

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



15th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sept. 17, 2017

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<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Sunday Worship: 9AM

Office Hours: 8:15am until 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

Serving Montrose and surrounding communities
With God's Love through Jesus Christ
Since 1831

Welcome to St. Paul's, Montrose, PA. We are so thankful that you are worshipping with us on this day. We have served Montrose and surrounding communities with God's love through Jesus Christ since 1831; and invite you to join with us in this long tradition of service. Please accept our hospitality; any member can assist you to our Coffee Hour in the Parish House following the worship service. Thank you for joining us this day. We invite you to come again and, with God's love, be a part of St. Paul's.

OUR VISION: To be a community of faith that shares the transforming love of God with all people through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR MISSION: To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

The Holy Eucharist

Announcements

Prelude *Morning has Broken* Tune: Bunessan, arr. by Lani Smith

Processional Hymn *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Hymn 390

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People: **His mercy endures forever.**

Gloria in Excelsis

S 280

Collect of the Day

BCP page 233

First Reading:

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned

the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

Psalm: 114 BCP Page 756

Second Reading:

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat

in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn

O bless the Lord, my soul!

Hymn 411

Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

***People:* Glory to you Lord Christ**

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have

patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

The Prayers of the People

Confident of the gracious and ever-widening mercy of God, let us pray for the Church and the world, saying: *Hear us, O Holy One.*

The Rev. Robert Criste-Troutman

BCP page 358

For the Church: especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sean our Bishop, and for all other ministers that as we proclaim the love of Christ in words and deeds we may be signs of your peace and instruments of your reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For this parish family, that we may bear witness to God’s unconditional love by opening our hearts to a deeper relationship with Christ, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For all who seek paths to peace, that God’s love may overcome the power of evil, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For a new spirit of reconciliation, that we may have the grace to forgive those who have injured us and the courage to try to live together in peace, let us pray to the Lord. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For all those whose lives have been affected by Hurricane Irma, that may find strength through God's grace and the help and support of others as they endure this difficult time, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all who live with poverty, war, injustice, persecution, or sickness, remembering especially Margaret, Brad, Joe, Rick, Jennie, Sarah, Becky, Sara, Kyle, & Kathy, that God will comfort them, strengthen them, and raise them up, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all the departed, remembering especially, that having died to the Lord, they may live with him for ever, let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant: God of infinite mercy, hear the prayers we offer this day, bring your merciful forgiveness into our lives and free us from all division and pride, that we may become your instruments of pardon and peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN.

Confession and Absolution
The Peace

BCP page 360

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory	<i>Go Down Moses</i>	LEVAS 228	Choir
Doxology:	<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow</i>		Hymn 380, v3
Eucharistic Prayer C			BCP page 369
Sanctus			S124
The Lord's Prayer			
The Breaking of the Bread			
Fraction Anthem			S154

Communion

Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table to receive the Sacrament or a Blessing.

Please cross your arms over your chest if you wish to receive a Blessing.

Hymn during Communion *Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen* Hymn 314

Post Communion Prayer BCP page 365

Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Forgive our sins as we forgive* Hymn 674

Dismissal

Postlude *O Day of Peace* Charles Callahan, based on PEACE

Our Ministers Today:

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. Robert Criste-Troutman

Organist: Catherine Hammons

Choir Director: Catherine Hammons

Altar Guild: Vera Dunn & Barb Undercoffler

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Al Leigh & Andrew Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski or Sean Eckert

Counters: Vickie Calby & Sandy Seeger

Eucharist Minister: Nancy Dooling

Lector: Vickie Calby

Intercessor: Carol Marker

Greeter/Usher: Maggie Sock & Nancy Dooling

Vestry:

Lynne Graham, Sr. Warden lynnebgraham@yahoo.com

Jane Chandler, Jr. Warden choirsinger3939@gmail.com

Sandy Darde, Clerk of Vestry shelbiedarde@gmail.com

Vickie Calby calby53@gmail.com

Sandra Seeger sseeger@endlesscare.org

Thomas Undercoffler tunderco@frontiernet.net

Martha Kupscznk marthakupscznk@gmail.com

Coats for the Community to Start Distributing Coats in October

For over ten years, the American Legion Gardner-Warner Post 154 has been involved in the Coats for the Community Program. This is a low-key, local program run by local volunteers directly benefits our community. The program distributes coats from October to December at seven locations throughout Susquehanna County. The sites include four churches, Blue Ridge High School, St John Neumann Center and Gardner-Warner Post 154. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Montrose also keeps a number of coats for urgent situations as needed for a year round distribution.

The program gave out more than 1600 warm coats last year, the majority of which went to children. Coats are obtained by coat drives at a number of sites; donations from the Burlington Coat Factory and the Montrose Interfaith; and financial donations from the Legion, local businesses, St. Paul's and individuals. Donations allowed the purchase of over 625 children's coats at Salvation Army's on half-price Wednesdays this year. The cost per coat averaged under \$4.00.

Donations of nearly new or gently used winter coats that you no longer need are accepted and appreciated anytime. Sites to donate include St. Paul's, the Legion and Pro-Care Physical Therapy. Cash donations likewise are needed and are always welcomed. Your \$20.00 gift buys five children's coats. Questions can be directed to John Finlon at the American Legion.