

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

SUNG LITURGY OF THE DAY

New Plainsong Mass by David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral
Patricia Hills, Conductor
Peter Smith, Guest Organist

Hymns, in numerical order, are in the 1982 Hymnal; service music is listed on the service leaflet and may be found in the front of the 1982 Hymnal, with "S" before the number. "BCP" with a page number, refers to The Book of Common Prayer

PRELUDE – "II. Rhosymedre" from Three Preludes Founded on Welsh Hymn Tunes

Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872 – 1958)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #376 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

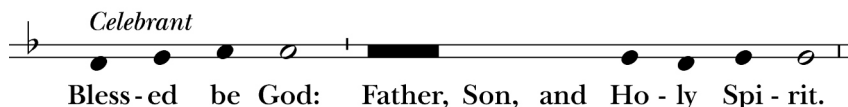
Hymn to Joy

All stand as the procession enters the nave.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

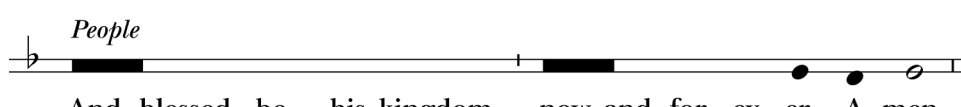
S76

Celebrant



Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

People



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

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.**

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,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:1-13

Setting by John Camidge (1853 – 1939)

8am Read responsively; 10:15am chanted by the choir

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 **Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.**
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 **He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 **The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 **He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 **As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 14:1-12

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All standing, as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

All remain standing, as able.

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

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Rebecca A. Barnes

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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor Confident of the gracious and ever-widening mercy of God, let us pray for the Church and the world, saying, *Creator God, hear our prayer.*

For the Church: especially Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean our Presiding Bishop; Stephen our Bishop Provisional; and our Diocese as we prepare to call a new Bishop Diocesan, that as we proclaim the love of Christ in words and deeds, we may be signs of your peace and instruments of your reconciliation. **Creator God, hear our prayer.**

For this Cathedral community, that we may bear witness to God's unconditional love by opening our hearts to a deeper relationship with Christ. **Creator God, hear our prayer.**

For greater care of the earth, that we may be inspired to heal the damage done to the ecosystem, be freed from narrow vision, and work to change the ways that we misuse God's gift of nature. **Creator God, hear our prayer.**

For the people of Hawaii, the Grand Canyon region, and Nepal, that God will hold them close, comfort the grieving, protect them from further harm and speed the assistance that they need. **Creator God, hear our prayer.**

For all who have experienced terrorism, violence or war, that God will help them break the cycle of violence and help them choose paths of justice and peace.
Creator God, hear our prayer.

For communities in strife, that God's Spirit will open opportunities for dialogue in places of violence, bring an end to injustice, and help all to respect the dignity and value of every person. **Creator God, hear our prayer.**

For all who live with poverty, injustice, isolation, or sickness, remembering especially Sean, Lynne, Alex, Jim, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, and those on the Cathedral Pastoral Care list, that God will comfort them, give them hope, and raise them up.
Creator God, hear our prayer.

For all the departed, remembering especially Wanda, and those whose anniversaries of death we mark this week, that having died to the Lord, they may live with him forever.
Creator God, hear our prayer.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Blessed Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Paul, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.
To you, O God of all creation.

Celebrant God of infinite mercy, hear the prayers we offer this day, bring your merciful forgiveness into our lives, and free us from all division and pride, that we may become your instruments of pardon and peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – Oh! for a closer walk with God

C. V. Stanford (1852-1924)

O for a closer walk with God
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn
And drove thee from my breast

So shall my walk be close with God
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb

OFFERTORY HYMN – #516 “Come down, O Love divine”

Down Ampney

All standing, as able.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP page 361

SURSUM CORDA

S120

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues:

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Celebrant
There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:
Celebrant and People
Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through you Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever.

THE GREAT AMEN

S143



The Celebrant then continues

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

S148

Celebrant

As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.

For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,

now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

S161

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

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Paul's. Communion will be distributed at the High Altar and at the Crossing. The people will be invited by row to come forward; you may return to your pew by the side aisles. Anyone needing assistance may indicate so to an usher and communion will be brought to you at the end.

The Holy Communion is distributed under the forms of both Bread and Wine. In the interest of public health, the Cathedral does not practice intinction, that is, the dipping of the Bread into the Wine. It is the faith of the Church that Jesus gives himself in the Sacrament whether it is received in only one kind or both. Gluten-free Wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

It is our custom to receive the bread in the upturned palms of our hands, and eat it immediately. Those who wish to receive wine should partake by sipping directly from the chalice. Please use your hands, holding the base of the chalice, to gently assist the server in guiding the chalice to your lips.

If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, instead of the bread/wine, signal your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

AT THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION – Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with all our heart.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP page 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

BCP page 339

THE FINAL HYMN – #347 Go forth for God; go to the world in peace

Litton

THE DISMISSAL

S174

Deacon

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the pow - er of the Spi - rit.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – Sortie

Cesar Franck (1822 – 1890)

CATHEDRAL LIFE | SEPTEMBER 13
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL – SPCBUFFALO.ORG

TODAY AT ST PAUL'S

- 8:00am – **The Holy Eucharist, Rite II (said)** – Richmond Chapel
- 9:00am - **Bible Study** in the Walker Room – coffee and discussion of scripture lessons for the week.
- 10:00am – ***Godly Play Sunday School Program*** - St. Paul's offers "Godly Play: is a Montessori-based program on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children.
- 10:15am – **Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Choral)**
- 11:30am – **Coffee Hour** – All are welcome to enjoy refreshments and join in some fellowship time at coffee hour following immediately following the 10:15 Eucharist.

From the Dean's Desk: A Reflection on the 25th Anniversary of 9/11

Our Christian faith teaches us much about good and evil, sin, forgiveness, and redemption and reconciliation. Sometimes life leaves us speechless when faced with suffering. The pain is so great. Inevitably questions of theodicy arise - doubts about the very existence of God, or why, if God exists, he would allow something like this to happen. Times of suffering and unspeakable tragedy may challenge our faith to the core, and yet, I believe one thing that stands true, it is that there is no real life without wounds. We see this and know this from Jesus, our wounded savior who is present always, even when that reality is hard to grasp.

It has been 25 years since four jetliners hijacked by terrorists crashed into the Twin Towers in lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. At the time, I lived on the Upper Westside of Manhattan and worked at my alma mater, the Manhattan School of Music. I was not prone to writing much in those days, but on the evening of September 12th, I sat down at my computer and wrote a reflection on what had occurred and what I had experienced. I wrote it to share with friends and family who had reached out in love and concern, but I also wrote it for me. I wanted to preserve what I was feeling. I wanted to remember years later what I was feeling on this day, which like others in previous generations, would live on in infamy.

On this twentieth-fifth anniversary of 9/11, I am sharing what I wrote with all of you because our shared stories are important. I also wish to share it to remember and honor the nearly 3000 killed that day, those who selflessly gave of themselves to help others, and those who have died since from health conditions, specifically cancer caused by exposure to the spewing mist of toxic dust that hung in Lower Manhattan for months.

9/12/2001

Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

One can barely express the profound sense of grief and devastation that has gripped our country, but especially the city of New York. The carnage and destruction will never be forgotten and I fear our lives will never be the same.

I must express my gratitude to you for your kind thoughts and prayers and to so many of you, who although you knew we were nowhere near the scene reached out to be sure that all was well with us.

When I woke this morning, I said to my Liz, "I want to get up this morning and have all of this just have been a nightmare, but I know it's not." Tears started to flow, and I'm afraid that's pretty much the experience of most of us today. The shock of yesterday's tragedy has turned into intense mourning, grief, and uncertainty today.

One can't help but be touched by the stories of New Yorkers who have been heroes and help to their fellow human beings, even at the cost of their own lives. I think we all feel compelled to help in any way we can, only to find out that so many people from across the whole country have shown up in droves to do their part. We went to the 12:30 Eucharist at Christ & St. Steven's today and then walked a couple blocks to the Red Cross to see if we could donate blood. We were informed that we should keep trying over the next couple of days to see if we could give at a later time, but that they were done processing for the day. There were lines though for people to sign up as volunteers and to give financial assistance. Needless to say, there were literally hundreds of people there, everyone feeling a desperate need to offer their service.

We then checked with Blessed Sacrament, where we both work, to see if there were volunteer drives set up. They were only taking names of people offering to help, but provided me with the number of a parishioner whom I know, who coordinates volunteers for the New York Blood Center. After leaving the church, we went to get some lunch, knowing that we needed sustenance, but having no desire to eat.

We went to the bakery/deli on the corner, and as it turned out, ran into the Assistant Rector from Christ & St. Steven's. He gestured toward me and commented that he recognized me, but didn't know me. I explained to him that I might look familiar since I had been to the church over the past few weeks, chatted for a few moments, and then took a table. I just couldn't sit there though! I jumped up and went over to him again and asked if there was anything coordinated at Christ & St. Steven's. He pulled up a chair at our table and talked with us. At this point, there was not, but he re-iterated and expounded on what he had just said at the Eucharist-that we will all be called upon over the next days and weeks to comfort our friends, family and neighbors.

He had mentioned during the service that he and the Rector had gone downtown to help

yesterday, also finding themselves in a position to do little, but I asked him to share what they experienced. He told me that they went over to Trinity Wall St. only to find it was already evacuated. Eventually, they found themselves not far from St. Vincent's Hospital, where they were able to help some, but the coordinator wanted to know if they had trauma experience. He commented to me on how as priests, that's something they certainly have due to their continually dealing with people in the most desperate times of their lives. He stayed there to help, being as he lived nearby, but the Rector eventually left and headed back uptown as she knew she might need to be available to her parishioners. Fortunately, they all seem to be accounted for, but the coming days will bring further proof. He then excused himself from the table, as he needed to coordinate a private memorial for a company that lost many.

When one walked through the streets of New York today, you might have the sense that it was the weekend, but there was a far different air; an eerie quietness unknown to New York. Here in New York, a city that I don't normally think of as highly patriotic, you could see flags hanging from occasional fire escapes and balconies. New York, where you know the tourists because they're the ones always looking up, was transformed into New Yorkers looking up every time the silent sky was interrupted with the sound of an aircraft flying over. And everywhere that you went, you heard only silence or conversation about what had happened, what people experienced, what they saw.

All day, I kept saying that I wished there was something I could do and tonight I was called upon to do my part. I was asked to fill a role of music ministry in a way unlike I think I have ever been asked to before. When I called my answering machine this afternoon, I received a message that there would be a special service at the Irvington Presbyterian Church. Returning the call, I spoke with the music director who asked me if I was up to singing the Pie Jesu from the Duruflé Requiem. Without hesitation, but a lump in my throat, I agreed. For those of you who know this piece, you know what an effort this was emotionally and yet, I knew I had to do it and that I would find and be given the strength I'd need. I don't even recall the whole beginning of the service because I was trying to just pray and be centered. I made it through but broke down afterwards. In fact, after the service, the music director/organist and I just held each other and sobbed in each other's arms.

When I returned home to Manhattan and ventured out of the subway, I was immediately hit with the reality of the situation again, for in a neighborhood relatively far from and seemingly untouched by the destruction, one could now smell the strong odor of electrical burning and smoke, as the winds had shifted.

Whether directly or indirectly, I believe we have all been affected by the tragic attacks on NYC and DC. Please continue to pray that we all find healing and peace in our lives and our world.

R

Doors Open Buffalo 2026

St. Paul's is participating in Doors Open Buffalo 2026 sponsored by Explore Buffalo. This event provides St. Paul's an opportunity to welcome the public. Last year St. Paul's was the most visited location on the tour!

Doors Open Buffalo 2026 is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. St. Paul's (and Explore Buffalo) will welcome visitors to St. Paul's from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We're asking for volunteers to cover shifts with (at least) three people per shift.

- Shift #1: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- Shift #2: Noon to 2:00 p.m.
- Shift #3: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share St. Paul's history, beauty and grandeur. Please let Teresa Carter know which shift you can cover via email: teresa@spcbuffalo.org or 716-855-0900 x 222 by Friday, September 18th. We hope to hear from you soon!

The 16th Annual Conference of the Society of Catholic Priests

St. Paul's Cathedral is delighted and honored to be the host site for the Annual Conference of the Society of Catholic Priests, an organization which helps and encourages its members to grow as ordained or vowed leaders, as catholic Episcopalians or Anglicans, and as Christians by committing to a Rule of Life and centering their spiritual life on the Eucharist.

This year's theme is "Changed from Glory to Glory: Awe and Wonder That Forms the Soul," focusing on worship connected to discipleship. Keynote speakers Dr Jarred Mercer, rector of St Paul's Newburyport, MA, and Dr Ben King, Academic Dean at Seminary of the Southwest, who will lead attendees to explore formation, inspiration, and witness that will usher in the next generation of Christian disciples.

The Society shares in liturgies and prayer throughout the day. Choral Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Tuesday, 29th September at 6PM; on Wednesday, there will be a Requiem Mass at Noon; and on Thursday evening, there Conference Eucharist with The Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane presiding will be held at 6PM. All liturgies are open to the public and you are warmly welcome to participate. Music for the services will be provided by Incipio, the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir under the direction of Patricia Hills, and the conference organist will be Timothy Socha. Music for the conference will feature many works that have been written for St. Paul's including Preces and Responses by Bruce Neswick, the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Roland Martin, and the Harold Darke Mass in A minor, which was commissioned for the Cathedral's 150th anniversary in 1966.

Members of the local chapter of the Society includes: Mother Ellen Braza, Mother Liz Grohowski, Mother Ann Tillman, and Dean Rebecca Barnes.

I ask your prayers for safe travel for all those who will be attending the conference here in Buffalo that it will be a time of deep enrichment and meaningful fellowship.

- Dean Rebecca

CATHEDRAL CREATION CARE

The Season of Creation

The Season of Creation 2026 runs from 1 September to 4 October 2026, and this year's theme is "Living Water," inspired by Ezekiel 47:9-12. This ecumenical observance invites Christian communities worldwide to pray, act, and advocate for ecological justice, with the symbol "Immersion in Living Water." In conjunction with the celebration of this season and the Feast of St. Francis, the Cathedral will hold its **Annual Blessing of the Animals in Honor of St. Francis** on the Eve of the Feast of St. Francis, **October 3 at 4PM**. Those unable to attend may also have their pet blessed following the 10:15 Eucharist on Sunday, October 4th. More announcements about Season of Creation events are pending.

Holy Hikes

Holy Hikes of Western New York, a ministry of St. Paul's Cathedral, is pleased to announce its full schedule (<https://tinyurl.com/mwc53bmn>) for the 2026 season. All hikes are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10am, unless otherwise announced. **On October 10th, we will hike at Heartland Forest Trail in Niagara Falls, Ontario, CN.** We hike rain or shine.



All are welcome; carpooling will be available from the Cathedral at 9:15am or you can join us directly at the appointed hike location.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FORMATION

The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Using materials from the United Thank Offering (UTO) we will be engaging in a study inspired by the book *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. This book takes a look at how the natural world functions via a gift economy as plants, animals, soil, etcetera share what they have for the common good. Our faith teaches us that grace is a gift freely given by God and that the gift is so great we want to respond by giving to others. This is what it means to be a part of a gift economy when we give thanks and we give back. During this time of celebrating the Season of Creation, Native Peoples Day, and our Annual Stewardship campaign, we pray that this study will deepen our faith and awareness that "all flourishing is mutual" - when we are blessed, we bless others. Each week, we'll reflect on an aspect of gratitude and reciprocity to help deepen (or start) your personal spiritual discipline of gratitude.

The schedule for the Serviceberry will be on the following evenings from 7-8:30PM:

- Tuesday (9/15)
- Tuesday (9/22)
- Monday (10/5)
- Tuesday (10/13)

**Please note there is no session the week of Sept. 27-Oct 3*

The sessions will be held on the Cathedral Zoom site

SPC Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/mvnsn4aw>

Meeting ID: 716 855 0900 Password: [4cathedral](#)

By Phone: [929-205-6099](#) Access code: [716 855 0900](#) Password: [535 007 8352](#)

The author, Robin Wall Kimmerer, who also wrote the acclaimed book *Braiding Sweetgrass*, is a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She is the author of *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*, *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* and *Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses*. She lives in Syracuse, New York, where she is a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Environmental Biology, and the founder and director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment.

Children's Christian Education: "Godly Play"

"Godly Play: a Montessori-based program is offered on Sundays at 10am in the Bishop Scaife Room on the lower level of the Cathedral. Making meaning through story, wonder, and play, the program nurtures spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children. If you are interested in learning more about Christian Education and Formation for a child in your family, please contact Kathy Reiss at kathyreiss@yahoo.com. For information about baptism and/or confirmation, please contact Dean Rebecca at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

SJAT Note – *From Bill Siener for the Social Justice Action Team*

Buffalo-Niagara Waterkeeper is sponsoring Scajaquada September, a series of programs and activities to raise awareness of its Scajaquada Creek Ecological Restoration Plan. The series coincides nicely with the Episcopal Church's 2026 Season of Creation, and its theme, "Living Water".

Scajaquada September programs include community meetings to discuss the restoration plan, walking tours to learn about projects slated to take place in Cheektowaga, a cleanup opportunity near the Tops on Grant Street, Zoom meetings to learn what the Buffalo Sewer Authority is doing to restore clean water in the creek, and a bike ride along the creek with Explore Buffalo.

For a list of all the events activities for Scajaquada September, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5xs-fu36k>. During the Season of Creation, learn how our neighbors are working to advance a vision "based upon the belief that water is the common thread which binds together community, economy, and ecology."

Garden of Love Update

For the past year or more, the Garden of has had the good fortune of having Archdeacon Diana Leiker as part of our operations. She has recruited six churches in the diocese to become part of this ministry by making sandwiches for the bag lunches. In addition, she organized the collection of clothing from the entire diocese, some of which we are still sorting and storing on the third floor of the FMC. A great helper in this endeavor is Deacon Diana's brother Patrick who works alongside Diana to get the clothing sorted and put on racks.

Deacon Diana has recently expressed the hope that she could step away from the clothing sorting to devote more time to her art ministry on Thursday as well as continuing to deliver sandwiches to the FMC from some of our more distant ministry partners.

We are deeply grateful for Diana and Patrick, but now we must make some changes to the operations of the Garden of Love. Tuesdays are very busy as we assemble approximately 80 plus lunches for our less fortunate neighbors. There is little time left to sort and hang clothing. To help facilitate the distribution of free clothing, we are proposing to start a Sorting Sunday for the last Sunday of the month after the 10:15 service. Some of you participated in Sorting Saturday in the past. The idea is that we would gather in the FMC at approximately 11:45 and work on sorting and hanging until approximately 1PM. That will make it possible to have lunch at home and be ready to watch the Bills play during the season.

IMPORTANT ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS AT ST. PAUL'S

"We've got you covered!" - Parking at St. Paul's

At St. Paul's we are deeply aware of the challenges of downtown parking. As one of the oldest churches in the Diocese, we have been on this location for 210 years, long before the advent of the automobile era, but we do not want that to hinder your participation and worship at the Cathedral.



We offer the following options:

We've got you covered - literally! Park at Main Place Mall Parking (221 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY 14202, <https://www.mainliberty.com/parking>) .This is our preferred garage for those coming to St. Paul's. We suggest that you use the entrance directly across from the Rath County Office Building, approx. Address is 166 Pearl, (you will notice the skywalk above) which is only a 1/2 block north of the Cathedral. Weekend parking is \$6 all day. Weekday rate: \$5 for 1 hr or less; \$7 for 3hr or less; \$12 full day.

Accessibility: ADA-compliant spaces and elevator access available and 24/7 surveillance, well-lit areas, and patrolled security. EV Charging: Electric vehicle charging stations available. If you bring your ticket from the Main Place Mall Parking with you, at the end of the service ask an usher for a voucher for your card. (If you can afford to pay, we kindly ask that you please leave this limited fund for those who can't, thank you!)

As a reminder, street parking is free on Saturdays and Sundays.

Additional ramps we suggest are:

- Adam Ramp (343 Washington St., Buffalo, NY 14202) - 1 1/2 blocks behind the Cathedral. Weekend parking is \$6 all day. Weekday rate: \$2.50 hr/ \$10 max.
- 93 Pearl Street Garage (93 Pearl St. Buffalo, NY 14202) - A block south of the Cathedral. Daily Parking (Mon - Fri, 6 am - 6 pm) - \$10 Max

Pastoral Care Ministry at St. Paul's

In the weekly Prayers of the People, we offer intercessions for those for whom prayers have been requested who are in acute or critical need. Names remain on the list for six weeks. Should you wish to have them remain on the list longer, that request may be made to the Dean. We maintain a separate Pastoral Care prayer list for those who are homebound and in nursing homes, or may request ongoing prayer. This list is weekly announcements and eNews, but individual names are included in the intercessions. We ask that the entire congregation remember these beloved of our community in our regular prayers holding in your hearts and prayers, all those in need and absent from us.

In a **Pastoral Emergency**, please contact— The Reverend Elizabeth Grohowski, Associate for Pastoral Care at (212) 222-8109 / email at motherliz@spcbuffalo.org or The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Dean at (646) 533-1836 / email at deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org.

If you, or a family member, are in the hospital, a healthcare facility, or are home bound and would like to have a visit from one of the clergy or a member of our Pastoral Care Committee, please contact the cathedral office at (716) 855-0900 or at office@spcbuffalo.org. Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, commonly known as HIPAA, hospitals no longer automatically provide churches with names of admitted parishioners. If you or a family member are hospitalized or in a healthcare facility, you or someone acting on your behalf will need to notify the church to assure that proper pastoral care may be offered. St. Paul's complies with all HIPAA requirements and cannot provide personal information for sick or injured members without permission of the member or his or her close family member. Additionally, if you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and desire regular Eucharistic visitation, please notify the parish office. Eucharistic Visitations are customarily made once per month; weekly visits may be scheduled upon request.

Prayer and Pastoral Care for the Week of September 13

We lift up the following in prayer, especially Sean, Lynne, Alex, Jim, Chuck, Clark, Chris, Joe, Larry, Sharon, Elaine, Howard, Lillian, Patty, Renee, Jim, Judy, Ann, Carol, and Shirley. We also pray for those suffering from wildfires, the floods in Nepal, and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and those who are living in fear of or suffering from the Ebola outbreak.

We also remember those who have died especially Wanda, Rob and Antonio, those killed in the flooding in Nepal and the Grand Canyon, and those whose anniversaries of death we mark this week. We pray for them and their loved ones who remember them.

ACROSS THE DIOCESE AND THE CHURCH

From Bishop Steve

Dear Friends,

Let us pray: Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, makes us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect for Labor Day, BCP, 261)

This past Monday we celebrated the contributions of workers to our common life. Labor Day grew out of the 19th century labor movement in New York City, although there is controversy about who originated the idea. The first Labor Day parade was held on September 5, 1882. The celebration grew rapidly and by 1894, when it became a federal holiday, thirty states already marked it. Now, the contributions and skill of labor are celebrated around the world. Canada also celebrates Labor Day on the first Monday of September.

Christian theology understands human beings to be rooted in their creation in God's image and not defined by what they do. At the same time, Genesis makes clear God's expectation in creation was that human beings would labor for the benefit of one another and all creation. Although the imagery is agricultural, the intent that we should care for one another is clear. Despite this, there hasn't been a great deal of theological study about work. It's an area that would benefit from study and education in the church.

The truth is that we are all workers. Our roles and responsibilities are very different – we work with our hands and our backs, our heads and our eyes, in fields, factories and offices. Some of us are on our feet all day. Some of us are in chairs. Some of us work directly with other human beings, Some of us work alone in a room. Yet it's all labor and all necessary for the well-being of society. The Church makes no distinction in relation to the kinds of work we do. There is no sacred/secular divide. All work offered for the benefit of others is honorable and valuable. All work has the same spiritual significance.

In my view, we do not give labor its due. We are too often focussed entirely on what labor produces and the costs associated with it. Too often labor is considered simply a cost of doing business rather than the essential element which gives what's produced value and meaning. The labor movement grew out of painful and violent demonstrations and strikes for recognition and just wages. Too often we still cut corners where workers are concerned. Women and people of color often receive less for the same work as white men. We all deserve just compensation for our labor. We are all made in God's image, and God is a worker, constantly building and renewing Creation.

I hope you enjoyed the holiday. I invite you to think and pray about the work you do and how God and the community are honored by your labor.

Blessings,
Bishop Steve

Diocesan Convention – October 23-24, 2026

Our 189th Diocesan Convention will be held in Celeron, NY at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel on October 23 & 24, 2026. Convention Business begins at 10am, Oct. 23rd and continues thru noon, Oct 24th.

This year's convention theme is: **WE ARE THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH!** We are excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be: The Rev. Molly F. James, Ph.D.

Molly currently serves as the Interim Executive Officer of General Convention for The Episcopal Church. She holds a PhD in Theology from the University of Exeter (UK), a Masters of Divinity from Yale Divinity School and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Tufts University. She grew up in Maine and was ordained as a priest in 2005. She has served on the Bishops' Staff in Connecticut, as a parish priest, and a hospital chaplain, as well as an adjunct professor focusing on ethics and pastoral care. Her doctoral research focused on suffering and grief. Her work, *With Joyful Acceptance, Maybe* was published in 2013 by Wipf and Stock. Molly previously served as co-chair of Young Clergy Women International (an ecumenical organization of clergy women under 40), and as a board member for the Society of Scholar Priests. She is currently co-chair of the Faith Communities Today research consortium, a board member for the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies, and the Yale Alumni Nonprofit Alliance. She has two children and loves cooking, reading, travel, and spending time in the splendor of God's creation.

Molly will also preach at the Convention Eucharist on Friday, October 23rd.

Convention Delegation from the Cathedral - Elected Delegates: Su Hadden, Kim Goodman O'Connell, Evelyn Smigelsky; Estelle Siener (alternate).

New or visiting today? Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the Hymnal in the pew (red or blue). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable.

Restrooms are located on the lower level. From the elevator, proceed through the double glass doors and look to your right for an accessible restroom. Additional restrooms are on the same level, to the left, near the kitchen.

Children are always welcome in worship and are invited to explore! Greeters can provide activity kits, available in the back of the church. Godly Play is also offered. For details: cathedral@spcbuffalo.org.

MINSTERS OF THE LITURGY

Kathy Reiss, Delwyn Milander; Altar Guild
Evelyn Smigelsky, Frank Smigelsky; Ushers
Estelle Siener, Robert Ludwig; Coffee Hour Hosts
Thomas Heyer; Livestream Technician

Valerie Thomas, Michael Bonilla, Estelle Siener; Readers
Andrew Jacob; Crucifer
Valerie Thomas, Roger Woodard; Intercessor
Michael Bonilla; Eucharistic Minister

The Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral
Patricia Hills; Conductor
Peter Smith; Guest Organist

The Very Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes; Celebrant and Preacher

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Bishop Provisional
<https://episcopalwny.org/>

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The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski, Associate for Pastoral Care
Teresa Carter, Administrator • teresa@spcbuffalo.org • 855-0900 ext. 222
Thomas Himmelsbach, Maintenance

CATHEDRAL WARDENS

Michael Bonilla, Warden (bonz5647@yahoo.com) • Estelle Siener, Warden (estelle.siener@gmail.com)

The people of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral strive to be a beacon of
God's love in Western New York through transformative worship, inclusive fellowship,
and active service in partnership with the wider community.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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