Celtic Evening Prayer and Holy Communion  
at Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 17, 2016, at Half-Past Five o’clock in the Evening

Welcome. We are aware that many who attend this service come from other churches and faith traditions, and we are delighted to have many who consider Saint Paul’s to be their second church home. The mixture of faith traditions represented at this service makes up a community we especially cherish. We are glad you are here.

Prelude  
Carl Purdy

In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer, we ask that silence be observed upon entering and that you turn off cell phones.

At the sound of the bell, all stand.

Opening from “Meditation XVII” by John Donne

Leader

All mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated... As therefore the bell that rings to a sermon, calls not upon the preacher only, but upon the congregation to come: so this bell calls us all... No man is an island, entire of itself... any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

Prayer

Leader Flame of purity:  
People **Light us up.**

Leader Flame of beauty:  
People **Light us up.**

Leader Flame of wisdom:  
People **Light us up.**

Leader Flame of friendship:  
People **Light us up.**

Leader Flame of true speech:  
People **Light us up.**
Leader Flame of true seeing:
People Light us up.

Leader Breath of God, blow away all that is unclean:
People Rain of God, revive our withered lives.

Leader Wind of God, blow us to wild places as you will:
People Breeze of God, refresh us as you desire.

Leader River of God, flow through us and heal our land:
People River of God, flow through us and heal our land.

A Prayer for the Evening

Leader Father, you are the God of life,
who created all things
by the power of your Spirit.
We pray that you will be
The light in our darkness,
strength in our trials
and joy in our hope
Hear us, God, living for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated. A period of silence is observed.

The Holy Gospel

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

Reader May your Spirit light up your Word and illumine our hearts, O Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Reflection The Reverend John Jenkins

A period of silence is observed.

Music for Meditation Carl Purdy
Prayers for Ourselves and Others

**Celebrant**  The Lord our God listens to the needs of his children. Let us make them known to him now in quiet confidence and hope.

**Leader**  Help us to be understanding and forgiving of all those we encounter. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Show us how to serve one another, to offer love, care and support. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Guide all those who are called to lead and advocate in the world. May they carry love with them always. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Inspire our leaders, teachers, doctors, social workers, and counsellors to be bringers of hope in all situations. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Protect all those who carry peace to other nations. Bless the food, care, and shelter they provide. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Comfort those who live with grief. Help them see the light of heaven. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Come embrace those in pain and physical suffering. May they feel you close to them. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Watch over all those who feel isolated and alone. Calm their fears and lead them into peace and freedom. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Strengthen and encourage all those who seek to serve and protect the vulnerable. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Lead us to be generous with our time, possessions and money. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  For those who have lost loved ones recently, comfort them in their grief and heal the broken-hearted. Lord in your mercy,
**People**  *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader**  Finally, we bring to mind any in our community that we know to be in need.

*Add your intercessions silently or aloud.*
Leader May love and goodness fill their lives. Lord in your mercy,
People Hear our prayer.

Leader O God, listen to our prayer.
People Let our earnest petition come to you.
    For we know that you hear us
    As surely as we see you with our own eyes.

THE HEALING SERVICE

Celebrant Almighty God, who inspired your servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel
the love and healing power of your Son: Graciously continue in your Church this love
and power to heal, to the praise and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

All are invited to come forward to receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil
in prayer for healing for yourself, for others, for our world.

Music for Meditation Carl Purdy

During the instrumental music and anytime hereafter, you may come forward
to light votives as a symbol of your prayers. After lighting a votive,
please fully extinguish the lit taper and return it to the holder.

The Grace

Celebrant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever.
People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My
sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements The Reverend John Jenkins

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The alms basin is not passed at this service, but stands in front of the Baptismal Font.

The Offertory Music Carl Purdy
Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant  We are the body of Christ.
People     His Spirit is with us.

Celebrant  Let us lift up our hearts.
People     We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People     It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant  Indeed thanks and praise erupt from our lips, O Lord, for you pour out your Spirit upon us, arousing us with visions and dreams and intoxicating us with an uncontainable fervor to proclaim your truth in the language of praise. All things were created when you sent forth your Spirit and filled the earth with your wonders. You breathed into us and we rose from the dust. The face of the earth came alive.

In these last days your son, Jesus Christ, came among us. Speaking your words and doing your works, he revealed the truth of who you are. Crucified by those who would usurp your name, he was raised to glory by your life-giving power. Having secured our adoption as your children and commissioned us to continue his works, he poured out your Holy Spirit on us, setting our hearts ablaze with a passion for peace, and firing our tongues with everlasting songs of joy.

Therefore with all the saints and every creature in heaven and earth we praise you, saying:

All         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.

Celebrant  Holy indeed are you, O God, and holy is your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the night he was betrayed to his death, took bread, and after thanking you (as even now we thank you, O God, for this bread), he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, “Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.” After the meal was done, Jesus took the cup, the cup of blessing, and after giving you thanks and praise, passed it to his disciples, saying, “Take and drink, all of you. This is my blood, the blood of a new covenant for the forgiveness of sin, poured out for many. As oft as you do this, do it in remembrance of me.”

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ’s life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that, in prayer and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith.

All         Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant  Send O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that they may be the body and blood of Christ Jesus for us, and that we may be his people, salt and light to the world.
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen.

Because you are one with us, O Christ, make us one with you as we pray the prayer you taught us.

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

A period of silence is observed when the bread is broken.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

You are welcome to be seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you may consume it and then move to one of the cups of consecrated wine.

Music during Communion

Carl Purdy

After Communion

Please stand or kneel.

Almighty God, you have opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit:

Spread abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth.

Loving God, you have given us the Bread of Heaven and the Wine of eternal joy:

May all whom you have called eat and drink as we have this day till at last we feast in your everlasting kingdom. We ask it through Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
The Blessing

Celebrant  The blessing of God and the Son be yours,  
The blessing of the perfect Spirit be yours,  
The blessing of the Three be pouring for you,  
Mildly and generously,  
Hour by hour,  
More and more,  
And for ever.  Amen.

The Dismissal

Celebrant  Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People  Thanks be to God.

Music for Meditation  Carl Purdy

Please feel free to sit or depart, as you wish, during the closing music.
WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL’S CHURCH

We are glad you are here. No matter who you are, no matter where you come from, and no matter where you are on the journey of life — you are welcome in this church. We invite you to participate in our worship service, or simply observe, as you wish.

We hope you will find Saint Paul’s to be a place of refreshment and renewal, where you experience the presence of the risen Christ. We have been serving Christ in this location for over two hundred sixty years. While our building is old and beautiful, our mission is contemporary and forward moving. Here you will find a people very much connected with the questions and struggles of modern life, of faith, and of following the way of Jesus.

We are a community called to serve those in need in our city, in our nation, and around the world. Here you will find ministries with and for children, youth, parents, seniors, singles, and families in all configurations and stages of life.

We invite you to share your contact information on a visitor’s card, located in each pew. Hand it to one of our clergy, an usher, or place it in the offering plate.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Backpacks are on sale everywhere. Please consider purchasing a backpack for our friends at Craig-Houghton Elementary. Drop-off boxes are located in the Narthex and the Parish Office. We need all sizes, small to full size, male and female. Cash donations welcome. Please mark your check Outreach Backpack Drive.

Children at Craig-Houghton Elementary School need YOU! We mentor students in grades 3-5 every Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 PM. Please think about serving these children. We need you! For more information, e-mail Kathy Enicks, Program Coordinator, at kge1726@aol.com or contact by telephone 484-433-4007.

Parents of college students, The Daughters of the King has requested addresses for our college students so that they may send notes and small surprises to them during the year. As your children register for housing for the fall semester, please forward updated mailing addresses to the Parish Office. For more information, contact DOK President, Suzanne Pursley-Crotteau at crotteau@nu-z.net.

Downtown Cooperative Church Ministries (DCCM) will be recycling printer cartridges over the next several months as a fundraiser. Please place your empty cartridges in the small blue box in Tyler Hall. For questions, contact Rex Teeslink at rexteeslink@bellsouth.net or Al Yarbrough at laraineandal@yahoo.com. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Saint Paul’s Church communicates by a weekly E-newsletter. Join our email list by contacting the parish administrator, Elisabeth Price, or scan the QR on the back of this bulletin.