” *Douglas Guest*

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.

Words: Laurence Binyon (1914)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we commit ourselves to a life in which the glamour of evil is renounced, a life in which we give ourselves to God’s service, a life of love. Amen.

All Stand.

HYMN 140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” *FAITHFULNESS*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

When new members are received, the congregation responds in unison:

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and welcome you in Christian love.

As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

CHORAL BENEDICTION “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” *John Rutter*
Sung by the St. Paul’s Treble Choir and Choristers

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

VOLUNTARY Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

LAY READER

Jaime Flores

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Amy Gilligan into the St. Paul’s family.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chancel are placed to the glory of God in loving memory of Rangeley Brunson by her family, Penelope, Timothy, Sam, Claire, and Isaiah Loughhead.

The flowers in the Narthex are placed to the glory of God in profound gratitude for those who gave their lives in service to our country.

TODAY AT ST. PAUL’S

Church-wide Stewardship Luncheon. All are invited to this time together during which Rev. Tommy Williams will give an update on milestones reached in 2018 and how the church hopes to “lead change for the common good” as we look ahead to 2019.

Children’s Art Festival, (during the Stewardship Luncheon), children from age 3 yrs-5th grade will create illustrations for the annual family Advent booklet. J-120.

Voice for Life Workshop, 12:15 PM in the Activity Center/temporary children’s choir room.

THIS WEEK & UPCOMING AT ST. PAUL’S

Congestive Heart Failure Support Group, Monday, November 12, 5:30 PM in J-202. Free and open to all. For questions, call Wayne Brewer at 832-215-0456.

Calumet Friends (Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting), Mondays at 7 PM in J-203.

UMW (United Methodist Women), Tuesday, November 13, at 10:30 AM in J-204, with guest speaker Krystal Scott-West, Social Action Coordinator with the Texas annual Conference.

Lectionary Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Matthew Russell, Tuesdays at noon in J-211.

Men’s Lectionary Bible Study Breakfast, Wednesdays at 7AM in Fondren Lounge with Rev. Tommy Williams.

St. Paul’s Moms, Wednesday, November 14, at 9:30 am in the Youth Center.

Holy Communion. Wednesdays at 12:15 PM in the Chapel.

Women’s Lectionary Bible Study, Thursdays at 8:30 AM in J-203, with Rev. Barbara Robberson.

Her | meneutics Bible Study for Women, Thursday, November 15, at 6:30 PM; facilitated by Rev. Karyn Richards-Kuan. Location rotates. *(1st and 3rd Thursdays only)*

Harvey Recovery Workday: Volunteer for St. Paul’s Harvey Work Team, Saturday, November 17 and December 1. Help a Houston family still trying to rebuild. All skill levels are welcome as training is provided. Visit www.stpaulshouston.org/harvey to register and for more information.

Kerley Lectures present Rev. Michael Dowd: The Future Is Calling Us to Greatness, Saturday, November 17, at 9:30 AM and Sunday, November 18, at 11 AM. For Saturday tickets, visit www.stpaulshouston.org/events.

ST. PAUL’S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Dr. Matthew Russell Senior Associate Pastor

Eddie Quaid St. Paul’s Choral Scholars Director



Share your generosity with St. Paul’s by texting “SPUMC” to 73256.

Your donation supports the ministry and mission efforts of the church.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 11, 2018, at 9:45 AM

The St. Paul’s family welcomes you as we worship God together. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the Jones Building.

Large print hymnals are available from the ushers.

Please silence your cell phone.

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

VOLUNTARY Prelude on “Malabar” *Leo Sowerby*

The congregation rises as the crucifer passes.

HYMN 64 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” *NICAEA*

GREETING

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace to you also.

Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever.

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sit.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Listen for the word that God has spoken

Speak, Lord, to our speaking,

Speak, Lord, to our listening,

Speak, Lord, to our soul’s deep understanding. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son.

Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 127

The Antiphon is introduced by the cantor and then repeated by all.



Unless the Lord builds the house, their labor is in vain who build it.
Unless the Lord watches over the city, in vain the watchman keeps his vigil.
It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late; vain too, to eat the bread of toil, for his gives to his beloved sleep.

Antiphon

Children are a heritage from the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is a gift.
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth.
Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them! He shall not be put to shame when he contends with his enemies in the gate.

Antiphon

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 9:24-28

For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand and sing the hymn. During the hymn, children may be escorted to the Jones Building for Children's Church.

HYMN 417

“O For a Heart to Praise My God”

RICHMOND

GOSPEL

Mark 12:38-44

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”
He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please sit. The congregation joins in repeating Psalm 19:14.

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord,
my strength and my redeemer. Amen.

SERMON

“To Forget What Must Be Remembered” Dr. Matthew Russell

RESPONSES AND OFFERINGS

All stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED, Hymnal 881 (*said in unison*)

All sit.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During each petition, a time of silent meditation is held. Each petition concludes with:

Lord, in your loving grace,
Make us instruments of your peace.

COLLECT

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that the earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another. Let us pray.

Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory be to God. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please register your attendance on the pew card and share any prayer requests you may have on the opposite side of the card. If you would like to become a member of St. Paul's Church today, please bring the card with you to the front during the last hymn; otherwise, place it in the offering plate.

OFFERING

“Wondrous Love”
Text: Hymn 292

Arr. Paul Christiansen

The congregation stands when the acolytes come forward to present the elements.

DOXOLOGY, Hymnal 94 (*sung by all*)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

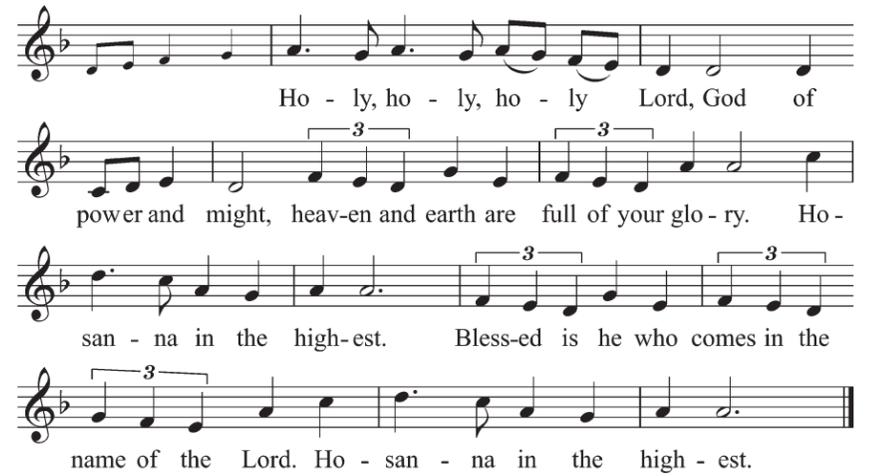
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, our Alpha and Omega, whose strong and loving arms encompass the universe, for with your eternal Word and the Holy Spirit you are forever one God. Through your Word you created all things and called them good, and in you we live and move and have our being. In Christ your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (*sung by all*)

Robert Powell



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The congregation sits.

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who called you Abba, Father. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own and filled them with a longing for peace that would last and for a justice that would never fail. In Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection you destroyed the power of sin and death, poured out your Holy Spirit upon us, and made us the people of your new covenant. Your Son Jesus now reigns with you in your glory.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus shared bread and wine with his friends. Breaking the bread he said, “This is my body, receive it in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the last supper he poured wine and said, “This is my blood, receive it in remembrance of me.”

So, gracious God, we gladly say:

Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate.
Light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.

Pour out your spirit on this community and these gifts. We pray with confidence that the bread and wine that we have offered here will be to us too the body and blood of Christ.

By your spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in kinship with all the world. Through your Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit, we exalt you O God, our source of liberation and light. **Amen.**