St. Paul's Episcopal Church

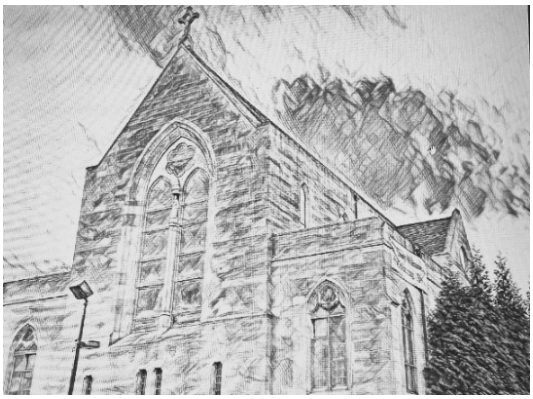
Canton, Ohio

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Sept. 20, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286
Week of Sept. 20: Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton



St. Paul's Mission

St. Paul's is an exceptionally welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, and called by God's Love to minister to the world.

The mission of The Episcopal Church is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." In step with that mission, we follow Jesus into loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with God, with each other, and with the earth.

"Love God. Love Your Neighbor. Change the World."

"God Loves You. No Exceptions."

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby

Readings and Psalm

Jonah 3:10-4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

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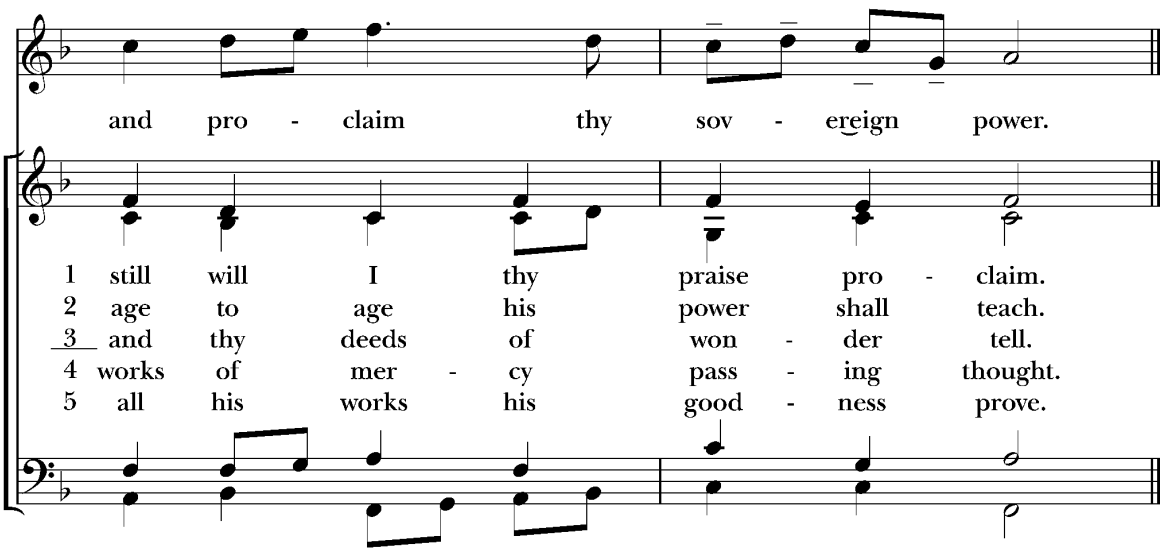
Prelude: *Andante con moto* (Johannes Brahms)

A celebration of the congregation of St. Paul's

The Word of God

Please stand in body or spirit

Entrance Hymn: *God Thy King Thy might Confessing* (Stuttgart) (H414)



6 All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee;
thee shall all thy saints adore:
King supreme shall they confess thee,
and proclaim thy sovereign power.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

Collect for Purity

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 *Spirit of God* (Skye Boat Song) (VF 53)

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Music: *Skye Boat Song*, Scottish traditional melody; arr. James Whitbourn © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Collect of the Day

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

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 Lessons

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

A Reading from the book of Jonah.
10When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways,
God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and
he did not do it.
4:1But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. 2He prayed to the Lord
and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is
why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and
merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from
punishing. 3And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die
than to live." 4And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" 5Then Jonah went out
of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under
it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.
6The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over
his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. 7But
when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it
withered. 8When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on
the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better
for me to die than to live."
9But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said,
"Yes, angry enough to die." 10Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for
which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and
perished in a night. 11And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in
which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their
right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8

1I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
2Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
3Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
4One generation shall praise your works to another *

and shall declare your power.
[5]I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
[6]They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
[7]They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
[8]The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

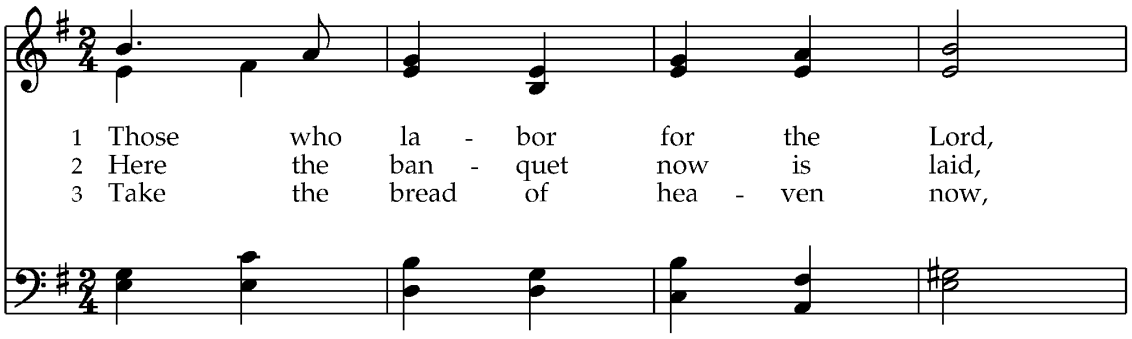
[21]To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. [22]If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. [23]I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; [24]but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. [25]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, [26]so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

[27]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, [28]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. [29]For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—[30]since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit

Sequence Hymn: *Those who labor for the Lord* (VF76)



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GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16

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

[Jesus said,] [1]"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. [2]After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. [3]When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; [4]and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. [5]When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. [6]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?' [7]They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' [8]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.’ [9]When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. [10]Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. [11]And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, [12]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.’ [13]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? [14]Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. [15]Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ [16]So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ
People Glory to you, O Christ

The Message: Celebrating the ministries and people of St. Paul’s

Please stand in body or spirit

The 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.

Prayers of the People

All-loving God, whose life is the source of our life, whose love is the source of our salvation, pour out your grace upon your church and upon the world, that all may know you, love you, and serve one another in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

All-governing God, who set forth the foundations of the world, so direct, inspire, and correct those in authority in this nation and the world, that the laws they make and the policies they embrace may reflect the dignity with which you created humanity in your image, and in harmony with your creation. Remove from the imaginations of power all thoughts toward oppression, discrimination, or other sins of pride, that we may truly love your image in one another, and in your Name;
Hear our prayer

Incarnate God, you lived among neighbors, friends and enemies alike; you know the intimate and everyday concerns of your people in this and every community. Where there is suffering, continue to heal it. Where there is harm, continue to expose it. Where there is need, continue to feed your people with the abundant Providence of God, from whom all blessings flow. Do not let us forget, either, our responsibility for one another's welfare, in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

Resurrecting God, we pray for those who live in the shadow of death, in places of war, in places of terror, in unsafe homes, in uncaring communities. We pray for an end to war, an undoing of terror, a disarming of hatred. We pray for those who have died, especially Marilyn Dickinson and Julie Miller and all those known to us and known only to you, that we may one day receive the same mercy that you have for each of them. In your Name*;*
Hear our prayer.

Awe-inspiring God, we thank you for the joys of human living, for the relationships that bring us closer to the knowledge of your love, for the colors of creation that reflect your glory, as the prophet recognized in the rainbow the glory of the living God. We thank you that we are "marvelously made" in your image, and in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

All healing God, we ask for your healing presence in the lives of those we love especially for Joe Patterson, Elizabeth Mapp, Judy Johanning, Tom Lilly, Dr. Claire Pernsteiner, Johanna Middleton, Linda Fogle, Cara Warren, Andrea, Jackson, Gary, Diana Campian Slingluff, Lynn Campian, Yvonne Niesz, Bernie Schwitzgebel, Richard Green, John Titmas, Holly Hillen, Frances Beacon, Vicki Simpkins, Brinley Wyczalek and Ronnie Long, in your Name;
Hear our prayer.

We pray together now the Discernment Prayer for St. Paul's:
O Lord our God,
May we, the parish of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, embrace your commandment of loving our neighbors as you have loved us while we discern who we are and how best to serve you. We ask that you quiet our souls, so we may listen to you. We ask that you grant us wisdom as we seek new leadership. And lastly, we ask for the courage to follow wherever you lead us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Loving Creator, our minds often race and our bodies feel tense.
We thank you for hearing all the prayers we just shared out loud and in our hearts.
When tomorrow feels scary, remind us that you are already there. Wrap us in your comfort like a warm blanket and let us rest in your love.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

Please stand in body or spirit

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.
The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Church Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence (Psalm 50:14)

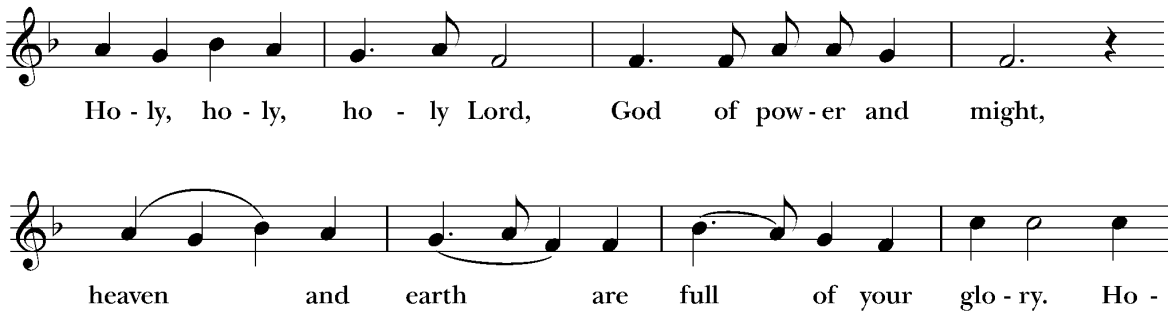
The Celebrant says
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

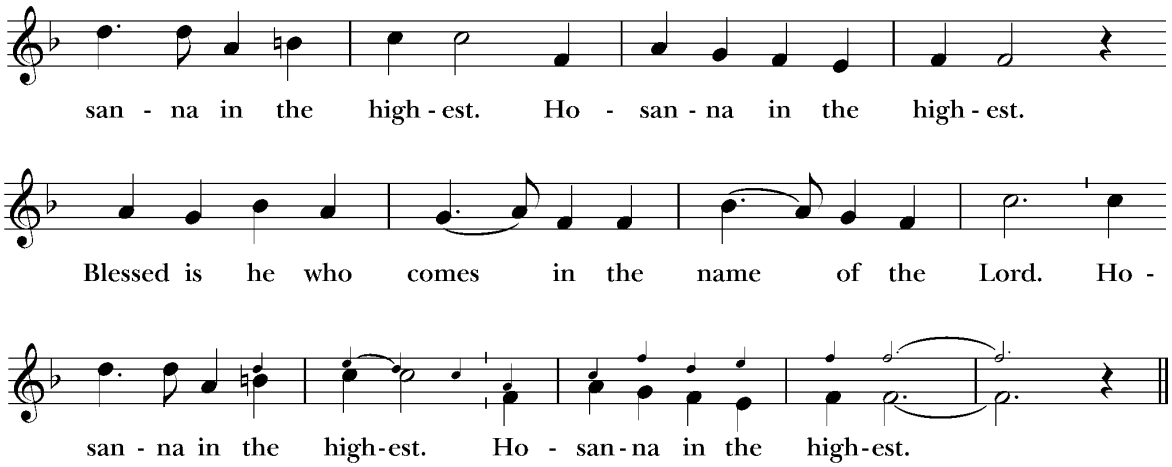
Offertory Anthem: *Be Thou my Vision* (Richard Shephard)

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing: ♪♪♪

Sanctus S125





Blessed are you, Gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.
On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."♪
As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."♪

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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our

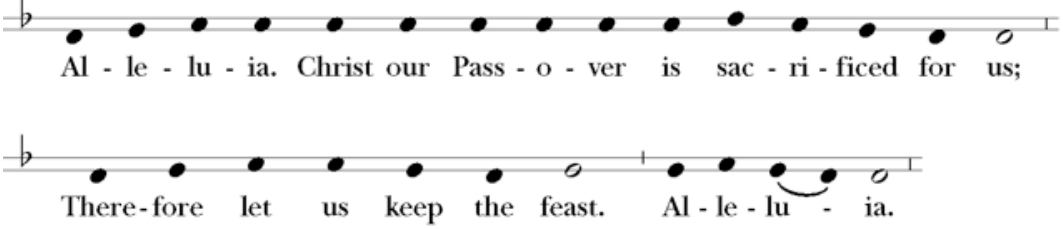
Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. ***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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (S 152)

This setting is not used in Lent.



This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

Celebrant Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not altogether in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

****Note to the congregation: Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the clergy if you need gluten-free bread. If you come to the communion station for a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the priests of St. Paul's.*

Post-Communion Prayer

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

Celebrant
God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN: We are all one in mission (Nyland) (WLP778)

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Fugue of the Magnificat Mode X* (Johann Pachelbel)

Please gather after the service in front of the altar for an all-parish photo.

Today's Servers

Celebrants: The Revs. Kay and Joe Ashby
Parish musician: Edward Grimes
Greeters: David Lewis and Paula Hampton
Crucifer: Douglas Colmery
Eucharistic Minister: Demetrius Carrothers

Video/Photography: David Lewis, David Rotthoff
Lector: Cara Warren
Altar Guild: Cara Warren and Susan Phillips
Counters: David Rotthoff and Cara Warren

Thanks to all those who shared their love of St. Paul's ministries today:

- Choir: David Rotthoff
- Lectors: M.L. Schultze
- Altar Guild: Demi Carrothers
- Acolytes: Karl Roshong
- Lay eucharistic ministers: Douglas Colmery
- Daughters of the King: Carol Sutek
- HOT: Susan Phillips
- Bible study: Carol Sutek
- CCORR: Molly Weisel
- Vestry: Linda Heitger
- Prayers of the people: Cara Warren
- Discernment: Kelli Green

If you want to know more or if any of these ministries are calling to you, please ask those listed above!

Prayer for peace among nations

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Parish news and notes

Happy September Birthdays

Bradley Swinderman, 9/9
Craig May, 9/12
Joanne Miller, 9/20
John Papadeonise, 9/21
Janet Lewton, 9/23
Ellis Wade, 9/23
Judith Johanning, 9/24
Jessica Patterson, 9/25
Peter Hopkins, 9/25
The Rev. Joe Ashby, 9/25
Sutton Wade, 9/27
Carol Duncan, 9/28

Happy September Anniversaries

John and Samantha Papadeonise, 9/20
Tammy and Joe Patterson, 9/23
Molly and Sean Ryan, 9/23

Blessing of the Animals

Good St. Francis, you loved all of God's creatures.
To you they were your brothers and sisters.
Help us to follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness.

Once again, St. Paul's will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi with two opportunities for the blessing of the animals. The first will be during First **Friday, Oct. 2** on Court Avenue NW next to Arcadia Restaurant. You're also invited to bring your pets (or pictures of them) to our service on **Sunday, Oct. 4.**

Mark your calendars

- **Wednesdays, 10 a.m.**, Bible Study in the Library
- **Thursday, 7 p.m.**, Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
- **Third Tuesdays** of each month, 6-8 p.m., Courageous Conversations on Race Relations, dinner and discussion in the Guild Hall
- **Fourth Mondays** of each month, 6 p.m., Vestry meeting in the Library and via Zoom

- **Fourth Tuesdays** of each month, 6:30-8 p.m., Social Justice Book Club in the CCORR meeting room
- **Fourth Saturdays** of each month, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., HOT lunch in the Guild Hall

Solemn Eucharist at the Cathedral

Trinity Cathedral and its choir will offer to the people of the Diocese of Ohio a monthly celebration of a Solemn Eucharist. The next celebration will **Oct. 4** and include clergy from around the diocese as celebrants and preachers.

Call for A Wider Vision

Every faith community in the Diocese of Ohio is invited to participate in A Wider Vision, a diocesan-wide initiative sharing the stories of your community on social media. Share your photos on social media using #AWiderVisionDOHIO. Submitted photos will be used to create a collaborative photo mosaic for display at Diocesan Convention 2026. More information is available on the diocesan website.

Registration of the 210th Diocese of Ohio Convention

Being Episcopalian means being part of a broader community, one that extends around the world. You can get to know part of that community by representing St. Paul's at the annual Diocese of Ohio convention, **Nov. 20 and 21** at Sawmill Creek in Huron. The 210th gathering will focus on "Widening our Vision," with Friday's session beginning at 1 p.m. to allow more time for conversation and reflection. Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile, a professor of Congregational Mission and Leadership and author whose books include "Embracing the Mixed Ecology: Inherited and New Forms of Christian Community Flourishing Together," and "Leading Faithful Innovation." The due date for registration for delegates and alternates is Oct. 22, which means the Vestry will need to approve our slate at its **Sept. 28** meeting. Please let Schultze know if you are interested.

Closer relationships with sister churches

The Diocese of Ohio organizes its faith communities into Mission Areas — regional groupings intended to support collaboration, relationships, shared ministry and resource sharing. St. Paul's falls in the Central East Mission area, along with Trinity Alliance, St. Mark's Canton, St. Timothy's Massillon, Trinity New Philadelphia, Trinity Coshocton, New Life Uniontown. The diocese is conducting a survey to evaluate that structure and to consider other models. Please take the survey even (or perhaps especially) if you are unaware of the model by going to this link: https://form.jotform.com/Diocese1818/mission-area-survey.

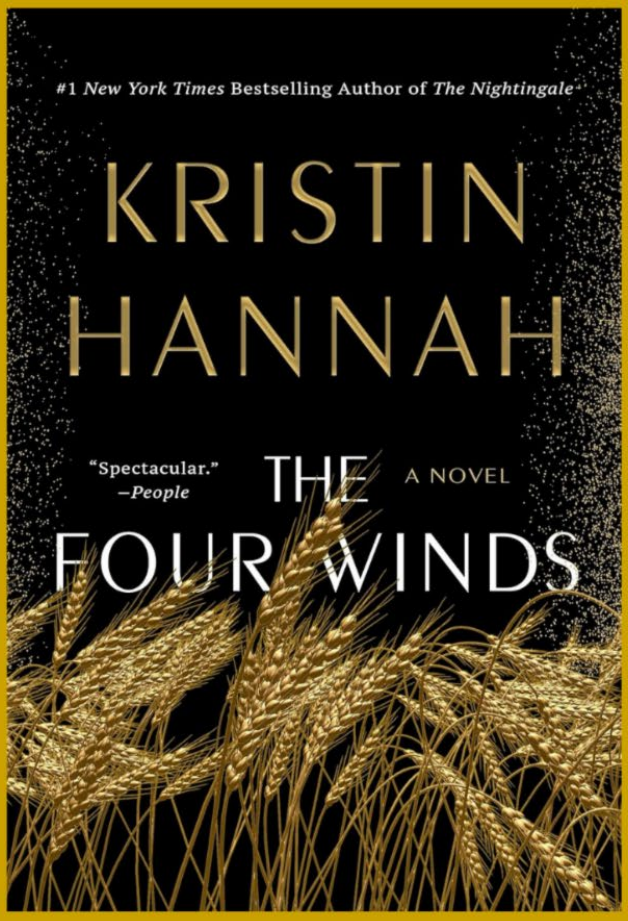
COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS ON RACE RELATIONS

CC ON RR

Social Justice BOOK Club

Texas, 1921. A time of abundance. The Great War is over. America is on the brink of a new and optimistic era. But for Elsa Wolcott, deemed too old to marry in a time when marriage is a woman's only option, the future seems bleak. Until the night she meets Rafe Martinelli and decides to change the direction of her life. With her reputation in ruin, there is only one respectable choice: marriage to a man she barely knows.

By 1934, the world has changed; millions are out of work and drought has devastated the Great Plains. Everything on the Martinelli farm is dying, including Elsa's tenuous marriage. Each day is a desperate battle against nature and a fight to keep her children alive. In this uncertain and perilous time, Elsa—like so many of her neighbors—must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or leave it behind and go west, to California, in search of a better life for her family.



IN PERSON• 425 CLEVELAND AVE SW, CANTON

ONLINE• SCAN QR CODE TO JOIN

September 22 • 6:30pm

www.ccorrohio.org

Presented by: Mt. Olive Baptist Church & St. Paul's Episcopal Church