Welcome to St. Paul’s Chapel, a chapel of Trinity Church (located a few blocks south of Saint Paul’s on the corner of Broadway and Wall Street). As you look around the room at Saint Paul’s, you will see worshippers and tourists from all over the world. A good number of us are here for our very first visit, while others of us have attended for a few weeks or many years. Each Sunday’s congregation is different from the last, so the worship experience is always fresh and full of discovery.

The Liturgy at St. Paul’s. Trinity Church/St. Paul’s Chapel is a member of the Episcopal Church USA and thus part of the worldwide Anglican Communion whose roots draw deep from the Western (Roman Catholic, or Latin church) and Eastern (Orthodox or Greek church) traditions. Saint Paul’s uses liturgical practices that are both ancient and new. In 1979, when the Episcopal Church revised its Book of Common Prayer, it did so with the expectation that churches would find ways to adapt it to local context. St. Paul’s has done so by creating a liturgy that speaks directly from its experience as a place of remembrance, blessing, and service and draws upon the voices of a diverse and ever-changing congregation.

Participating in Prayers, the Scripture, the Music and Eucharist. Saint Paul’s liturgy is designed to welcome pilgrims, where worshippers look forward to full participation, even if they are here for their first and only visit. The arrangement of the worship space draws on ancient church and synagogue designs and allows us to see each other’s faces and hear each other’s voices. The Scriptures we read are from the Holy Bible, both the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and the New Testament (Christian scriptures), and are printed out on separate sheets for those who would like to take a copy as they leave. Saint Paul’s uses a three-year cycle of readings that covers most of the Bible, a cycle followed by Christians of many denominations including Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and many more. The Prayers are drawn from the Book of Common Prayer and include specific prayers for each Sunday of the church calendar and various special occasions as well as prayers borrowed from other sources. During the Prayers of the People, we are all invited to offer prayers in our own words. The Music, a focal point of Saint Paul’s liturgy, is drawn from many worship traditions. Using many of the techniques of world music (call and response, layered harmonies, chant, round-singing, drone-singing) as well as American hymn singing, we sing a rich variety of songs and hymns, from quiet and contemplative pieces to lively ones accompanied by percussion instruments. Everyone is invited to participate in Eucharist (also called Communion)—all are welcome to come to the table and to receive bread and wine.

Again, welcome to St. Paul’s—may God be present to us in all that we share together.
We Gather in the Lord’s Name

The Presider welcomes the People.
The Musician rehearses the music for the day.

Presider      Blessed be the God of our salvation.
People        Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Song of Praise

Please follow the direction of the Cantor.

Presider      The Lord be with you,
People        And also with you.
Presider      Let us pray.

The Presider prays a prayer based on the theme of the day.

We Proclaim and Respond to the Word of God

First Reading  seated  Exodus 17:1-7

Silence is kept.
Gospel Acclamation  a paraphrase of Psalm 95 appointed for today standing

Refrain (and Verse 1)

Verses: Cantor lines out two phrases, Congregation echoes.
Cantor sings two more phrases alone.
All repeat the Refrain (above)

Words: anonymous, alt. James Minchin
Music: Sweindia, Karnatic hymn melody; arr. I-to Loh (b. 1936) Used by permission.

Holy Gospel  John 4:5-42
Presider  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Following the reading
Presider  The Gospel of the Lord.
People  Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon  The Rev. Clayton Crawley
Nicene Creed

All

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

Cantors We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

Cantor For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

All

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.

Cantor

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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.
We Pray for the World and the Church

Our Fa-ther, who are in heav-en, hal-lowed be your ho-ly name. Your
day give us our dai-ly bread, and for-give us all our sins as
king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heav-en. This
we for-give all those who sin a- gainst us. And
lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil.

The intercessor bids prayer for

Peace in the world
Leaders in the church and in the world
Our enemies and for God’s reconciliation
Those suffering sickness or distress
Those who have died
The blessings of this life

After each prayer
Leader Forgiving God,
People Hear our prayer.

For the king-dom, pow-er and the glo-ry are yours for-ev-er and ev-er. A - men.

Announcements seated

We Prepare the Table and Make Eucharist

Gathering at the Table
Please follow the director of the Cantor.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The prayer continues until
Presider Joining with the angels who sing your praises night and day,
we give voice to every creature under heaven
as we proclaim with joy:
Holy, holy, holy Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Setting: Marilyn Haskel © 2014 by Marilyn Haskel

The prayer continues until

Presider With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord’s Passover
from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People

The prayer continues until

Presider Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

People

The prayer continues until

Presider Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

People

The prayer continues until

Presider We praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

All

Amen.
We Break the Bread and Share the Gifts of God

Music: Marilyn Haskel © 2014 by Marilyn Haskel

The Communion

Gluten-free bread is available. Please speak to the priest.

Anthem

Inscription for a Wayside Spring

All men from all lands, kneel before you go; cup your hands like a bowl, let me overflow. Read what these words tell, lean down and know each one beside my brink, bend down low; lost son, sad daughter bend down and drink. I am the water of the well that makes you whole. I am the cold water that restores your soul.  

–Frances Cornford (1886-1960)
Post-communion Hymn

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, feed me now and ever more,
more, feed me now and ever more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar fears subside; death of death, and hell’s destruction,
lead me all my journey through; strong deliverer, songs of praises,
strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield, I will ever give to thee.
shield, be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious
hold me with thy powerful hand; bread of heaven, feed me now and ever more,
more, feed me now and ever more.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt.
Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932)
Prayer after Communion

God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life  
and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people  
in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your reconciling love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life  
of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Dismissal

Presider         Let us bless the Lord.  
People           Thanks be to God.

Please stay for coffee and conversation.
Taking it back with you

Now that you have worshipped in this space, you have become an essential part of Saint Paul’s community of worship and reconciliation, which reaches far back in time and, thanks to you, around the world, whether you live in Tribeca or East Timor. As you go: Fill out a Connection Card (on the seats around you); this will place you on our mailing list for the Trinity News, a quarterly magazine that shares our work here and around the world in the areas of worship, music, education, and service. Find a church in your local area where you can gather weekly with other Christians. Your voice and gifts can enrich the lives of others seeking human connection and support through the life of faith.

Go to the Trinity website for more resources. At trinitywallstreet.org you can find the script of the liturgy we use at St. Paul’s, download music that has been composed for this service, read blogs, and add your voice to online discussions about discoveries we are making Sunday by Sunday—here at Saint Paul’s as well as at other churches around the world. The website includes many resources designed to help each of us find ways to be of service.

Offer service wherever you are. In scripture, St. Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians that we are God’s ambassadors of reconciliation in the world. Together, wherever we are, we are Christ’s hands and feet in the world.

History of the Chapel

For 300 years, St. Paul’s Chapel and Trinity Church have been spiritual anchors of downtown Manhattan, and never more so than today, a decade after September 11, 2001. Each year, over 1.5 million people visit Saint Paul’s, drawn by its colonial history as George Washington’s church, by its inspiring legacy as the “little church that stood” without even a broken pane of glass after the twin towers fell right across the street, and to honor the community of volunteers who slept and rested within these walls as they worked round-the-clock on the recovery and cleanup efforts in the months that followed. Likewise Trinity Church, standing at the head of Wall Street, serves as a spiritual oasis and counterpoint to the hectic and sometimes rapacious reputation of the financial district.
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