

An Evening Service of
Holy Eucharist *in the Celtic Tradition*
The Season of Easter



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WOODBURY, CT
The Rev. Tuesday J. Rupp, *Rector*

Readings, music, and prayer lists are printed weekly in a separate handout, indicated here by this symbol » Please return this leaflet after service.

Gathering Music

We stand.

THE INVOCATION

Leader: From the corners of the world,
From the confusion of life,
From the loneliness of our lives,

All: **Gather us, O Lord.**

Leader: To feed our minds,
To fire our imaginations,
To free our hearts,

All: **Gather us, O Lord.**

Leader: Here in this place, let us take time together. For when paths cross and God's people gather, there is much to share and celebrate.

All: **In your name, three-in-one God, pattern of community, we share your care and challenge. Amen.**



Opening Song »

PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray. We come in worship to God -

All: **In our need, and bringing the needs of the world.**

Leader: We come to God who comes to us in Jesus -

All: **And who knows by experience what human life is like.**

Leader: We come with our faith and with our doubts -

All: **We come with our hopes and with our fears.**

Leader: We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come -

All: **And God has promised never to turn us away. Amen.**

We sit.

The Word of God »

After the Lesson is read,

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm »

Spoken in alternating verses as directed.

The Gospel »

Before the Gospel,

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel,

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

OUR AFFIRMATION

All: We believe that God is present in the darkness before the dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.
We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place:
into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the
Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Anyone is welcome to lead an intercession (prayer) as they feel moved.

Frequently, more than one person will be moved to read the same prayer.

Minister: Before approaching your holy table, we now offer you praise for
all our blessings and prayer for all the things on our hearts.

Leader: For the roots of our community and of all communities of faith,

All: We thank you, Living God.

Leader: For all we share together here, and for the life we share with others,

All: We thank you, Living God.

Leader: For the path that lies before us now, and our futures in your hands,

All: We thank you, Living God.

Leader: For all the blessings in our lives, we give thanks, especially for those we now name:

All are invited to share their intercessions silently or aloud.

Leader: Grateful for all we've been given,

All: We thank you, Living God.

Leader: For all who suffer from natural disaster and the victims of human violence,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all the hungry, the lonely, the homeless, those in prison, and for all those who serve them,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the sick, the suffering, and those recovering from illness, especially all those we now name:

All are invited to share their intercessions silently or aloud.

Leader: And for all who care for them,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who have died, especially those we now name:

All are invited to share their intercessions silently or aloud.

Leader: And for all who mourn their deaths,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: You are above us, O God, you are beneath. You are in the air; you are in the earth; you are beside us; you are within. O God, you are in the betrayed and suffering people of our world just as you were in the broken body of Jesus. Grant that we may know your resurrection as blessing and goodness in our lives. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Announcements

We sit for the announcements.

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Minister: The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready.

People: It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

Minister: It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself.

People: It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

Minister: Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

OFFERTORY SONG »

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Minister: Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread so that we may know your touch in all bread, all matter.

People: **Come, O Lord, in the Bread of Life.
Come, O Lord, in the Cup of Healing.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you,

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**



Minister: It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place. All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment.

And we are grateful for the world we know and the vast universe beyond our knowledge. We particularly praise you whom eternity cannot contain for coming to earth and entering time in the body and life of Jesus. For his life that informs our living; for his compassion that changes our hearts; for his words that inspire our actions; for his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to new life, we praise you and we worship you.

Remembering the vows he made to his friends, we give thanks also for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, pulls us into your presence and challenges us with your grace. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

SANCTUS *Sung by 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!**

Minister: On the eve of his death, gathered round a table at supper, Jesus took bread, offered thanks to his Father, broke the loaf, and then shared it with his friends saying, "This is my body, broken for you." Later he took a cup of wine and said to them, "This is my blood, shed for you, the seal of a new covenant with God. Take it, all of you, drink it, and remember me."

Minister: Thus we profess the mystery of mysteries:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Merciful God, send now in kindness your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

People: And let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world until we conform to the shape of him whose food we share.

Minister: Following Jesus' example, therefore, we take this bread and this wine, ordinary things of the world through which God will infinitely bless us, and we praise you for Christ's presence here and now. We thank you for meeting us in this broken loaf, this waiting cup, this gathered people, and in the communion of all your saints through time, now and forever hereafter.

People: Amen.

Minister: Let us pray after the example of Jesus:

All: 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

Silence is kept.

Minister: The gifts of God for you, the people of God. Holy things for holy people.

The Communion *All who seek God & a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine from the chalice. We offer both fermented grape juice (wine) and unfermented grape juice as part of our sacrament. The wine is dark red and the grape juice is white. Those who choose not to receive from the common cup can trust that Jesus' offering of himself is complete in the Bread. Gluten-free wafers are available. Respond to receiving Communion by saying "Amen." To receive a blessing instead, please indicate so by crossing your hands across your chest.*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

We stand.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared in the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us; enable much by us; encourage many through us. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Minister: As you have been fed at this table, go to feed the hungry.

As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.

As you have received - give.

As you have heard - proclaim.

And the blessing that you have received from God be always with you.

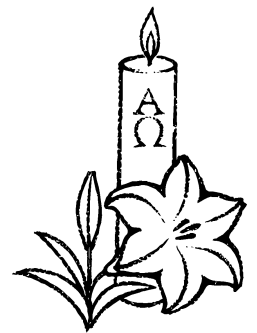
All: Amen.

Closing Song »

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Not an easy peace, not an insignificant peace, not a half-hearted peace, but the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with us now. Let us go in peace to love and serve our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



• *Kindly return this leaflet at the end of the service* •

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Become, Belong, & Serve in the Love of Christ

Our Clergy

Rector: The Rev. Tuesday Rupp
rector@stpaulswoodbury.org

Deacon: The Rev. David Rhodes
david113085@verizon.net

Our Staff

Parish Admin: Hannah Berg
office@stpaulswoodbury.org

Sexton: Ron Crowcroft
roncrowcroft07@gmail.com

Traditional Music Director: Kristin Daigneault

Contemporary Music Director: Peter Miserendino

Ministerial Intern 2023-2024: Phoebe Oler

Parish Office: Please call or email (*suggested*) the office for inquiries, appointments, membership information, newsletter submissions, and other needs, including non-emergency pastoral care, such as if you are going into the hospital. Appointments are available afternoons on Mon, Wed, Thurs, or at other times as arranged, contact the office to set up a time to visit Hannah in the office, to meet with Rev. Tuesday, or to connect with us via video chat.

Email us at office@stpaulswoodbury.org, or call us at 203-263-3541

For pastoral emergencies, call Rev. Rupp at (503) 267-3028.

Our Lay Leaders: Officers & Vestry 2024

Wardens: Julie Calkins, *People's Warden* & Marianne Daly, *Property Warden*

Treasurer: Kathleen Montgomery **Clerk:** Ron Hurt

Vestry Members: Jack Barlow; Wendy Brazauskas; Marianne Daly;

Ron Hurt; Jock Lawrason; Kathleen Montgomery; Heidi Szobota.

Delegates: Julie Calkins & Ron Hurt; Marianne Daly, *alternate*.

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Visit our website: www.StPaulsWoodbury.org