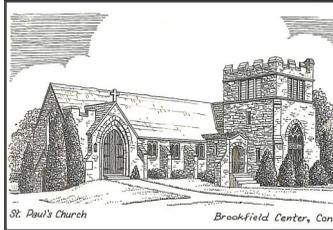


# Saint Paul's Church

(Episcopal/Anglican)

Brookfield, Connecticut

*Fifteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost  
September 17, 2017*



*St. Paul's Church Brookfield Center, Conn*  
"Celebrating 232 years in the Spirit"

*Preacher & Celebrant  
The Reverend Joseph Shepley  
Rector*

**8:00 A.M. Worship Service**

*When you enter church, talk to God. When you worship, let God talk to you. After church, talk to each other.  
Please be mindful of others' need for silence before the service.*

**[www.saintpaulsbrookfield.com](http://www.saintpaulsbrookfield.com)**

**203-775-9587 (Office)**

We extend a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us for worship this morning. We pray you experience the presence and love of Christ as we worship together! We invite you to join us after the service for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall, followed by The Rector's Forum in the Guild Room at 9:30 A.M. Please join us!

**Prelude**

**"Prelude on St. Peter"**

**H. Willan**

**Opening Hymn**

**"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"**

**Hymnal, 390**

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

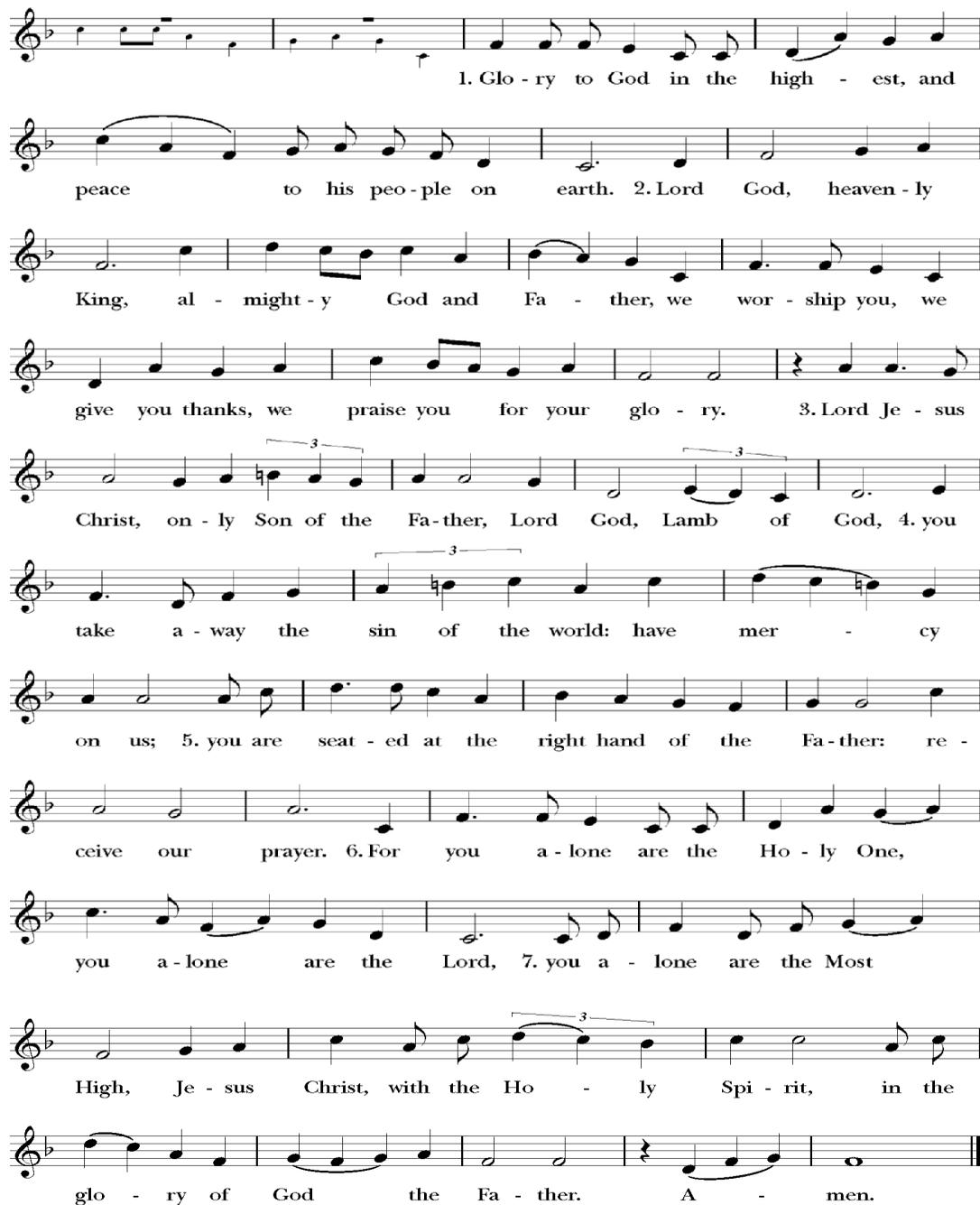
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant:

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 in Excelsis

Hymnal, S280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - mighty 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.

## **Collect of the Day (Celebrant and People)**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

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.*

### **First Reading:**

Reader: A reading from Exodus. (14:19-31)

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

### **Psalm 114**

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \* the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*O Jordan, that you turned back?

- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

### **Second Reading:**

Reader: A reading from Romans. (14:1-12)

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.*

### **“Forgive Our Sins, As We Forgive”**

“Forgive our sins, as we forgive”  
You taught us, Lord, to pray;  
But you alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless  
The unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let  
Old bitterness depart?

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots Music: St. Anne

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35**

Priest: 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.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### **“Forgive Our Sins, As We Forgive”**

In blazing light your cross reveals  
The truth we dimly knew,  
How small the debts men owe to us,  
How great our debt to you.

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls,  
And bid resentment cease;  
Then, reconciled to God and man,  
Our lives will spread your peace.

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots Music: St. Peter

### **Sermon**

**The Reverend Joseph Shepley**

#### **Nicene Creed (Please Stand As Able)**

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.

#### **Prayers of the People (You May Stand, Sit, or Kneel)**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Universal Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

We remember the faithful departed this day in whose memory the altar flowers are given:  
Gladys Corson Brown, Joan K. Eldridge, Jacob and Hazel Mann, and Sarah Ann Mann.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.*

### **Confession of Sin (Please Kneel)**

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

*Priest 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.

Celebrant: 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.*

### **Peace (Please Stand As Able)**

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

*People: And also with you.*

### **Offertory (Please Stand As Able) “Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”**

Lord, make us servants of your peace:  
Where there is hate, may we sow love;  
Where there is hurt, may we forgive;  
Where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;  
Where all is gloom, may we sow hope;  
Where all is night, may we sow light;  
Where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek  
To be consoled, but to console,

Nor look to understanding hearts,  
But look for hearts to understand.

May we not look for love's return,  
But seek to love unselfishly,  
For in our giving we receive,  
And in forgiving are forgiven.

Dying, we live, and are reborn  
Through death's dark night to endless day:  
Lord, make us servants of your peace,  
To wake at last in heaven's light.

## Presentation

### Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### Great Thanksgiving (Please Stand As Able)

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.*

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. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

### Sanctus

Hymnal, S129

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.

*The Celebrant continues (You may stand, sit or kneel)*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*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 your 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 for ever. *AMEN.*

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

*People and Celebrant*

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

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

## Agnus Dei

John Merbecke, 1549



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive in one kind is considered full communion. If you choose to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest. For those who wish to intinct the Bread, by dipping it in the Wine rather than drinking directly from the Chalice, you may signify this choice by holding the consecrated Bread between your fingers. Please intinct the Bread in the small Chalice which will come before the larger Chalice. After you leave the altar rail, please know that we have healing teams in the hallway available to pray with you.*

## Communion Songs

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

Hymnal, 516

“Day by Day, Dear Lord”

Hymnal, 654

## Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

Closing Hymn

“Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Hymnal, 410

## Dismissal

Lay Reader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Postlude in D Major”

J. K. F. Fischer

**St. Paul's Responds to HURRICANE RELIEF,  
administer by The Salvation Army**

Kettles will be available in the sanctuary and Crocker Hall for your generous contribution.  
(Checks payable to St. Paul's Church, Salvation Army on memo line.)

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**Pray It Up!**

Notice the Red and White prayer request cards in the pew? Each Sunday, fill out your request, put it in the red bowl on the table on the way to communion. Then take a card from the bowl either right then or after service. Pray for that request for one week. How comforting to know that your request is being prayed for and that you are praying for someone else's! You might just be praying for the person sitting next to you! Or, if you'd prefer - please send your request to St. Paul's at [prayingnow2@gmail.com](mailto:prayingnow2@gmail.com)!

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**Synthesis CE Study Guide**

You may pick up a copy of the week's Synthesis CE Study Guide, as well as the following week's, for your personal use. They are located at the back of the church. Thank You!

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**Upon entering the church, please turn off your cell phone or switch it to a worship respectful setting. Please be sure to dispose of all food and drinks before entering the church. Thank You!**

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**Prayer Servant Teams**

Prayer for any need or request is available at each service. After you have received communion, please see one of our trained Prayer Servant Teams (with the Blue Name Badges) who are available at the open side door at the entrance to the Vesting Room. Prayer is available in the Vesting Room, Hallway or Back Room as space is available. Our Prayer Servants are ready to confidentially take your request and pray for you and with you. Should you wish to schedule a private prayer time, please let Fr. Joe or Mary Perry, Prayer Ministry Leader ([maryperry2@me.com](mailto:maryperry2@me.com)) know and we will work with you to schedule a convenient time. Your Prayer Servants today for Healing Sunday are: 8:00 Ken Perry and Mary Perry, 10:30 Jim Castronova and Walter VonEgidy and Kathy Whipple.

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**Food Pantry**

As part of our outreach, St. Paul's donates gift cards and non-perishable items to six area food pantries. Donations for the food pantry can be left in the basket at the back of the church or the collection bins in Crocker Hall. St. James' Episcopal Church, Danbury and their Daily Bread Food Pantry, is the recipient of our food basket collections for the month of September.



## Calendar for the Week

(We welcome and encourage parishioners to come to any of these ministries.)

Sun., Sept. 17	-	8:00 AM	-	<b>Traditional Eucharist</b>
		9:30 AM	-	Rector's Forum
		10:30 AM	-	Sunday School
		10:30 AM	-	<b>Contemporary Eucharist</b>
Mon., Sept. 18	-	7:00 PM	-	Men's Bible Study
		7:00 PM	-	Stephen Ministry
Tue., Sept. 19	-	9:15 AM	-	Ladies Bible Study
		5:45 PM	-	Boot Camp
Wed., Sept. 20	-	10:00 AM	-	<b>Holy Eucharist and Healing</b>
Thu., Sept. 21	-	7:30 PM	-	Music Night
Sat., Sept. 23	-	7:30 AM	-	Men's Prayer Breakfast
		10:00 AM	-	PraiseMoves
		11:00 AM	-	St. Paul's Quilters

### Next Sunday — Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Eucharist at 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

Celebrant, The Reverend Joseph Shepley, Rector  
Preacher, Stephen Nagy, Seminarian

### Readings

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

### Saint Paul's Staff

Rector  
Wardens  
Seminarian  
Parish Office Coordinator  
Organist and Choirmaster  
Coord. of Contemporary Worship & Family Ministries  
Sunday School Administrators  
Sexton

The Reverend Joseph Shepley  
Mary Perry and David Williams  
Stephen Nagy  
Beth Miller  
Kirsten Peterson  
Patrick O'Connors  
Nicole O'Connors  
Doug Melody