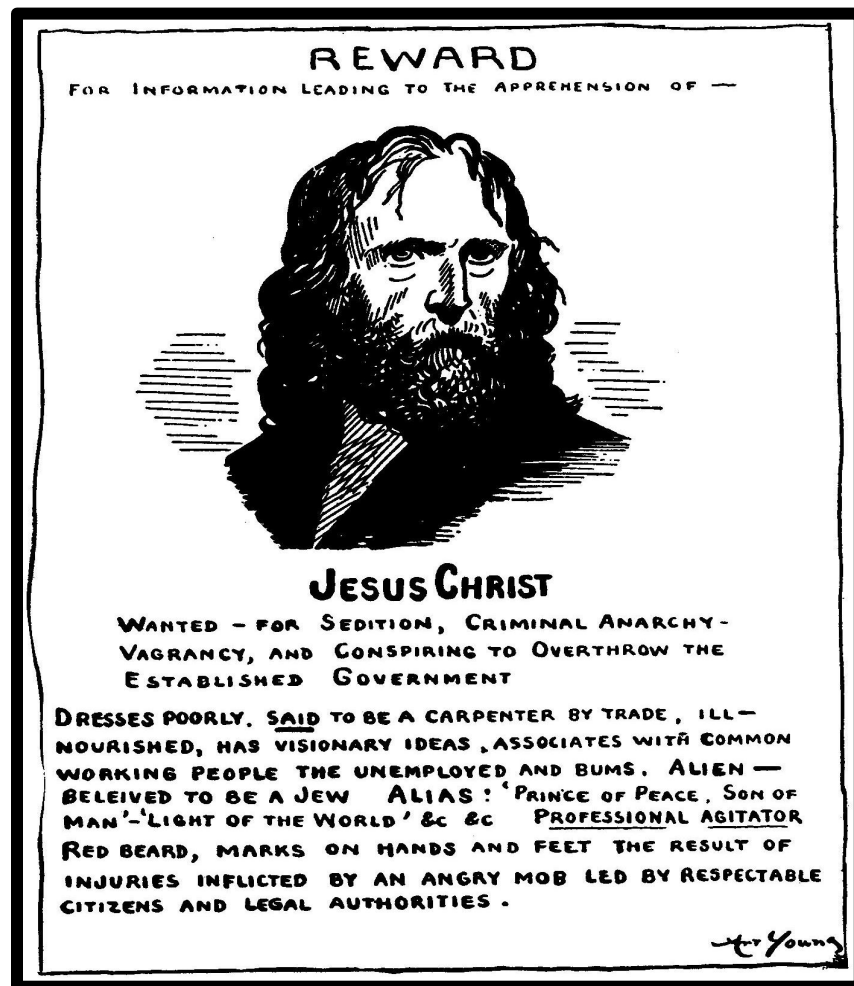


# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*We are called to gather around the sacred story and table of Christ  
where all are invited to be fed and everyone's story matters.*

*"All Guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ."  
The Rule of St. Benedict*



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST – PROPER 21  
LITURGY OF THE WORD  
September 27, 2020 – 8:00 AM

St. Paul's Sunday Morning Zoom Services  
*The Reverend Barbara A.T. Wilson, Presiding*

Liturgy of the Word and Prayer Service, Readers: 8:00 AM

Sunday, September 27th, 2020

First Lesson	<u>1. Lucinda Brunner</u>	
Psalm	<u>1. Lucinda Brunner</u>	<u>2. Jan Bach</u>
Second Lesson	<u>1. Jan Bach</u>	
Nicene Creed	<u>1. Steve DeGolier</u>	
Prayers of the People	<u>1. Steve DeGolier</u>	<u>2. Lucinda Brunner</u>

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Readers: 10:30 AM

Sunday, September 27th, 2020

First Lesson	<u>1. Donna de Oliveira</u>	
Psalm	<u>1. Dick Downen</u>	<u>2. Peg Anderson</u>
Second Lesson	<u>1. Freyja Rasmussen-Johns</u>	
Nicene Creed	<u>1. Rick Johns</u>	
Prayers of the People	<u>1. Peg Anderson</u>	<u>Dick Downen</u>

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*(Please be mindful to keep your microphones muted during responses if possible.)*

**Prelude:** *At the name of Jesus* Ralph Vaughan Williams Kathleen Johnson, Organist

Priest Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Priest  
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.**

Priest  
Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One

People **Have mercy upon us.**

### The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.  
People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

### A Reading (Lesson) From the Prophet Ezekiel (18:1-4,25-32)

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Lector      Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
People      **Thanks be to God**

*(Psalm to be read responsively breaking at the asterisk. Please mute your microphone.)*

## **Psalm 25:1-8**

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
**let me not be humiliated,**  
**nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
**let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
**and teach me your paths.**

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
**for you are the God of my salvation;**  
**in you have I trusted all the day long.**

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
**for they are from everlasting.**

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
**remember me according to your love**  
**and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
**therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
**and teaches his way to the lowly.**

## The Second Lesson

### A reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians (Philippians 2:1-13)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Lector      Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People      Thanks be to God.

## The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

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

People            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Priest            The Gospel of the Lord.

People            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Reverend Barbara A.T. Wilson

*The people say together—(Please mute your microphone)*

## 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.



## The Prayers of the People

Reader 1 Brothers and sisters, Jesus was crucified in faithfulness to the cause of love and justice that all might be reconciled in peace. Let us pray that through the Cross of Christ his example may be realized in our world and our lives.

*Silence*

Reader 2 As Jesus was lifted high upon the cross of self-sacrifice that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we take up our cross and follow him in pursuit of the work of reconciliation in the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected, that their cries for daily bread and our care and concern may inspire works of mercy among us to whom much has been given. We pray also for Commissions of the Diocese: Congregations Commission; Commission on Ministry; Anti-Racism Commission.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Jesus calls us to offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted. May God's Spirit so move our hearts; that, following in the steps of Jesus, we may give of ourselves in the service of others until poverty and hunger cease in all the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar creation, particularly the barriers to freedom faced by God's children throughout the world because of gender, sexual orientation, race, class, or creed; that all may have equality in pursuit of the blessings of creation.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, in whom there is neither male nor female, Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free: unite the wills of all peoples that the walls which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; so that all may live together in justice and peace.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to pandemic disease, particularly the scourge of COVID-19; that the plague of death may no longer fuel poverty, destabilize nations, and inhibit reconciliation and restoration throughout the world.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of the suffering: Grant your saving health to all who are afflicted by disease or other harm. Bless the labors of all who minister to the sick and unite the wills of all peoples to seek an end to the dis-eases of our age; that our brokenness may be turned to health and sorrow to joy. We pray especially for Gail, Puzz, Toni, Sandy, Dorothy, Margaret, David, Ed, Colleen, Lisa, Neil, Edward Stephen, Jubilee, Tasha, Malachi, Damien, Rosemarie, Bryce, Jim, Connie, Donald, and Sarah.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the desecration of God's creation that we might find balance and the ability to share this good earth and its waters with all of God's creatures.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, you created the world and gave it into our care: Inspire us with wisdom to share the riches of creation that all may be empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the departed, especially our sisters and brothers who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, through the resurrection of Jesus, you revealed that death is never the last word. We commend to your mercy all who have died as a result of the brokenness of our world; and we pray that all may share in the joy of your heavenly reign.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 All are invited to offer petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings, ending with, "God, in your mercy," to which the community will respond, "Hear our prayer."

### **The Concluding Collect**

Reader 2 Eternal God, in your kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered together and reconciled under the banner of your love and justice.

**People Amen.**

## Confession

Priest        Let us confess our sins to God.

### In unison

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.**

Priest

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.**

## The Peace

Priest

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

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

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

With your microphones muted, please sing along with the hymn.

### Hymn # 439 What wondrous love is this

*Unison*



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to  
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my  
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835 Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

*(Please unmute your microphone for the Lord's Prayer said together.)*

Priest

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 Blessing

May God bless you with discontent with easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live from deep within your heart.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, abuse, and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and to change their pain to joy.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with the foolishness to think you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Companion on the Way be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Announcements for the Good of the Order

### Birthday

God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, as they begin another year. 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.**

### Wedding Anniversary

Gracious Creator: You blessed the marriage of two people with your love years ago. Amid the joys and struggles of their life you have preserved and strengthened the covenant between them; bless and renew that covenant now, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace, so that surrounded by their children, family and friends, they may always rejoice in the gift of their love for one another and for your enduring love that blesses their days together. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Travel

O God, whose beauty and intention fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Priest Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude: *Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness* Christopher Dearnley  
*Kathleen Johnson, Organist*

*Join us for Coffee Chat on Zoom after the service*

***Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church***

DeKalb, Illinois, Diocese of Chicago

Member of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion

***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***

900 Normal Road, DeKalb, Illinois 60115

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***The Reverend Barbara A. T. Wilson, Rector;***

Email: [revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org](mailto:revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org)

Lynne Jacobson, MDiv, Pastoral Assistant

Susan King – Administrative Assistant

Lorraine Langer, Director of Music,

Hannah Buckle, Assistant Director of Music

Kathleen Johnson, Organist

Rick Johns, Treasurer

Jocelyn Prall - Sacristan

***Our Wardens and Vestry***

Maureen Gerrity, Senior Warden, Gretchen Schlabach, Junior Warden

Rebecca Smith, Clerk, Terry Dickow, Donna de Oliveira,

Bill Cummings, Jacob Maas



## CITATIONS

**Service** - Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer for on-line use by the Congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, Illinois

<https://www.bcponline.org/>

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

<https://episcopalchicago.org/>

<http://www.stpaulsdekab.org/>  
[mthrbarbara@gmail.com](mailto:mthrbarbara@gmail.com)

**Prayers of the People.** ~ Adapted from A Bidding Prayer for An End to Global Poverty and Instability, based on the UN Millennium Development Goals; provided by The Episcopal Church + Office of Government Relations.

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**Hymn** What wondrous love is this #439 Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835, Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Harmony, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926), Copyright © 1964 by Abingdon Press. RiteSong. The 1982Hymnal.

**Household Prayers** – Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Edited by Kimberly Bracken Long © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, Kentucky

**Cover** *Jesus Wanted Poster*, Art Young (1866-1943)

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu>

## Household Prayer: Morning

*Almighty God,  
give me the mind of Christ:  
drive away any selfish ambition,  
fill me with compassion and love,  
and make me a humble servant,  
that all I do and all I desire  
may be pleasing to you;  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## Household Prayer: Evening

*Lord,  
in my accomplishments this day, make me humble;  
for my failures, give me consolation.  
In your steadfast love, uphold me,  
and for my sins, forgive me,  
that I may know your mercy  
and walk in the way of your salvation. Amen.*

### *A word about the Household Prayers:*

These prayers are printed on a page of their own so that you can tear them out and use them in your devotions at home. These prayers come from an anthology titled *Feasting on the Word*, that includes several liturgies for services. The prayers reflect the readings of the week, including special feast days.