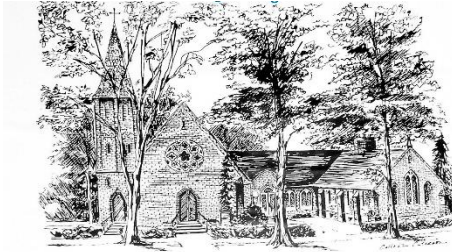


# St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Third Sunday in Lent ~ Mar. 24, 2019

276 Church Street,

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<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

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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.

**WELCOME:** It is our distinct pleasure this day to welcome the Rt. Rev. Kevin Nichols, Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem, to St. Paul's. Please recall that this is his, as well as our, parish. During his time with us this day, Bp. Kevin will confirm three of our parishioners, as well as serve as Celebrant for the Holy Eucharist. Please do welcome Bp. Kevin in the same loving manner you exhibit when welcoming guests.

**CONFIRMATIONS:** Years ago, it was youth (most frequently in their pre-teens) who were confirmed, since reception of that Sacramental Rite was a pre-requisite to the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Today, we recognize that Holy Baptism results in full membership in the Church; and Confirmation is reserved for those adults who wish to make a public profession of their faith. The following three parishioners will be presented to Bishop Kevin to receive the Sacramental Rite of Confirmation on this day:

| <b>CONFIRMAND</b>              | <b>SPONSOR</b>    |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sean Edward Eckert.....        | Marsha Jones      |
| Kristina Ann Kinney .....      | Maggie Sock       |
| Patrick Michael Gallagher..... | Karen Blye-McAbee |

**NOTE ON RECEPTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST:** In accordance with the polity of the Episcopal Church, please know that all baptized persons are invited to receive Christ's Body and Blood this day. We certainly welcome you to know His strength and life.

**JUST ASK, PLEASE:** If you do not regularly worship at St. Paul's, or some other Episcopal Parish, it is entirely likely that some of our practices, as well as "pew aerobics", may be unfamiliar to you. If that describes you at all, know that there is likely a member of this parish sitting near to you. Please ask for help as needed. I personally assure you that each one who regularly worships with us continues to get exceedingly high grades in that trait known as "Plays Well with Others".

FrJn

# Confirmation with forms for Reception and for the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

## Prelude

### Announcements

Gathering Hymn.....Spirit of the Living God.....Hymn #115 (LEVAS)

*The people standing, the Bishop says*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People*      ***His mercy endures for ever.***

*The Bishop then continues*

There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People*      ***There is one hope in God's call to us;***

*Bishop*      One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People*      ***One God and Father of all.***

*Bishop*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      ***And also with you.***

*Bishop*      Let us pray.

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People*      ***Amen.***

*At the principal service on a Sunday or other feast, the Collect and Lessons are properly those of the Day. At the discretion of the bishop, however, the Collect (page 203 or 254) and one or more of the Lessons provided "At Confirmation" (page 929) may be substituted.*

## The Lessons

*The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

### The Old Testament Lesson

*Lector*      Our Old Testament Lesson is recorded in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of the Second Book of Moses, known as Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

The Word of the Lord.

*People*      ***Thanks be to God.***

## The Response

Lector Please respond by the half-verse to our reading of a portion of Psalm 63.

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \* *my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.*

<sup>2</sup> Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \* *that I might behold your power and your glory.*

<sup>3</sup> For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \* *my lips shall give you praise.*

<sup>4</sup> So will I bless you as long as I live \* *and lift up my hands in your Name.*

<sup>5</sup> My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \* *and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,*

<sup>6</sup> When I remember you upon my bed, \* *and meditate on you in the night watches.*

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, \* *and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.*

<sup>8</sup> My soul clings to you; \* *your right hand holds me fast.*

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. \* *As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen!*

## The Epistle Lesson

Lector Our Epistle Lesson is recorded in the 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Paul's First Letter to the Church at Corinth.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them

did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God!*

## Sequence Hymn ..... This is my Father's World ..... Hymn #651

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them~do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## The Sermon – The Rt. Rev. Kevin Nichols

## Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters ***I present these persons for Confirmation.***

The Bishop asks the candidates Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate ***I do.***

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate ***I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.***

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People ***We will.***

The Bishop then says these or similar words

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

## The Baptismal Covenant

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Bishop 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.*

Bishop 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.***

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

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

Bishop 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.***

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

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

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

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

Bishop 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

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Bishop says

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.**

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## For Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant N. with your Holy Spirit; empower him (her) for your service; and sustain him (her) all the days of his (her) life. **Amen.**

or this

Defend, O Lord, your servant N. with your heavenly grace, that he (she) may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until he (she) comes to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace is then exchanged

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The service then continues with the Prayers of the People or the Offertory of the Eucharist, at which the Bishop should be the principal celebrant.

## The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page 376, or with some other sentence of Scripture.

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

During the Offertory, a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

Offertory .....I Surrender All..... Hymn #133 (LEVAS) Sung by Choir

Doxology .....Hymn #380, V. 3

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

## Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

*Celebrant and People*

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

*We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church, all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Paul and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

***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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be said*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*and may add* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen.**]

*During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.*

Communion Hymn .....I Come to the Garden Alone..... Hymn #69 (LEVAS)

After Communion, the Celebrant says  
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food 90  
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 for ever. Amen.*

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Parting Hymn.....Lift High the Cross..... Hymn #473

\*\* Please greet Bishop Kevin, the newly Confirmed, their Sponsors, and other participants in the liturgy during the coffee hour to be held in the Parish House. Know that each and every one of you is invited and will certainly be welcomed.

**CONTACTS**

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