



WORSHIP BULLETIN:
OCTOBER 18, 2026 **11:00 AM**
Holy Eucharist Rite II **EOW III**
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

ENTRANCE HYMN:

The following is sung, all standing.

(A3 19) Be Not Afraid

Verse 1:

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain:

Be not afraid, I go before you always.
Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

Verse 2:

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you. **(Refrain)**

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE:

The following is sung, all standing.

Glory to God

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 254

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:**Exodus 33:12-23***The people sit.*

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:**Psalms 99**

The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *

**he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.**

The Lord is great in Zion; *

he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *

he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *

**you have executed justice and
righteousness in Jacob."**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *

he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his
Name, *

**they called upon the Lord, and he
answered them.**

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *

**they kept his testimonies and the decree
that he gave them.**

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *

**you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of
the Thessalonians in God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you
and mention you in our prayers, constantly
remembering before our God and Father
your work of faith and labor of love and
steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus
Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters
beloved by God, that he has chosen you,
because our message of the gospel came to
you not in word only, but also in power and in
the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as
you know what kind of persons we proved to
be among you for your sake. And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in
spite of persecution you received the word
with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that
you became an example to all the believers

in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son - Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 131) Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Chorus:

Open the eyes of my heart Lord,
open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

(Repeat)

Verse:

To see you high and lifted up,
shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love,
as we sing "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Bridge:

Holy, Holy, Holy; Holy, Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy, Holy, I want to see you.



GOSPEL:

Matthew 22:15-22

All stand.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

POST-GOSPEL HYMN:

Please refer to Gospel Hymn

THE SERMON:

Bob Hall

THE CREED:BCP p. 358

All stand

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:

All remain standing

CONFESSION OF SIN:EOW p. 56

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.

ABSOLUTION:

THE PEACE:BCP p. 360

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Handmade Harvest** - Join us and decorate your own mini pumpkin today at our 12 pm Coffee Hour.
- **As part of our Dia De Muertos celebration** - please bring framed photos of your departed loved ones and/or pets **to the Parish Office by Weds, October 21st** – see announcements for details.
- **St. Paul's Open House** – Sat. October 24, 10 am - 12 pm. Come share in the joy and artistry of Dia De Muertos. Tell your friends!

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & TRANSITIONS:

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin anew. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION:

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The following is sung

(A3 151) In Christ Alone**Verse 1:**

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2:

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live,

Verse 3:

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4:

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man

The People remain standing.

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 God thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

All thanks and praise are yours at all times
and in all places, our true and loving God. . .
And so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation
as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS:

Celebrant and people

Americana Hosanna

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

Chorus:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your praises.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues...

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION & PRAYER
CONCLUSION**

. . . And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

The Celebrant continues

... by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: BCP p. 363

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

People and Celebrant

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM:

The following is sung.

We Break This Bread

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

All are welcome to come forward for communion. If you're new to the sacrament, please reference the card in the pews with more information. The bread is given with the words, 'The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.' The wine is given with the words, 'The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.'

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 134) Peace Is Flowing Like a River

Verse 1:

Peace is flowing like a river, flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert, setting all the captives free.

Verse 2:

Love is flowing like a river, flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert, setting all the captives free.

Verse 3:

Joy is flowing like a river, flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert, setting all the captives free.

Verse 4:

Grace is flowing like a river, flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert, setting all the captives free.

Verse 5:

Truth is flowing like a river, flowing out of you and me,
Flowing out into the desert, setting all the captives free.

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(A3 22) Breathe

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe,
Your holy presence living in me.

This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread,
Your very word spoken to me.

And I, I'm desperate for you.
And I, I'm lost without you.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: EOW p. 70

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

SUNG BENEDICTION:

The following is sung.

Life is Short

Words by: Henri Frederic Amiel

Music by: Cameron DePalma

Life is short,
And we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who
make the journey with us.
So... be swift to love,
and make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God,
who made us,
who loves us,
and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.
A—MEN

BLESSING:

The Celebrant blesses the people.

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

The following is sung.

(LEVAS 136) I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Verse 1:

I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
No turning back, no turning back!

Verse 2:

Though none go with me,
Still I will follow.
Though none go with me,
Still I will follow.
Though none go with me,
Still I will follow.
No turning back, no turning back!

Verse 3:

The world behind me.
The cross before me,
The world behind me.
The cross before me,
The world behind me.
No turning back, no turning back!

Verse 4:

Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
No turning back, no turning back.

DISMISSAL:

The Celebrant will dismiss the people

People: Thanks be to God.



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



* As part of our Dia De Muertos celebration - please bring framed photos of your departed loved ones and/or pets to the Parish Office by Weds., October 21- see announcements for details.

* St. Paul's Open House - Sat. October 24, 10 am - 12 pm. Come share in the joy and artistry of Dia De Muertos. Tell your friends!

The deadline for submitting announcements is Wednesday at noon.
E-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org Phone: (707) 745-0307

SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST:



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(707) 745-0307

120 E J St. Benicia, CA

Please e-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org for updates or additions

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING

Sue Hammond
Donna Marshall
R.C. Whitehead
Jude Augustus
Emery
Neal Mulholand
Regina Williams
Michelle Ellett
Marty & Sue
Kovach
Gene Ekenstam
Mark Stafforini
David Michael
Marta Kinney

Jim Jewell
Jim Turner
Jack Carr
Dick Bryan
John
David Gibbs
John Helm
Lolli Hilton
Norma Cook
Mark Park
Cathy W.
Art Patey
Erik C.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL

Susan Clair Vallejos
Mary Gibbs

WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

Major Russ Morris, U.S. Air Force Reserves
SFC Mike Moverley, 1st Battalion 143rd Field Artillery, U.S. Army
Warrant Officer Brandon Niemann, U.S. Army Airman
Andrew Severa, U.S. Air Force
SA Michelle Severa, PA, Air National Guard
Staff SGT Jake Sackett, U.S. Air Force
Major Xacasia Evans-Walp, U.S. Army
Airman 1st Class Nevaeh Jarvis, U.S. Air Force
Captain Greg Arnold, U.S. Navy

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

10/21 Rev. Dr. Arthur & Sarah Holder

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	Bob Hall	
	8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Music	John Partridge	Cameron DePalma
Lector	Debi Hall	Carole Johnson
Intercessor	Ann Lindsay	Barbara Jewell
LEM	Robyn Wall & Maleah Rios	Barbara Jewell & Maleah Rios
Shared Prayers		
Ushers	Fred & Mittie Railsback	Kim Rodekohr & Marjorie Lowry
Altar Guild	Kim Rodekohr & Robin Silver	
Flower Guild	Liz Stallings	
Verger	Leo Harrod	
Coffee Hour	Barry & Sally Cunningham / Liz Stallings	

PARISH LEADERSHIP

CLERGY:

The Rev. Annie Mertz, Rector

The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder, Associate Priest

STAFF:

John Partridge, Traditional Music Director
Cameron DePalma, Contemporary Music Director
Eric Foster, Communications Director
Lisa Lannoy, Parish Administrator
Tim Markley, Archivist
Kylie Lazarek, Nursery Staff
Heather Pritchard, Nursery Staff

VESTRY:

Ann Lindsay, Senior Warden
Richard Padfield, Junior Warden
Donna Patey, Treasurer
Charlie Kilbourne, Gerri MacGregor, Jim Peterson, Brandon Bailey, Kathryn Gojack, Megan Klingensmith, Michelle Fitzgerald

MISSION:

St. Paul's welcomes all people at any stage of their spiritual journey to worship together, care for the community, and live the message of Jesus Christ.

VISION:

We strive to be an active, diverse and welcoming community where people come together to worship and deepen their faith.

VALUES

COMMUNITY:

We support our neighbors through service & compassion. We are a safe space & a supportive community where members are cared for by one another.

INCLUSION:

We are an inclusive community where people of all identities, backgrounds & histories are welcome to find & continue their spiritual journey.

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST:

We believe in striving to live the message of Jesus Christ every day. At St. Paul's, we walk the way of love together.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

At any point in a person's spiritual journey, there are opportunities to learn, grow & strengthen one's faith at St. Paul's.

NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

When you enter a St. Paul's Episcopal Church service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, live streaming, and video recording may occur.

CALENDAR

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)

8:30 am - 12:30 pm Nursery Hours (U)

8:45 am +Communion

10 am Coffee Hour (P)

10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) & Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)

11 am +Communion

12 pm Coffee Hour (P) - Handmade Harvest - Pumpkin Decorating & Plant / Craft Sale

8 pm AA (P)



MONDAY: 10/19

7 am AA Meeting (P)

9 am +Morning Prayer

4:30 pm Community Meal (P)

8 pm AA Meeting (P)

TUESDAY: 10/20

7 am AA Meeting (P)

9 am +Morning Prayer

1 - 2:30 pm +Organ Practice

6:30 pm Vestry Meeting (U)

WEDNESDAY: 10/21

7 am AA Meeting (P)

9 am +Morning Prayer

10 am +Communion

11 am Bible Study (L)

4:30 pm Community Meal (P)

THURSDAY: 10/22

7 am AA Meeting (P)

7:30 am Coffee with Rev. Annie

9 am +Morning Prayer

2:30 - 4:30 pm +Bagpipe Practice

FRIDAY: 10/23

7 am AA Meeting (P)

9 am +Morning Prayer

10:30 am Al-Anon Meeting (U)

5:30 pm TGIFF (U)

7- 9 pm NA Meeting (P)

SATURDAY: 10/24

7 am AA Meeting (U)

9 am - 4 pm 2026 EDNC Diocesan Convention - Zoom

10 am - 12 pm +Open House

All Souls Day - Dia De Muertos

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)

8:30 am - 12:30 pm Nursery Hours (U)

8:45 am +Communion

10 am Coffee Hour (P)

10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) & Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)

11 am +Communion

4 pm Meditation (P)

8 pm AA (P)



KEY

+ = CHURCH

P = PARISH HALL

U = UNDERCROFT

R = RECTORY

K = KITCHEN

L = RECTORY LIBRARY

O = OUTDOORS