ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 21
September 27, 2026



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

711 South Saginaw St., Flint, Michigan 48502

www.stpaulschurchflint.com

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude: *Prelude in Ab* Chopin

Opening Hymn: *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* Hymn 690



Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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: *Glory to God* Hymn S 280



The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace,

that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

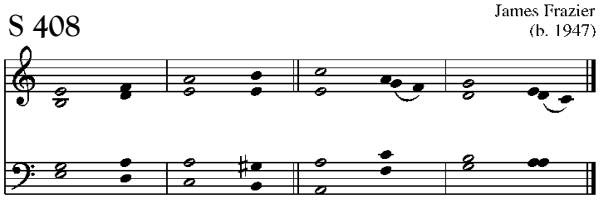
The Lessons

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Tom Shriver

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

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

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



Psalm 25:1-8 *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13 Max Karpov

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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

Sequence: *Trust and Obey* LEVAS 205 1 & 2

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 *all standing*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon **Rev. Tom Manney**

The Nicene Creed *all standing*

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 Lysa Fischer

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic 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.

We pray for those on our prayer list _____.

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

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

For our Bishop candidates, Terri, Holly, Zack and Nurya.

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

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

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

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

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

Announcements and Prayers

The Offertory

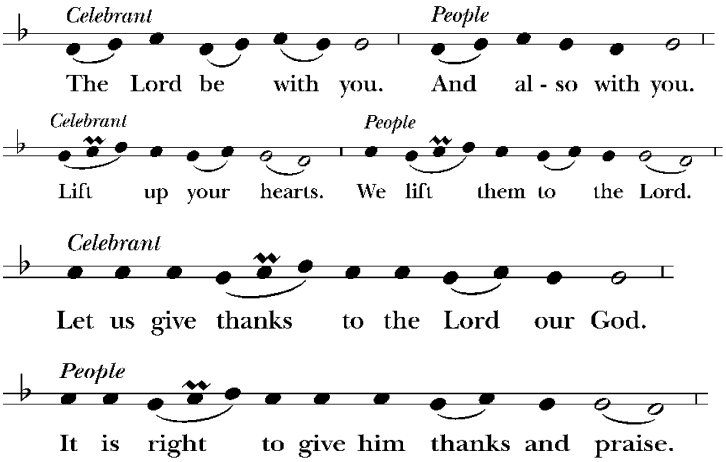
Offertory Anthem: *Come Thou Fount*

Doxology: *(verse 3 Hymn 380)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

V. All things come of thee, O Lord.
R. **And of thine own have we given thee.** *1 Chr. 29:14*

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer B*



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord* Hymn S 130

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.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the

Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

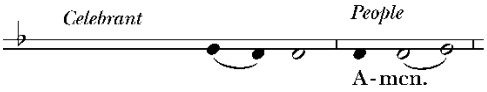
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



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

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem: *Jesus, Lamb of God* Hymn S 164



The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Ministration of Communion – All are welcome at God's table.

If you are in need of special healing prayers, members of the Order of St. Luke are available during communion at the Sisters Chapel near the side entrance.

Communion Hymn: *At the Name of Jesus* Hymn 435

Post Communion 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.

The Blessing

Recessional: *Trust and Obey* LEVAS 205



The Dismissal

Postlude: *Nocturne in c#*
Chopin

This Week at St. Paul's

Sunday	4:00	MIHC - Organ with Quincy Dobbs
Monday	7:00	NCC Rehearsal
Tuesday	11:15	C.C. Exec. Board
	5:30	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	12:10	**Noonday Mass**
	12:45	Weekly Bible Study
Thursday	10:00	Common Threads
	1:00	GHS Trans Support Group

On the Cover: *Risen Christ with Wounds,* stained glass from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint. The window is a gift from Dillaye Fenton in memory of his parents, William and Adelaide Fenton. Photo by Jenna Bankston.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer:
St. Christopher's, Northport - Chrysanne Timm, Rector
Transfiguration, Indian River - Theresa Williams, Rector

Prayer List: Carmen, Clinton Stephens, Jan Smeltzer & Family, Judy Stoerman, Ken Bugbee, Mary Loue Pearson, Melissa Cussans, Sandy Ryder, Stefan Sopher, Darylee Coplin, Les Butler, Amber Ferrer, Dawn & Family, Wanda Bondon, Larry, Lee Little, Carole Davis, Charles King & Family, Robyn, G. Donald & Elaine Kaye, Heather Gagnon, Trent Schaefer, Barbie

Recovery Alliance Project: Drop -In Hours Tuesday – Friday 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Groups – Wednesday and Friday 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Contribute Online:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

711 S. Saginaw, Flint, MI 48502
(810) 234 – 8637
Hours
Tuesday – Friday 9:00am -3:00pm
Sunday 9:00am – 12:00pm
Monday & Saturday – CLOSED

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