



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801
Office 570-278-2954, Mon. to Thu. 8:15am to 1:00pm
Click on link to email St. Paul's: stpaulsmontrose@epix.net
Click on link to go to our Website: <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>
Click on link to go to our Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Mission Statement for St. Paul's: To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

May 17 - 23, 2020

The Readings for Sunday May 17:

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31
Psalm: 66:7-18
Epistle: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel: John 14:15-21

Liminal space and here we are dear friends of faith,

While we wait.....and what are we waiting for? Are we waiting for life as it was before this pandemic when we believed we were not so vulnerable? Are we waiting to get back to "normal"? Whatever we thought was normal while we enjoyed taking so much in life for granted? And what shall we take with us from this experience when we once again mingle freely with one another, our families and our community and into the world? I like to believe we will be more grateful, courageous, compassionate, responsible and more loving.

Rich and I have been very fortunate to have shelter in the countryside of Susquehanna County but everyday think of and pray for the thousands who have not had such an advantage. Having acknowledged God's grace every day, I pondered and pray and often without words allowing for the silence to speak to receive the gifts of the day. The following story came to mind today and I share with you.

For about a year now a few of us have been studying the healing miracles of Jesus which has brought to mind (Luke 17: 11-19) the

plight of the ten lepers who were excluded from society without any hope of cure or compassion due to society's beliefs 2000 years ago. Ten lepers approached Jesus on his way to Jerusalem but they stood at a distance. (Social distancing maybe) Distance, a word we are all familiar with and feeds my imagination. Maybe not masks, but probably covered by a shroud to hide the curse. So.....

The ten lepers called to Jesus and asked for pity. Jesus had compassion and gave them direction to be followed and they were cleansed. The bottom line of Jesus healing ministry was an invitation to enter a faith relationship with him but of the ten lepers who were cured only one chose to humble himself and thank Jesus. Jesus said to the one thankful leper "Your faith has made you well."

Nine were cured but the tenth leper was made well and received the fullness of life.

Missing you all so very much and praying everyone to be well.

With affection, Carol Marker



During this time of Coronavirus, we are so blessed to have the essential workers--the trash men, the police and EMT's, the nurses and doctors, the grocery store workers, the truckers--that it would seem now is a very appropriate time to thank them for being on the front lines for us. In NYC the people cheer from their windows as the hospital shift leaves. We cannot do that, but we could write some thank you notes. You could write your own thoughts or something like the following:

THANK YOU so much for the essential service you are providing during this troubling time. I am grateful for your dedication and hard work, making sure our community has what it needs. As a member of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Montrose, I want you to know we are praying for your health and safety every day of this crisis.

I've included some Montrose addresses to make it easier.

EMHS 100 Hospital Dr.

Montrose Police Dept. 115 Cherry St.

Minutemen 363 Grow Ave.

Price Chopper 6750 State Route 706

Scarfalotto's Hometown Mkt. 16749 State Route 706

How about a goal of two notes from each of us?

Lynne

May Birthdays Robert Kimmell May 1, Trent Caine May 2, Richard Marker & Joel Maxey May 10, Scott Finlon May 14, Carole Canfield May 23, Gaby Warriner May 26, Katherine Syle May 28, Lucas Bartron & Jerry Sock May 29.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this month. *O God, look with favor, we pray, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life. Amen.*

We give thanks for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week. *Grant o God, in your compassion, that those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week may live out the covenant they have made. May they grow in forgiveness, loyalty and love, and come at last to the eternal joys, which you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with them this day and forever. Amen.*

Need a Daily Meditation Guide?

Betty has the next issue of Forward Day by Day (May, June and July). If you would like a copy to be sent to you, please call the office at 570-278-2954 and leave a message. The meditations are written by a different author each month. The daily readings are listed for your convenience in finding them in your Bible. A scripture verse from the readings is highlighted and the author relates the passage to our lives to make it meaningful. If you have never used a daily devotional, now is an excellent time to start with Forward Day by Day.

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Justin, Rita Leigh, Fr. John Wagner, Eric, Fr. Arthur & Mo. Jenny.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I realize that most of us are stuck at home with concerns about family and finances. That's the bad news, but if there were to be an upside it is this: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Apparently, neither has the Corona Virus prevented the USPS from delivering mail. That means that we still receive bills on a regular basis and we have payroll to make. If it is at all possible under our current conditions, please send your tithes and pledges to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801. Another option would be to slip your pledge under the office door if you happen to be going by church.

Thank you for your attention to this request.
We will just continue to do the best we can with
what we have. God's peace, Lynne

570-665-1707 or email him at
JonesAL0@sewanee.com

**Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency
Contact:** you can call the parish office during
office hours. After hours call Arthur Jones at

6 Photos this week.

Easter 5

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

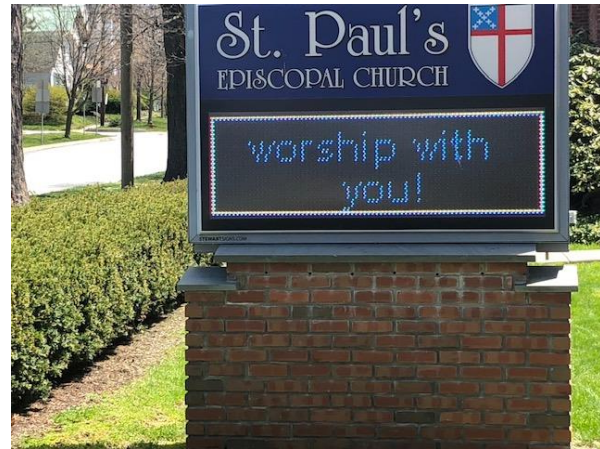
**"Awake, thou wintry earth! Fling off thy sadness! Fair vernal flowers laugh
forth Your ancient gladness! Christ is risen!" J.S. Bach**

"St. Paul's" Bread Truck



We like to think of this as the St. Paul's Bread Truck. It brings the bread for distribution on the second Friday of the month to the Mobile Food Pantry at the Methodist Church. As you know, St. Paul's donates the money for the bread. The money for this ministry comes through our weekly collections in the "bread basket." However, there have been no collections in church since April and we need money to continue this ministry. Please include your bread donations when you mail in your weekly pledge to church.

Can't Wait to Worship With You



“The church is now leaving the building.” The Property Committee always said in their yearly report that buildings are just buildings, a parking lot is just a parking lot, a kitchen just a kitchen. Our church structures, no matter how well maintained, do not constitute our church, and where we worship does not affect our prayers. It is the congregation of the parish that is St. Paul's Church. The recent virus closing has given credence to that. **“We have left the building, so together, let's be the church!”**

Mobile Food Pantry

On Friday, May 8, the monthly food distribution went off without a hitch. The weather finally cooperated and it wasn't cold, snowy or windy. A record 370 portions were served. Nancy is always looking for volunteers.

