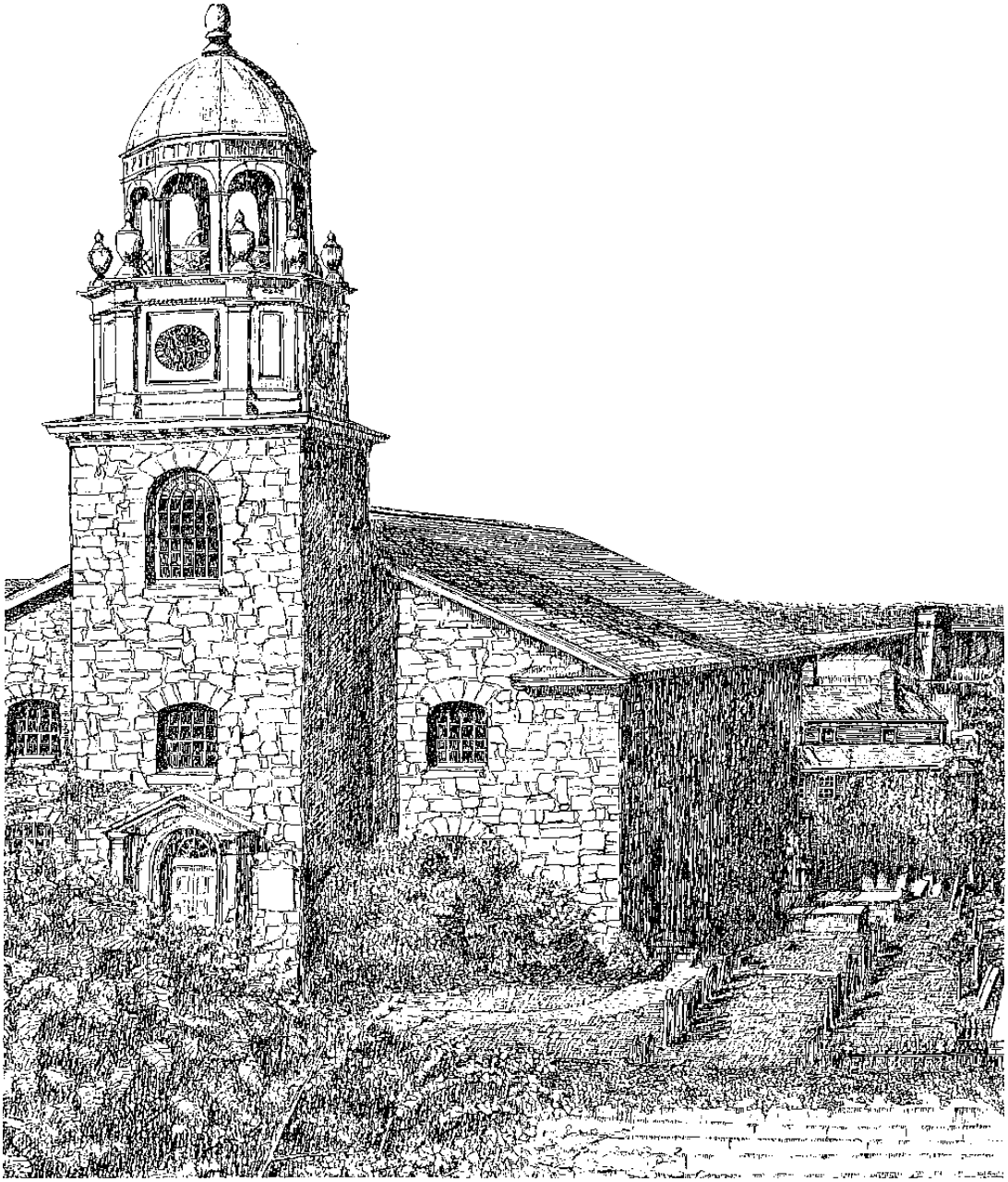
St. Paul's Church, 166 High Street, Newburyport, MA
Sunday, November 2, 2024 5:00 PM
All Souls' Requiem Eucharist
stpaulsnewburyport.org





Welcome Home

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is an inclusive Christian community. It's a community that takes God's love for the world seriously, fosters a living faith, and cares for one another—it's a community of belonging. We're also a community that welcomes doubt as part of faith, values questions alongside answers, and provides a home for exploration, wherever you find yourself on the spectrum of belief and in your pursuit of truth.

At St. Paul's we worship God, pray for our world, build community, and seek to serve others by working for justice, peace, and reconciliation. That work brings those who are vulnerable, rejected, overlooked, or marginalized in our world to the center of our life together. This is the story we embody every time we gather for the Eucharist, as we join in Jesus Christ's offering of himself for the life of the world—Christ, who became the poor, marginalized, rejected one on the cross for our salvation.

The Eucharist (also called the Mass or Holy Communion) is our share in that offering. It's at the heart of everything we are and do, and so we celebrate it with reverence, solemnity, and great joy. The word Eucharist means "thanksgiving," and in it we offer our whole selves to God in thanks—our frustrations and conflicts, our peace and joy, our sorrow and pain—and receive ourselves back anew, transformed by Christ's presence. Like our Baptism, the Eucharist is a sacrament of unity. In it we are made a true community, united in love and service as the family of Christ.

The Eucharist is also a revolutionary act of justice and equality (as is our Baptism, through which we enter this family of Christ). In the Eucharist we, regardless of the color of our skin, our gender identity or sexuality, our age, our abilities, our social or economic status—people who in many places in our world would not be seen under same roof together—receive the same life-giving bread and call each other one body and one family. There is perhaps no more radical act in our world than this.

Through this offering of the Eucharist, we become a eucharistic gift ourselves, an offering of love and mercy to the world.

As we enter into and embody this story of God's love, everything you need to follow along is in this booklet. Maybe you're with us just for the day, maybe you're getting to know us just a little bit more, but maybe, just maybe, you've found a home. If you're interested in learning more about being baptized or becoming a member of St. Paul's, or you have questions or need anything at all, please don't hesitate to talk to me after the service or reach out any time.

Grace and peace,

The Rev. Dr Jarred Mercer (Fr Jarred)
Rector

Prayers of preparation before the Eucharist

As you enter the church and are seated, take time in silence and prayer to prepare yourself for our worship together. Here are some prayers that may help.

Prayer Before Receiving Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Anima Christi (Soul of Christ)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Permit me not to be separated from you.
From the wicked foe, defend me.
At the hour of my death, call me
and bid me come to you
That with your saints I may praise you
For ever and ever. Amen.

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3–10)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrating the Eucharist in honor of and in prayer for the departed has been practiced since the earliest Christian centuries. All Souls' Day is a time in which we celebrate a Requiem Eucharist, or funeral liturgy, not for one person in particular but for all those who have gone before us into the eternal care of God. Today we commend those who have died to the mercy and protection of God and, whereas on All Saints' Day we ask for the prayers of the saints for us, on All Souls' we offer our prayers for the departed. "We pray for them because we still hold them in our love, and because we trust that in God's presence those who have chosen to serve him will grow in his love, until they see him as he is" (Book of Common Prayer, 862).

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Just as Jesus died and has risen again, so through Jesus God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep; and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life.

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

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant: God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels to show that all power belongs to God and not to us. As we acknowledge our human frailty, we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission, and confess them before Almighty God, whose mercy endures forever.

Silence. Please kneel as you are able.

Celebrant: You raised the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy.
People: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Celebrant: You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart: Christ, have mercy.
People: ***Christ, have mercy.***

Celebrant: You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided, Lord, have mercy.
People: ***Lord, have mercy***.

The Celebrant pronounces God's absolution, and all respond:
Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: ***And also with you.***
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Celebrant: O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of your Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated

First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 3: 1 – 9

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Wisdom.
The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive a great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18

Reader: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation:

Please stand

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia. "It is the will of the one who sent me," says the Lord, "that I should lose none of all that was given me, but raise them up on the last day."

People: ***Alleluia.***

Holy Gospel: John 5:24 – 27

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you***

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

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

Jesus said to the people, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon Fr Jarred

*The preacher invokes the Name of the Trinity, all respond "**Amen**," and then sit for the sermon.*

Prayers of the People with the Commemoration of the Departed:

Please stand.

Celebrant: In faith, hope, and love, let us pray to the risen Christ in the power of the life-giving Spirit.

Jesus, bread from heaven, you satisfy the hungry with good things: grant us a share with all the faithful departed in the banquet of your kingdom.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, the light of the world, you gave the man born blind the gift of sight: open the eye of faith and bring us from darkness to your eternal light and glory.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, Son of the living God, you summoned your friend Lazarus from death to life: raise us at the last to full and eternal life with you.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, crucified Saviour, in your dying you entrusted each to the other, Mary your mother and John your beloved disciple: sustain and comfort all who mourn.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, our way and truth and life, you drew your disciple Thomas from doubt to faith: reveal the resurrection faith to the doubting and the lost.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, our resurrection and our life, grant us grace to entrust those whom we remember today to your never-failing love that sustained them in this life, enfold them in the arms of your mercy and receive them into your eternal kingdom, where every tear shall be wiped away.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Commemoration of the Departed
The celebrant reads the names of those who have died for whom prayer has been asked. After a time of silence, the following prayer is offered:

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humanity;
and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we
return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying,
"You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down
to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Please stand.

The Peace

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

All share signs of Christ's peace with one another,
especially seeking to amend any hurts or conflicts.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The altar is set for the Eucharist. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the Lord's name, bring offerings and come into God's courts. The offering plate is passed.
You may also give by scanning this QR code:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: ***And also with you.***
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant proceeds by saying the Preface *to the* Eucharistic Prayer*, after which all say the* Sanctus.

Sanctus:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel as you are able

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer. *After the* Words of Institution *this* Acclamation *may be used:*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: (or)
Great is the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer*, leading to the* Doxology *to which all respond by saying the* "great Amen."

Celebrant: Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.
People: ***Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

The Celebrant then continues
Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, as our Savior taught us, so we pray:

Please stand.

People and Celebrant
Our Father, ***who art in heaven,***
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Giving of Communion *(please kneel as you are able)*

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world;
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
People: ***Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word,***
and I shall be healed.

Those present come forward to receive communion, released by pew by an usher. There is no requirement to be a member of St. Paul's or Episcopalian to receive communion here. We believe that all are welcome, regardless of tradition or denomination, to be nourished at Christ's table and strengthened to live the faith of their baptism. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign of this. Please assist the chalice bearer while receiving from the cup.

If you would like communion brought to your seat, please let your usher know.

All remain kneeling as they are able upon returning to their seats after communion.

Post Communion Prayer

After communion the Celebrant continues:
Let us pray.
Please stand

God of love, may the death and resurrection of Christ which we have celebrated in this Eucharist bring us, with all the faithful departed, into the peace of your eternal home. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

Blessing and Dismissal *(please remain standing)*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
People: ***Amen.***

Celebrant: God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
People: ***Amen.***

Celebrant: God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
People: ***Amen.***

The celebrant pronounces a blessing, after which all respond
People: ***Amen.***

Celebrant: Neither death nor life can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Celebrant: May the souls of the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
People: ***Amen.***

TODAY'S SERVICE LEADERS

Clergy: The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer
Lector: Clare Keller
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Tom Hussey
Ushers: Ruth Healey
Broadcast Team: Frank Condella and Becca Hussey