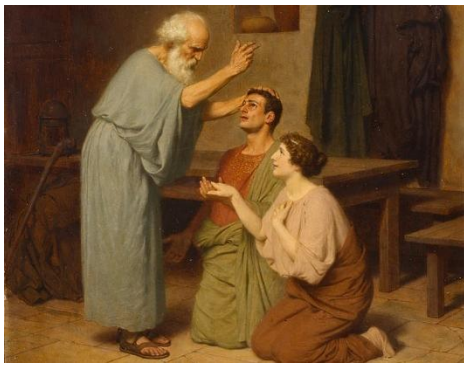




18th Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 2026

WELCOME! We are blessed to worship with you today!
If you are visiting, we are delighted that you're here. If you have any questions, please ask anyone near you. To find out everything going on at St. Paul's, visit www.stpaulsokc.com.

SERVING TODAY:

Reader: Carolyn Lewis
Prayer Leader: Paula Schopflin
Ushers: Tony Nutter, Steve Botkin, Micah Moeller, Bill Schopflin & Rex Bross
Children's Message: Patricia Ayling
Altar Guild: Annette Kezbers
Communion Assistants: Carolyn Lewis, Debi Musick, Paula Schopflin, Jill Botkin, Joyce Martin, Janet Miller & Ann Lawton
Video assistant: Garrett Purdum
Acolyte & Crucifer: TBA

PRELUDE:

Rondeau – (Jean Joseph Mouret)

Blackwelder Brass

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Pause for silent reflection)*

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved and in the name of Christ your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: #858 ***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*** vs 1, 3 & 4

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Kyrie 1 & 2

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

18 The word of the Lord came to me: ²What 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"? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know 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 who shall die.

²⁵Yet 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? ²⁶When 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. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet 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?

³⁰Therefore 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. ³¹Cast 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? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:1-13

4 ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me but had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. ¹²I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION- (Please stand) Alleluia!

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:23-32

²³When he 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?"

²⁴Jesus 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. ²⁵Did 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?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So 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."

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹Which 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. ³²For 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 Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

MESSAGE

Patricia Ayling

A Jubilant Song

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

Adult Choir w/Blackwelder

HYMN

#632

O God Our Help in Ages Past

vs 1, 2, 5 & 6

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

BAPTISM

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate:

Parents: We present Braxton David & Oakley Yoko to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Question to the Congregation: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support them in their life in Christ?

People: *We will.*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Do you believe in God the Father?

People: *I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: *I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent, and return to the Lord?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: *I will, with God's help.*

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for the ones who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory, who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

...To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Baptism

Braxton David, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Oakley Yoko, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Sign of the Cross with Chrism

Braxton David, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Oakley Yoko, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Congregational Welcome: God Claims You

(See music insert placed in your pew back.)

Refrain: Braxton, Oakley, God claims you,
God helps you, protects you and loves you too.

Verse 1: We this day do all agree. A child of God you'll always be. *Refrain*

Verse 2: We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way. *Refrain*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

COMMUNION

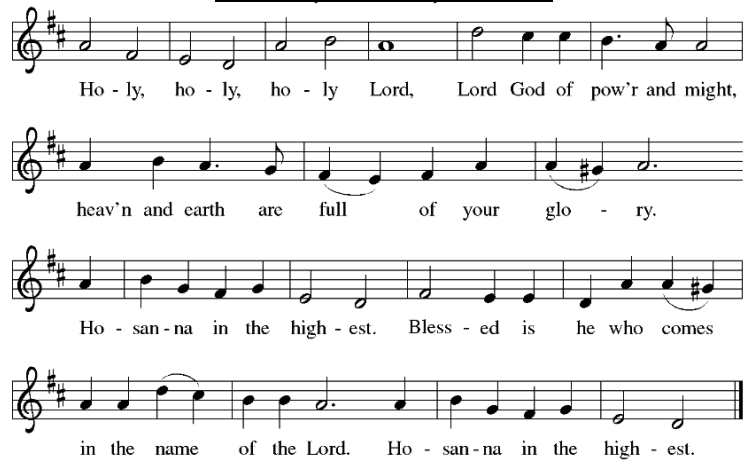
The Lord be with you. ***And also, with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***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 because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 all of 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:

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

...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 forever. **AMEN.**

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION MUSIC- *While Sheep May Safely Graze* - J.S. Bach Blackwelder Brass

Let us pray. ***Almighty and ever-living 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 forever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

May the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Die Bankelsangerlieder*

Blackwelder Brass

SENDING - Go in Peace. Remember the poor. ***Thanks be to God.***

Please note there is no offertory during service, our offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary, or you can give online using the link on our website, www.stpaulsokc.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS BEGIN!

Join us Wednesday nights with the meal beginning at 5:45 and choir rehearsal, adult reading group and classes for all school ages beginning at 6:30. Reading group is reading "In His Steps" by Charles M. Sheldon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSISTANCE

Our younger Sunday school classes need a loving adult to aid the Teacher during class. The Teacher will prepare the lesson, you would aid them as they teach and encourage our children in their lesson. Would you be interested in serving once or twice a month? Let Pastor Stefanie or Sarah Baker know!

FOOD PANTRY HELP

There is a constant need for food/monetary donations to keep the food stocked! Please consider writing a check or bringing non-perishable, non-expired food!

UPCOMING DATES

SEPTEMBER

9/27 – 9:30 – Worship & Education
9/28 – Canticle Ringers
9/29 – Twilight Tones

9/30 – Wednesday Night Activities
5:45 – Meal - Spaghetti
6:30 – Education & Choir Rehearsal

OCTOBER

10/4 – 9:30 – Worship & Education
10/5 – Canticle Ringers
10/6 – Twilight Tones
10/7 – Wednesday Night Activities
5:45 – Meal – Pulled Pork Sandwiches
6:30 – Education & Choir Rehearsal
10/10 – 11 am Paul Garner Memorial Service

10/11 – 9:30 – Worship & Education
10/12 – Canticle Ringers
10/13 – Twilight Tones
10/14 – Fall Break – *No family activities*
6:30 Choir Rehearsal

10/18 – 9:30 – Worship
10/19 – Canticle Ringers
10/20 – Twilight Tones
10/21 – Wednesday Night Activities
5:45 – Meal – *Tailgating Food*
6:30 – Education & Choir Rehearsal

10/25 – 9:30 – Worship & Education
10/26 – Canticle Ringers
10/27 – Twilight Tones
10/28 – Wednesday Night Activities
5:45 – Meal - Lasagna
6:30 – Education & Choir Rehearsal