St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ April 29, 2018

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Sunday Worship: 10:00AM 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

The Prelude Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Peter Cutts, arr John Carter

The Gathering Hymn Christ is made the sure foundation Hymn 518

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia.

The Collect for Purity BCP Page 355

The Gloria S280

The Collect of the Day BCP page 225

The First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the

Candace, gueen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord **People:** Thanks be to God

The Response: Psalm 22:24-30 BCP Page 610

The Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in

him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: The Word of the Lord **People:** Thanks be to God

The Sequence Hymn Like the murmur of the dove's song Hymn 513

The Gospel

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you

wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

The Prayers of the People

As branches of Jesus, the living Vine, we seek to abide in the Spirit of love and bring our prayers to God, saying: Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sean our bishop, and our bishop-elect that our faith may deepen, our hope be strengthened, and our love abound as we draw our life from the Risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For this parish family, that we may rejoice in the knowledge that perfect love casts out fear, let us pray to the Lord.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For peace in all troubled places in our nation and throughout the world, that through greater understanding of all that we share as part of the human family, we may work for the safety and dignity of all God's people, let us pray to the Lord.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For the grace of letting go, that God will help us to let go of those things which need to be pruned so that life and love may flow through us as signs of God's love, let us pray to the Lord.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, remembering especially Margaret, Brad, Rick, Sarah, Becky, Kyle, Patti, Kathy, Joe, Esther, Janice, K'ann,

Pat, Charles, Charlotte, Alice, Jean, Charlotte, Esther & Susan that Christ will renew the gift of life within them and restore them to health, let us pray to the Lord.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died, remembering especially...... that they may abide in the love of God for ever, let us pray to the Lord. Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, the apostles Philip & James, and all the saints who have borne witness to the Risen Christ, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. Alleluia! To you, O Lord, we give praise and glory.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who abides in all who love you. Hear the prayers we offer this day and give us your Spirit of peace so that loving one another we may walk in the way that leads to eternal life. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

AMEN

Confession and Absolution

BCP page 360

The Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory I will arrive and go to Jesus Choir

> from Southern Harmony arr. Austin Lovelace

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Hymn 380, v3 The Doxology:

The Eucharistic Prayer B BCP page 367

The Sanctus S124

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem S161

The 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.

The Hymn during Communion

I come with joy to meet my Lord Hymn 304 V. 1-3, 5

The Post Communion Prayer BCP page 365

The Blessing

The Parting Hymn In Christ there is no east or west Hymn 529

The Dismissal

The Postlude Festive Voluntary Robert Lau

Our Ministers Today:

Presider and Preacher: The Rev. John Wagner

Organist: Catherine Hammons

Choir Director: Catherine Hammons Altar Guild: Carol Lasher & Carol Marker

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Al Leigh & Andrew Wurth Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski & Sean Eckert Counters: Maggie Sock & Richard Marker

Chalice Bearer: Nancy Dooling

Lector: Stephanie Calby Intercessor: Nancy Dooling

Greeter/Usher: Sandy Seeger & Robert Dunn

Hospitality: Barb & Tom Undercoffler

Vestry:

Lynne Graham, Sr. Warden lbgraham52@gmail.com
Vickie Calby, Jr. Warden calby53@gmail.com
Nancy Dooling, Clerk of Vestry materfamilias@outlook.com
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