**Welcome to our Sunday Worship**

**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17, Track 2, Year C**

**August 31, 2025 9:00 a.m. Rite II**

PRELUDE: Gather Us In *Haugen*

**SURELY THE PRESENCE Worship #131**

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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**.

**GLORIA Hymnal S-96**

**Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

**Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.**

**Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

**Lord have mercy, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**: Proverbs 25.6-7

*The book of Proverbs, as the name implies, consists of a collection of sayings and teachings of various wise people from Israel’s past. This very short passage offers one piece of advice from King Solomon.*

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 112** (*from The Book of Common Prayer)*

*This psalm begins in a joyful celebration which may have belonged in a festival liturgy celebrating the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt. It may also have been used at the thanksgiving Feast of Tabernacles. The latter part, however, sounds more like a prophetic oracle similar to those found in the book of Jeremiah.*

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD \*

 and have great delight in his commandments!

2 **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \***

**the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*

     and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \***

**the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*

     and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 **For they will never be shaken; \***

**the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*

     their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD.

8 **Their heart is established and will not shrink, \***

**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*

     and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.

10 **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \***

 **the desires of the wicked will perish.**

**SECOND READING:**Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16

*This passage is a good example of how the Letter to the Hebrews tried to identify for Hebrew Christians the moral and spiritual reality they had both continuity and discontinuity with their ancient traditions. The reality of the New Covenant of Jesus Christ reformed and transformed the Old Covenant made with Moses. Though the strictures of the Law may have been lifted, the ethical demands remained the same.*

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN: My God thy table now is spread Hymnal #321**

**GOSPEL:** Luke 14.1, 7-14

*Apparently quite familiar with the insight offered by Solomon in today’s Old Testament reading, Jesus uses his invitation to a feast to teach the value and wisdom of humility. But Jesus extends his lesson to the humility of caring for those less fortunate. In this context Solomon’s words become more about our relationship with God than mere social etiquette.*

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN: My God thy table now is spread Hymnal #321**

**THE SERMON**

**THE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for The Church of South India (United); For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Doug, our Bishop; Tom, our Rector; Mary, our Deacon; and for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ]. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating the anniversary of their birth, especially Donna Nidds, and Paul Nelson; and those celebrating the anniversary of their marriage, especially Ralph and Sarah Lawrence.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, and nurture victims of violence and warfare throughout your world, to the glory of your Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

***People* And also with you.**

**The Holy Communion**

  OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Open My Eyes, Lord  *Manibusan*

**DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all blessings flow                 Old 100th**

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C**

*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 him thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS: Hymnal S-130**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

**THE LORD’S PRAYER Worship #740**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMN: Shall we gather at the river Worship #522**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**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.**

**BLESSING**

**POST-COMMUNION HYMN: Let there be peace on earth  Worship #614**

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of St Paul's truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Welcome visitors!**

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Trinity Hall after the service.

*Celebrant and Preacher* The Rev. Dr. Tom Thoeni

*Deacon* The Rev. Dr. Mary Abrams

*Eucharistic Minister(s)* Linda Connelly, Dick Emerson

*Lector* Pauline Suss

*Intercessor* Pauline Suss

*Usher(s)* Paulette & Gary Dickerson

*Active Altar Guild Members: Philip Lindquist,* Joan Allison, Diane Augustus, Rose Porembo, Mia Tajawandee, & Cindy Tysiak.

*Rector* The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni

*Deacon* The Rev. Dr. Mary Abrams, seasonal

*Administrative Assistant* Betty Hernandez

*Sexton* Gary Dickerson

*Music Director* Jacquie Scaduto

*Vestry*

*Senior Warden* Diane Augustus *Junior Warden* Julio Albino

*Clerk* Charlene Connolly *Treasurer* Rose Porembo

*Members:*  Mary Lou Dogoloff, Paul Nelson, Jeannie Smith, Murray Smith, Jack LaRose.



**3901 Davis Blvd. Naples, FL 34104**

**239 643-0197** welcome@saintpaulsnaples.org

[www.saintpaulsnaples.org](http://www.saintpaulsnaples.org)

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**August 31, 2025**

**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

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**Aumbry Candle**

The Candle burns this month:

* In loving memory of Linda H. Anderson missed and cherished. Rest in peace with our Lord. From Donald, Jason, Jackie and Madison.

If you would like to reserve the candle for a loved one, or in memory of a loved one, please call the office at 239-643-0197.

**🎶 Wanted:  Choir singers (male and female)** **🎶**
Do you like to sing? We would love to have you join us on Sunday mornings.
You are welcome to come even if you are here for a short time. Our weekly choir practice is held on Monday morning from 11am-12 noon, and we come for rehearsal on Sunday morning at 9:30.
If you would like to join us, please speak to our Music Director, Jacquie Scaduto, at coffee hour, or email her at jacquilt123@gmail.com.  Or you can speak to a choir member.
**We look forward to seeing new members.**

**Farmers’ Market**

The market and stores are now closed for the summer.

They will reopen in the fall. See you soon



**Prayer List**

Please pray for Joan Cacchio, Lani Jenkins, Nikki Wall, Richard Broszeit, Lynne LaMarca, Mary Grindstaff, Barry Stone, Barbara Metcalfe, Evelyn Ferioli, Betsy Blanchard Rafferty and Lee Perry.

Please pray for the repose of our church family members Tom Connolly, Elizabeth Neapolitan, and Carolyn Moore.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, email the office at welcome@saintpaulsnaples.org or call the office at (239) 643-0197.



Parishioners it is that time of year again. If you are willing and able to open your home this year as a safe place for other church members, please email the office at welcome@saintpaulsnaples.org or call the office at 239-643-0197. Please make sure to provide your address, phone and email and your preferred form of contact.

A list will be compiled to implement when it is needed (hopefully not). Thank you for your generosity.

The Church emergency plan has been updated for 2025 and a hard copy is hanging in the office. Gary Dickerson will be the Emergency Disaster Coordinator.

**Lunch with the Bunch**

Come and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners in a relaxed atmosphere where no one needs to cook or clean-up!!!  If you have a suggestion for our next luncheon, e-mail Norma B. Pappalardo at nbpapp@aol.com.

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP AT COFFEE HOUR!!!

**Laundry Love**

We encourage you to consider donating to the Laundry Love initiative by contributing to the container in the Narthex. This wonderful program, now led by Steve Augustus, offers a unique opportunity to extend kindness to those in need right here in Naples. If you want to volunteer or have questions, call Steve at 860-490-3178 or email: saugustus@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your generosity.

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Please sign up to bring snacks to fellowship after Sunday Services. Sign up sheets are in Trinity Hall.

Great ideas to bring are breakfast casseroles, bowl of fruit or gluten free foods

Thanks!



**August Birthdays**

Connie Guensch 1, Jodi Clair 2, Peter Lund 6, Katherine Snyder 7, Avery Jones 10, Terry Snider 14, Ann Couite 14, Nancy Kerchenfaut 17, Bob Flynn17, Jeannie Smith 19, Judy Martin 21, Mary Ellen Wieber 25, Fred Thornton 26, and Rosemary Porembo 31.

Wishing you a year filled with peace, joy, health and new beginnings.

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**August Wedding Anniversaries**

Pauline Suss 8/12. John Zimo & Karen Sullivan 8/16, James & Dorothy Thomas 8/16, Gedeon & Anne Anis 8/16, Rich & Jan Shea 8/17, Rev. Albert & Barbara Pike 8/20, Steve & Sharon Carnell 8/30, and Terry & Judy Snider 8/30.

May your bond continue to strengthen with each passing year.

**Justin’s Place**

In the narthex, you will find a dedicated box for donations. Please assist those who have completed addiction recovery efforts.

**Vestry**

**Sr. Warden** – Diane Augustus

**Jr. Warden** – Julio Albino

**Clerk** – Charlene Connolly

**Treasurer** – Rose Porembo

Mary Lou Dogoloff, Jack LaRose, Paul Nelson, Jeannie Smith and Murray Smith

**Pastoral Emergency:**

Fr. Tom’s cell phone: **(813) 763-0441**

**Pastoral Care:**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni, Rector

*Sick? Facing surgery? Recuperating? Please notify the church office for yourself or others.*

**Office:** Betty Hernandez (M-F 9 am-1 pm)

Administrative Assistant (239) 643-0197

Email: welcome@saintpaulsnaples.org

 Scan to donate

 P**lease go to St. Paul’s Website (www.saintpaulsnaples.org) for links to our online Sunday Services, zoom meetings, and the Sunday bulletin.**

**St. Paul’s is grateful for your support**

You may mail checks to the church, donate via our website: **saintpaulsnaples.org,** or drop donations on the offering plate on Sunday, or you can scan the QR code to donate to the church.

**Pledge Cards**

**P**ledge cards for 2025 are on the table in the Narthex

**Schedule during the week:**

MON 9/1 OFFICE CLOSED (LABOR DAY)

WED 9/3 6:30 pm Bible Study (L)

THU 9/4 8:00 am God’s Gardeners

 3:00 pm Circle of Sisters (TH)

**Monthly Events and Repeated Gatherings**

* Holy Eucharist 9 am Sunday through the summer months
* Bible Study 6:30 pm Wednesdays
* God’s Gardeners 8:00 am every Thursday
* Circle of Sisters 3:00 pm 1st Thursday of the month
* Reflect & Connect 10:30 am every Wednesday
* Parish Luncheon 11:30 am 2nd Tuesday of the month
* Potluck Dinners 5:30 pm 3rd Thursday of the month
* Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm 3rd Monday of the month
* Wine Time 6:00-7:00 pm Thursdays except on vestry week

**On summer break**

* Choir Practice 11:00 am Mondays resumes soon
* Farmer’s Market 8 am- 12 pm resumes in November
* Men’s Meetings 10:00 am every Monday resumes soon



Tue. Sept 9th 11:30 am Lunch with the Bunch @ Szechuan Chinese Restaurant

 Located at 3753 Tamiami Trail East, Naples Town Center

Thu. Sept 18th 5:30 pm Potluck dinner (theme: end of summer)