THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

PROPER 12

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

July 26, 2026 · 10:30 A.M.



"The Parable of the Mustard Seed" by James Paterson
Source: https://mbherald.com/the-parable-of-the-mustard-seed/

THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL IN THE DESERT

125 West El Alameda Palm Springs, CA 92262
760.320.7488 • stpauldesert.church

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THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY "Wer nur den lieben Gott" *Craig Phillips*

WELCOME & OUR MISSION/VALUE STATEMENTS

The Church of St. Paul in the Desert:

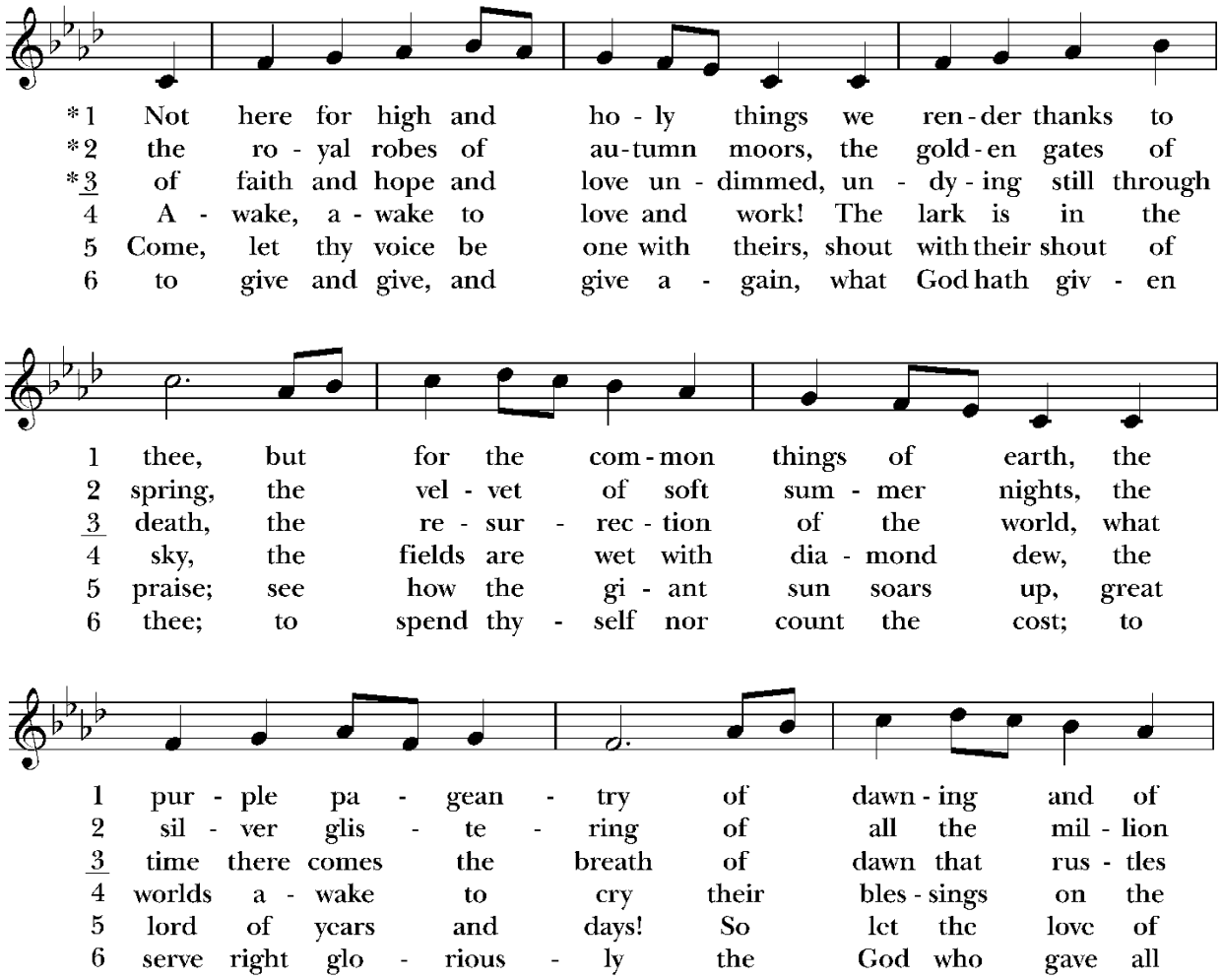
God has invited the Church of St. Paul in the Desert to share the abundant love of Jesus Christ in a caring and diverse community that gathers to worship and give thanks, support and inspire its members, and serve our neighbors.

- We are a sacramental, welcoming, empowering, and supportive community.
- We respect the dignity of every human being.
- We seek to be a spiritual oasis in the desert.
- Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome.

The Diocese:

The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego is a missionary community that dares to follow Jesus Christ in his life of courageous love for the world.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN 9 "Not here for high and holy things" *Morning song*





1 dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea,
2 mil - lion stars, the si - lent song they sing,
3 through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:
4 Lord of life, as he goes meek - ly by.
5 Je - sus come and set thy soul a - blaze,
6 worlds that are, and all that are to be.

Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929). By permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited. Music: *Morning song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

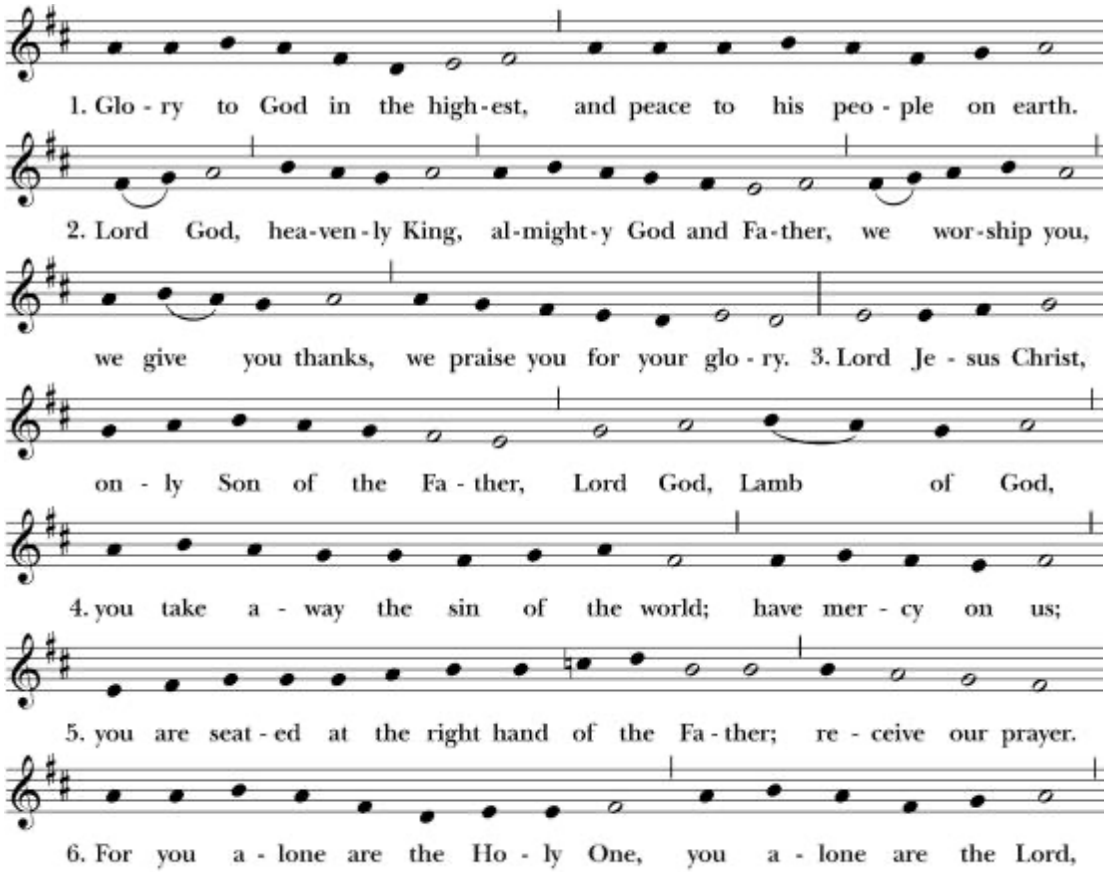
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

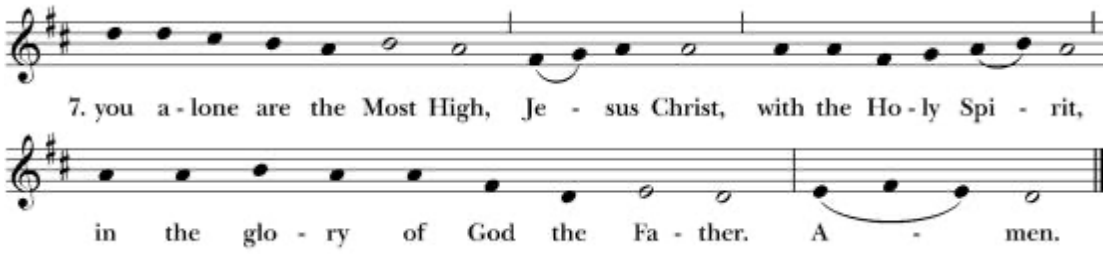
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE S277 Glory to God *David Hurd*



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
2. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you**.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

SUMMER EPISCOPAL MOMENT

THE FIRST LESSON **Genesis 29:15-28**

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

THE PSALTER **Psalm 105:1-11, 45b** *Confitemini Domino*

Reader Please join in praying Psalm 119 responsively by whole verse.

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**2 Sing to him, sing praises to him,
and speak of all his marvelous works.**

3 Glory in his holy Name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

**4 Search for the LORD and his strength;
continually seek his face.**

5 Remember the marvels he has done,
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

**6 O offspring of Abraham his servant,
O children of Jacob his chosen.**

7 He is the LORD our God;
his judgments prevail in all the world.

**8 He has always been mindful of his covenant,
the promise he made for a thousand generations:**

9 The covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath that he swore to Isaac,

**10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance."

45b Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON **Romans 8:26-39**

Reader A Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as

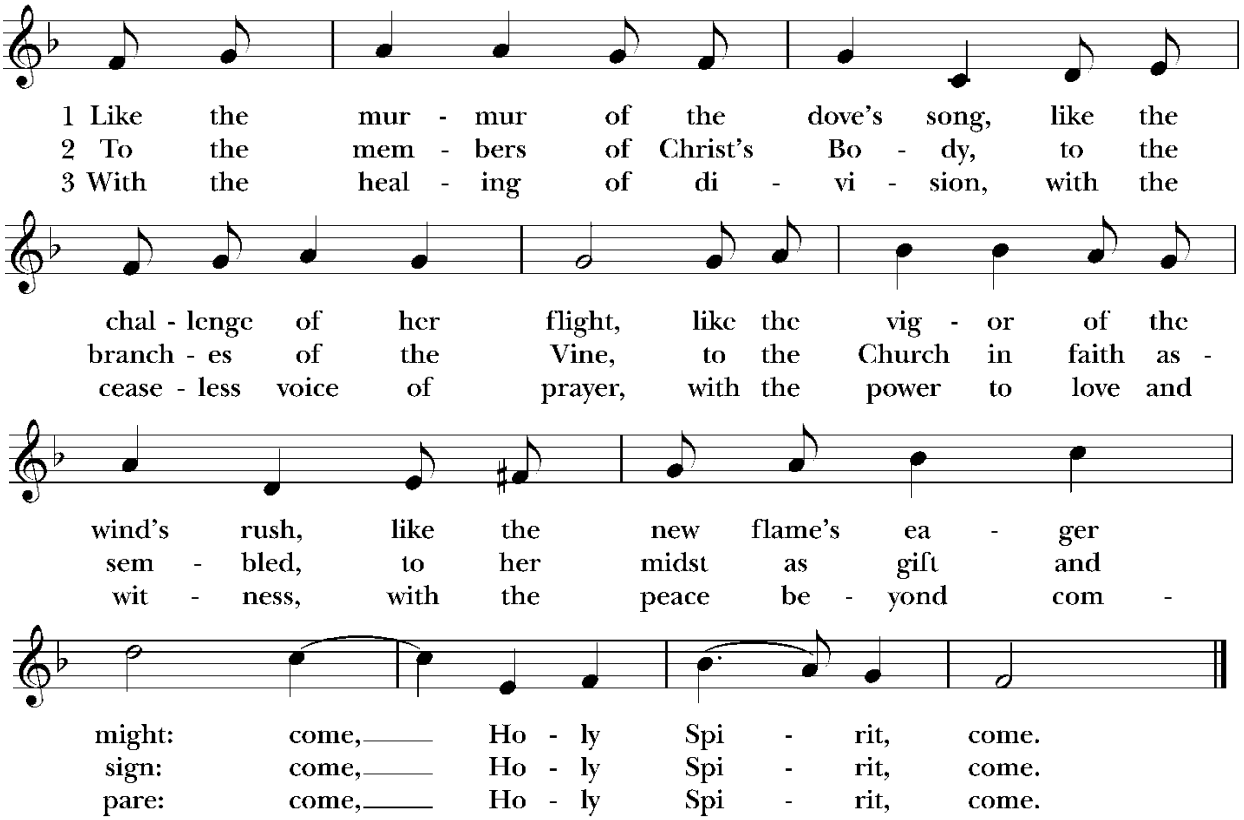
sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please stand if able and face the Gospel as it arrives in the midst of the gathered.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 513 "Like the murmur of the dove's song"

Verses 1 - 2



Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

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THE HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 13:31-33,44-52**

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the

air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – Verse 3

THE SERMON The Rev. Mark Spaulding

A time of reflection and silence follows the sermon.

Please stand if able.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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.
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 **Form V, BCP**

Leader In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

The Leader and People pray responsively.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Susan our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in this community, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed St. Paul the Hermit and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

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.

THE ABSOLUTION

This is the formal act of pronouncing God's forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ, reflecting the ministry of reconciliation committed by Christ to the church.

THE PEACE

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

You are invited to offer a sign of peace to those around you.

BLESSINGS AND GRATITUDE

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine and money or other gifts to the Table.

Text "STPAULSPS" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.
Standard text message and data rates may apply

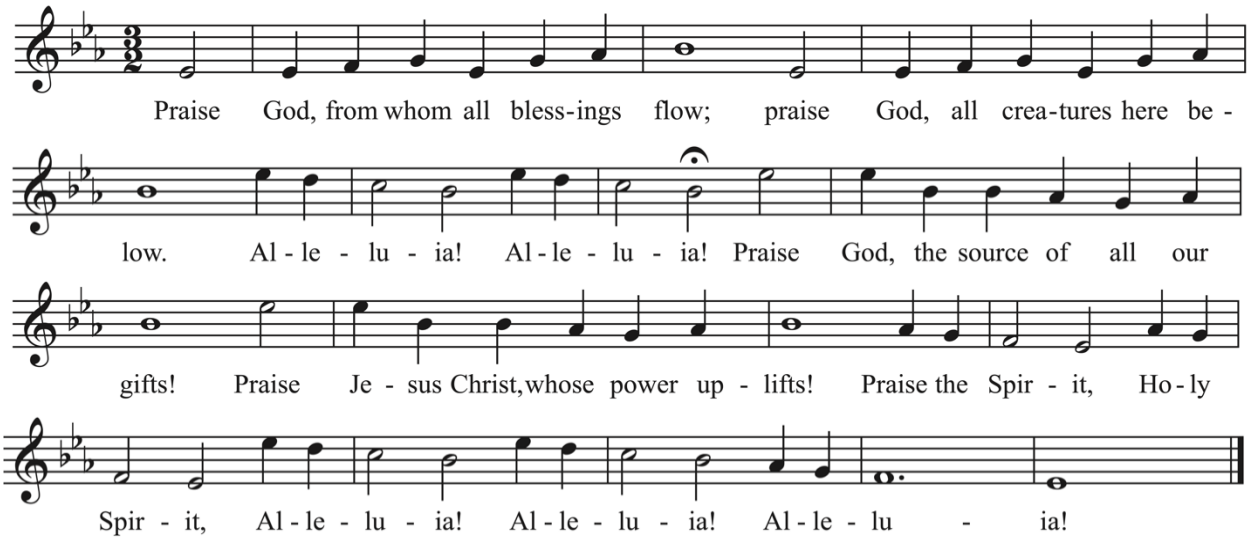
THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM "If God be for us *(Messiah)*" G. F. Handel

Charles Gallagher, *tenor*

Please stand if able, while the offerings are presented.

THE PRESENTATION **Doxology** *Lasst uns erfreuen*



Celebrant All things come of you, O Lord.
People **And of your own have we given you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *Eucharistic Prayer B*

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.**

The Celebrant proceeds.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Celebrant and People

SANCTUS S125 **Holy, holy, holy Lord** *Richard Proulx*



Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand

before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 he 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Paul the Hermit and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***AMEN*.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, in the language of our hearts,
as our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father 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,

Y ahora, en el idioma de nuestro corazón,
como nuestro Salvador Cristo nos ha
enseñado, somos valientes para orar,

El Pueblo y El Celebrant

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
Y no nos dejes caer en tentación

and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

THE INVITATION & THE COMMUNION

Ushers will direct you.

NAVIGATING COMMUNION

All are welcome. Please allow the ushers to direct you toward the Table.
Your options for Communion:

- ***Bread and the Common Cup.*** *Receive the Host from the priest and go to the chalice bearer who will guide the Cup to your lips.*
- ***Bread and Intinction.*** *If you wish the bread dipped in wine, put forward one hand with your palm facing up and one hand in the air. The priest will intinct the Host and hand it to you.*
- ***Bread without wine.*** *Place your two hands together, one on top of the other. Know that bread alone is full and complete Communion.*
- ***Blessing instead of Communion.*** *Approach the priest with your arms crossed over your chest.*

Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available; let the priest know your preference and they will assist you.

If mobility issues prohibit you from walking up to the altar, please alert an usher and Communion will be brought to you.

Let nothing hinder you from eating from this Table.

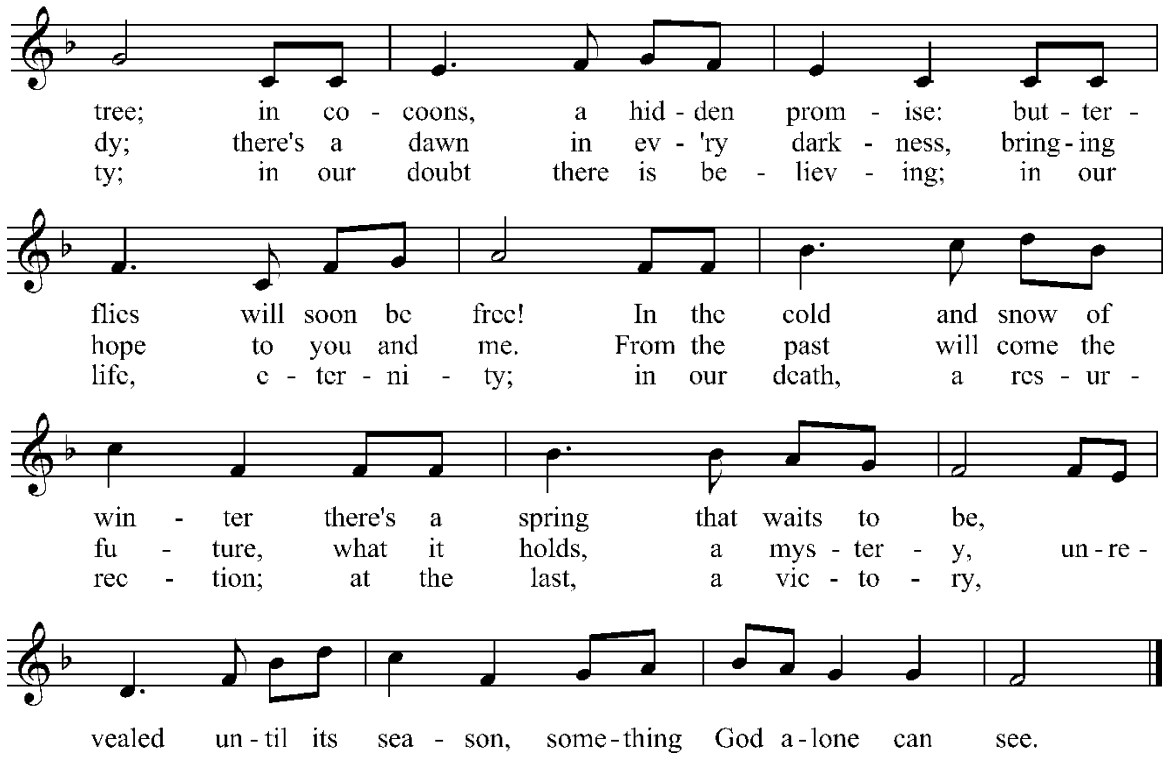


If you are watching the service at home and unable to be physically present for in-person worship, you are welcome to pray this prayer for spiritual communion from The Prayer Book for the Armed Services:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I invite you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you.
May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

THE COMMUNION HYMN "In the bulb there is a flower" *Hymn of Promise*





Words and Music: *Promise*, Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) © 1986 Hope Publishing Co., 380 S. Main Pl., Carol Stream, IL 60186 [www.hopepublishing.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Celebrant blesses any Lay Eucharistic Ministers visiting homebound parishioners.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant 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

This is a sacerdotal pronouncement of God's love and favor, used by a bishop or priest.

THE CLOSING HYMN 635 "If thou but trust to God" *Wer nur den lieben Gott*





Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "Wer nur den lieben Gott" Georg Bohm

You are invited to remain seated and listen to the Postlude, or you can exit through the center aisle door. Our transept doors will remain shut until after the Postlude out of respect for the liturgy. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Mark Spaulding, *Celebrant & Preacher*
Charles Peery, *Director of Music*
Steve Moore (WC), Clinton Carbon, Larry Wilson, *Altar Ministers*
Steve Moore, Jon Coates, *Altar Guild*
Craig Ewing, Samantha Hirsch, *Reader & Intercessor*
Kathy Kilmer, Gail Heitman, Marilyn Jones, Nick Falconio, *Ushers*
Mark Berry, Daniel Schmidt, Summer Schoch, *Welcome Team*
Rick Nauman, *Vestry Welcome*

MUSIC CORNER

Scan this with your phone's camera to read more about the music in today's service.

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Susan Brown Snook, *Bishop*

The Rev. Jessie Thompson, *Rector*
revjessie@stpauldesert.church

The Rev. Dan Kline, *Rector*
revdan@stpauldesert.church

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Nancy Leal, *Parish Administrator*
parishadmin@stpauldesert.church

Samantha Hirsch, *Diaconal Intern*
intern@stpauldesert.church

Roberto Carrillo, *Sexton*

Cecilia Melero, *Assistant Sexton*

VESTRY 2026

John Raposa, *Senior Warden*; Brooke Wolford, *Junior Warden*;
George Holliday, *Treasurer*; Jack McLean, *Clerk*;
Alex Cherkas; Nick Falconio; John Hampson; Steve Klinkerman;
Dusty Porter; Rick Nauman; Pete Smith; Marian Stinson+

THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL IN THE DESERT
Palm Springs, California



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Standard text message and data rates may apply.