



ST. PAUL'S
PRESBYTERIAN

For The Glory of God & The Joy of All Peoples

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

On the Lord's Day Morning
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026, at 10:30



To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*The sounding of the
bells calls us to quiet our
hearts before worship.*

Welcome

Prelude

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
ELLACOMBE

*I sing the mighty pow'r of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.*

*There's not a plant or flow'r below but makes your glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow, by order from your throne;
While all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,
And everywhere that man can be, you, God, are present there.*

*Worship begins when God,
through the pastor ministering
in his name, summons us to
the praise of his glory.*

Call to Worship

From Psalm 134, A Song of Ascents

Minister: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD
who stand by night in the house of the LORD! Lift up
your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD!

People: May the LORD bless you from Zion, he who made
heaven and earth!

† congregation standing

✠ congregation kneeling

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

† Hymn of Proclamation

Hymn A • Trinity Hymnal #38

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

JOANNA

The Lord is "enthroned on the praises" of his people (Psalm 22:3).

Prayer of Adoration

Unison: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

† Gospel Reading

John 12:35-36

Pew Bible, page 899

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to the Lord!

✠ Prayer of Confession

Unison: Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in your holy presence we confess our sin. You are the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our afflictions, but we have sought comfort elsewhere. You command us to cast all our cares upon you because you care for us, but we have doubted your love and your power to protect us. You promise to turn our sorrow into joy, but we have questioned your good purpose. You command us to live by faith and listen to your voice, but we have lived more in fear and listened more to other voices. You call us to bring our needs before you in prayer, but we have been prayerless. Forgive us for our sin and give us grace to trust you. We believe, Lord, but help our unbelief, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).

Please take a moment to silently confess your sin.

The Assurance of Pardon is spoken with authority in Jesus' name. If you trust Jesus as he is offered in the gospel, you can rest assured that you are forgiven.

✠ Assurance of Pardon

From Colossians 1

Minister: Hear this good news! God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

✠ Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Unison: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

✠ Pastoral Prayer



† Psalm of Consecration

The Heavens Above Declare (Psalm 19)

Hymn B • From the Trinity Psalter

Alt. Tune: DARWALL

† Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 18; Of the Assurance of Grace and Salvation

Unison: True believers may have the assurance of their salvation divers ways shaken, diminished, and intermittent; as, by negligence in preserving of it, by falling into some special sin which wounds the conscience and grieves the Spirit; by some sudden or vehement temptation, by God's withdrawing the light of his countenance, and suffering even such as fear him to walk in darkness and to have no light:

yet are they never utterly destitute of that seed of God,
and life of faith, that love of Christ and the brethren,
that sincerity of heart, and conscience of duty, out of
which, by the operation of the Spirit, this assurance
may, in due time, be revived; and by the which, in the
meantime, they are supported from utter despair.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

† Gloria

Gloria Patri #735

GREATOREX

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -
gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out
end. A - men, a - men.

Children are welcome for our entire service. Following the Gloria, a specifically designed time for children aged four through first grade is also provided. Those interested can meet at the back of the Fellowship Hall.

† Old Testament Lesson

Ecclesiastes 2:12-23

Pew Bible, page 554

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

“Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law” (Psalm 119:18).

Prayer for Illumination

Proclamation of God’s Word

Rev. Justin Borger

VAPOR, JOY & AWE:
We Despaired of Life Itself

*“Do not neglect to do good and
to share what you have, for such
sacrifices are pleasing to God”
(Hebrews 13:16).*

To give online, visit
www.stpaulsorlando.com/give.

RESPONDING IN THANKS

† Hymn of Response

Hymn C • Trinity Hymnal #597

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

AS THE HART LONGS

Giving to God and Offertory

The Perfect Wisdom of Our God

Words and Music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

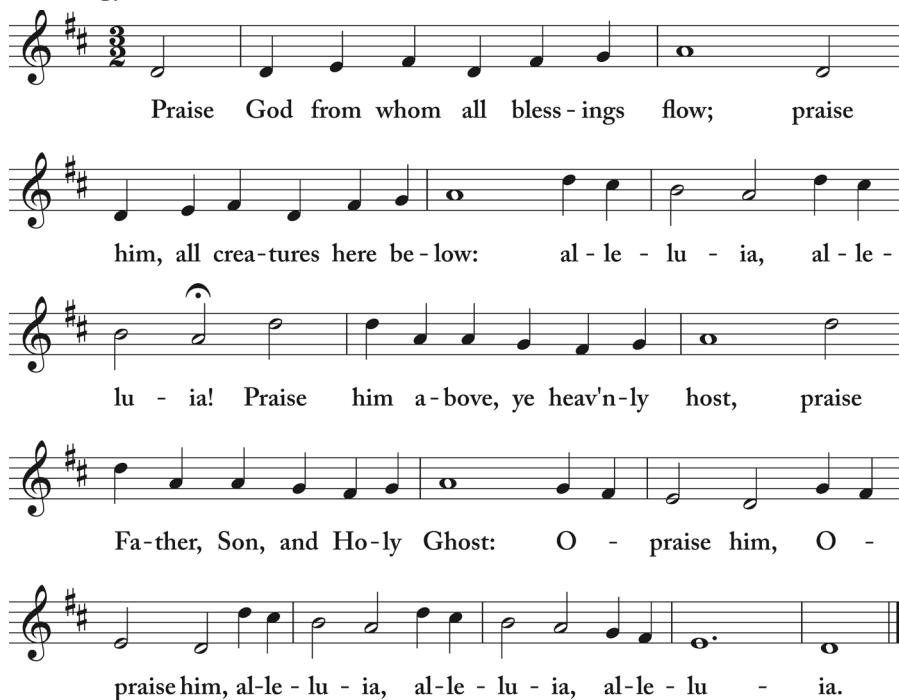
*The perfect wisdom of our God, revealed in all the universe;
All things created by his hand, and held together at his command.
He knows the myst'ries of the seas, the secrets of the stars are his,
He guides the planets on their way, and turns the earth through another day.*

*The matchless wisdom of his ways that mark the path of righteousness;
His word a lamp unto my feet, his spirit teaching and guiding me.
And, O, the myst'ry of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost
So that the fool might shame the wise, and all the glory might go to Christ.*

*O grant me wisdom from above to pray for peace and cling to love,
And teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of your sov'reignty.
Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace;
So through the trials I choose to say, “Your perfect will in your perfect way.”*

† Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low: al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host, praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost: O - praise him, O -
praise him, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The word “doxology” comes from the Greek *doxa* (“glory”) and *logos* (“word”). Thus, to sing the doxology is to ascribe a word of glory to God.

† Prayer of Dedication

† Benediction

† Sending Forth Hymn

Hymn D • Trinity Hymnal #32 (Verses 1 and 3)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Give Praise to God

SOLI DEO

Please take a moment to greet those around you.

Welcome, visitors! If you are visiting St. Paul's today, we are so glad you have joined us for worship! We would love to get to know you. Email staff@stpaulsorlando.com to let us know your name, contact information, how you heard about St. Paul's, and any questions you may have. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastors or ushers.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory
for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim. 1:17*

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
 3. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in night;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The Heavens Above Declare

Psalms 19

HYMN B



1. The heav'ns a - bove de - clare the glo - ry of our God;
2. The per - fect law of God will make the soul re - vive;
3. God's ra - di - ant com - mands shed light on what we see;
4. Of far more worth than gold— than much pure gold— they are;



and what his hands have made the skies pro-claim a - broad. For day by
his stat - utes, sure and true, will make the sim - ple wise. The pre - cepts
the fear of God is pure and lasts e - ter - nal - ly. The stan - dards
than hon - ey from the comb, than hon - ey sweet - er far. They warn the



day they pour out speech, and night by night their knowl - edge teach.
of the LORD are right and fill the heart with great de - light.
of the LORD ex - press his per - fect truth and righ - teous - ness.
ser - vant of the LORD; in keep - ing them is great re - ward.



Continued

5. Who can discern his faults? Forgive my hidden sin.
Protect from willful sins; let them not reign within.
Then blameless shall your servant be,
from great transgression now set free.
6. So let the words I speak be pleasing in your sight;
and let my inmost thoughts be in your judgment right.
O LORD, you are a rock to me;
you have redeemed and set me free.

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 1 Cor. 13:1

Unison

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire,
 2. Though I may give all I possess,
 3. Come, Spi - rit, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spi - rits long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be giv'n by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the pro - fit soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship and are freed.

Hal Hopson, 1972

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AS THE HART LONGS L.M.

Appalachian folk melody

Arr. by Danna Harkins, 1975

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

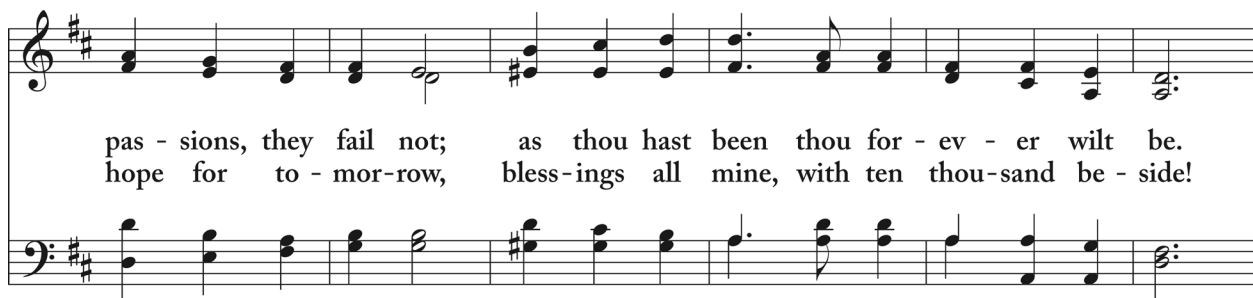
*Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lam. 3:22, 23*



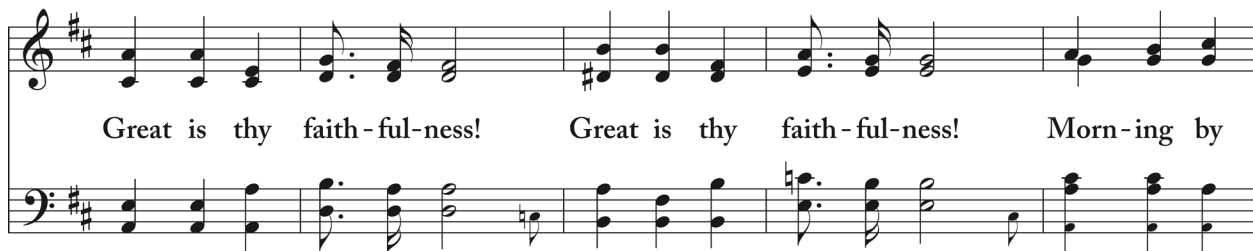
1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see: all I have need-ed thy hand hath pro -

vid-ed— Great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

VAPOR, JOY & AWE

We Despaired of Life Itself

Ecclesiastes 2:12-23 | Rev. Justin Borger

The Big Idea: In Ecclesiastes 2:12-23, Qoheleth is so utterly dismayed by the overwhelming reality of death that he despairs of life itself. Despite how wise he was and how hard he worked to achieve something of real and lasting significance, the inescapable reality of death mocked his best efforts and left him no better off than a fool. “So I hated my life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and striving after wind” (2:17). Surprisingly, in the New Testament, Paul says something similar. At the beginning of his second letter to the Corinthians the great apostle confesses, “we despaired of life itself” (2 Cor 1:8). We don’t know precisely what it was that brought Paul to this dark point of despair. He gives no specific details. But like Qoheleth, he knew what it was like to be there, staring into the abyss, experiencing unbearable psychological pain and anguish that felt like “the sentence of death” (2 Cor 1:9). And yet, like the message of Ecclesiastes, this was not the end of the matter. “But” as he explains it was “to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead” (2 Cor 1:9).

i. We despaired of life itself

ii. But that was to make us rely on God

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

Use this plan for your daily Bible reading.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Sunday, July 26 | Jeremiah 22 • Mark 8 |
| • Monday, July 27 | Jeremiah 23 • Mark 9 |
| • Tuesday, July 28 | Jeremiah 24 • Mark 10 |
| • Wednesday, July 29 | Jeremiah 25 • Mark 11 |
| • Thursday, July 30 | Jeremiah 26 • Mark 12 |
| • Friday, July 31 | Jeremiah 27 • Mark 13 |
| • Saturday, August 1 | Jeremiah 28 • Mark 14 |
| • Sunday, August 2 | Jeremiah 29 • Mark 15 |

WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use these questions to reflect more deeply on this week's sermon.

1. Have you ever hated life?
2. Why did Qoheleth say he hated life in Ecclesiastes 2:17?
3. What makes wisdom better than folly according to Ecclesiastes 2:12-14?
4. How does death function as the *great equalizer* according to Ecclesiastes 2:15-17?
5. Why is it important to face the reality of death? How does facing the reality of our own finitude and morality free us to “get a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12) and prioritize what matters most?
6. How does our contemporary culture and society incline us to avoid the reality of death? What happens to individuals and societies that live in denial of death?
7. Are you prepared to die?
8. Why did Paul say he despaired of life itself in 2 Corinthians 1:8? And why didn't he want believers in Corinth to be “unaware” of this experience? What did Paul's experience of despair in 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 teach him and what can it teach us?

MONTHLY SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Devote time to memorizing this passage of Scripture throughout the month.

“There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment?” (Ecclesiastes 2:24-25)

ABOUT WORSHIP

In his encounter with the woman of Samaria, Jesus explained that “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24). The reason Jesus says true worshipers must worship in this way is because God himself “is spirit.” Here we discover the simple yet profound principle that true worship is a response to God as he has personally revealed himself. Thus, conformity to God’s character is the key to true worship. “Great is the LORD,” as the psalmist puts it, “and greatly to be praised” (Psalm 48:1)! In worship, we seek to reflect this divine reality, declaring with our lips and demonstrating with our lives that God is supremely precious and therefore worthy of all glory and honor and praise.

THE SHAPE OF WORSHIP



Entering God’s Presence—We gather in response to God’s call to worship, joyfully offering praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. With reverence and awe, we confess our sins and receive God’s forgiveness, which is declared in Jesus’ name.



Renewing Our Faith—Worship continues with a focus on God’s Word. Our faith is renewed as we publicly confess the truth of God, join our hearts and voices in prayers and hymns of praise to God, and hear the good news of God powerfully proclaimed.



Responding in Thanks—As hearing becomes doing, we respond to the proclamation of God’s Word. Songs of praise continue to be raised and the gifts and offerings of God’s people are collected. On Communion Sundays we are invited to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. With God’s blessing upon us, we are sent into the world to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ!

Why Do We Worship in This Way?

In this section, we answer a question about worship each week.

Question: Why are we asked to kneel at various times in worship?

Answer: Body language is powerful, and God’s Word frequently commands us to use our bodies to communicate the disposition of our hearts in worship. “Oh come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!” (Psalm 95:6, 63:4, 150:5; 1 Timothy 2:8)

WELCOME, VISITORS!

We are delighted you have joined us for worship. Our hope is that you find our worship service glorifying to God and personally refreshing.

We would love to connect with you. Please stop by our Welcome Kiosk in the Narthex after the service so that we may greet you in person and provide you a *Welcome Bag*. To connect with us, please use the QR code below to fill out a *Connect Card*.

*Use your phone's camera to quickly access the following resources
or navigate to the URL below each QR code.*



CONNECT CARD
stpaulsorlando.com/connect



CHURCH APP
stpaulsorlando.com/app



GIVE ONLINE
stpaulsorlando.com/give

Our Vision

To see the invisible kingdom of heaven made visible,
for the glory of God and the joy of all peoples.

Our Mission

To grow in grace and give away our lives
in the following seven major ministry areas:

Worship that exalts God in Christ and promotes unity in the Spirit

Discipleship that is rooted in the Scriptures and centered in the gospel

Community that is characterized by discipleship and care for one another

Local Missions that promotes the common good and evangelizes the lost

Global Missions that participates in church planting and spreading the gospel
to the ends of the earth

Children's Ministry that partners with parents to build children up in the
faith through loving care and Reformed biblical teaching

Youth Ministry that promotes maturity, joy, and identity in Christ

ST. PAUL'S

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