



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.

April 18 - 24, 2021

"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

Morning Prayer Sunday April 18 at 10:00AM

Online <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

We can gather at church, inside, with the proper precautions. We have missed each other and it seems like forever since we have been able to sit in the pews. Please know that we will do all we can to follow safety precautions and keep everyone safe. Properly worn masks covering mouth and nose are mandatory and we will sit six feet apart.

You can also watch it live streamed on YouTube. Just go to St. Paul's website and click this red button on the front page which takes you to our YouTube page.



This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher, Karen Blye-McAbee & Carol Marker
Officiant: Lynne Graham
Announcements & Lector: Dan Graham
Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth
Greeter/Usher: Sandra Seeger & Marsha Jones

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19
Psalm: 4
Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7
Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Oddly enough this line has been going through my head a lot lately.

'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way...'

When I was asked to write, "From the Pew," for the Weekly, as usual, I thought what in the world am I going to talk about. The very day I decided to start writing, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," went through my mind several different times. All in relation to something I had heard on the news, heard in general conversation, or saw with my own eyes...

Because it has been a day or two since I read, "A Tale of Two Cities," I Googled it to refresh my memory. The first question asked was, "what is the main idea of A Tale of Two Cities?" The answer surprised me, "it is the concept of resurrection." And here we are at Easter. I had my answer.

It boggles the mind that even though we have studied our history, heck we have lived history, on any given day we see hatred, killing, war, and revenge flourish. We have seen what these things do to us individually, and as citizens of this world. We see that these things will destroy us from the inside out.

Obviously, God saw this long before man. Because He loves us, he sent us Jesus. God gave Jesus' time here on earth to teach us what he expects from us. Expecting us to listen, to learn, to put this information in our hearts and live it.

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Jesus last words to the disciples at the Last Supper were, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

There is a theme here, so what are we missing.

I believe that Jesus does not expect this command to be easy. I would imagine he does not even expect us to perfect it. What I believe is, he expects us to give it all of our energy, all of the strength we have in us to try.

Jesus laid down his life for each one of us. His Resurrection, His gift of the Holy Spirit, His LOVE, calls us to put aside our petty grudges, our unease with other nationalities and people of color, and all the other reasons we can dream up to hate.

It is the Easter season! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! With the help of the Holy Spirit remember, we CAN accomplish what he has asked of us.

'It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known. '



As an aside, "Back in the Day," there was a song I loved. I would sing it at the top of my lungs every time it came on the radio. (Much to anyone's dismay, who was close enough to hear me.) Many of you may remember it.

I'd like to build a world a home
And furnish it with love
Grow apple trees and honey bees
And snow white turtle doves

I'd like to teach the world to sing
In perfect harmony
I'd like to hold it in my arms
And keep it company

**I'd like to see the world for once
All standing hand in hand
And hear them echo through the hills
For peace throughout the land**

I think we should sing it loud and often. It leaves a good feeling in the soul.

Vickie Calby

Meadow View Nursing Home

The nursing home residents of Meadow View have a small need and we are hoping you can help.....they are in need of the following donation.....

Stamps, All occasion cards & 300 piece (or less) large size puzzles. (Please make sure these are in great shape and all pieces are included)

You can leave your donations in the front doorway, there is a box, please address it to Activities and include you name and address so they can send you a proper thank you. Thanks everyone!

Vestry Highlights April 8, 2021

We opened the meeting with prayer and approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting.

Vickie read the Bible study scripture Luke 24: 36-48 where Jesus appeared to the disciples, convinced them that he was truly alive, ate broiled fish, and opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. We discussed how difficult to comprehend it must have been to see Jesus die and then see him alive in flesh and blood. We also questioned why Jesus waited until after his death to open their minds to the Scriptures.

We accepted the Treasurer's Report.

Property Report: Dan is looking into having Greg Garnett fill the sink hole on the east side of the Memorial Garden. The ramp door to the Cloister needs to be replaced as the frame is rotten and we need to be able to accommodate coffins with a larger door. The floors in the Parish Hall will be sanded and varnished and the Guild Room will receive additional coats of varnish. The sanctuary floor coming in from the Cloister will be refinished at a later date due to Charlotte Ellis' funeral on 4/17. Paul Washburn will clean after the floors are finished.

A new larger TV screen has been hung in the Parish Hall and the smaller one has been installed at St. Mark's as Phase I of the livestream expansion project. We hope to receive a Mission Resources Grant from the Diocese to cover the costs of this project.

Lynne contacted the sales rep at Vanco, the company that will set up our on-line giving. She expects a return phone call this week.

We need leaders for Morning Prayer and volunteers to write articles for the *View from the Pew* in the weekly updates. Please call Lynne if you would like to submit an article.

Lynne closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 13, 2021

MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

First Wednesday of the Month: Free Soup Dinner St. Paul's Episcopal Church 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Second Friday of the Month: Montrose Mobile Food Pantry South Montrose Community Church 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration required by calling 570-533-3980

Third Monday of the Month: Free Soup Dinner South Montrose Community Church 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Fourth Friday of the Month: Food Distribution Endless Mountains Health Care 2:00-4:00 p.m. Registration required by calling 570-278-5529 or email at mrobinson@endlesscare.org

****Please note** that the Free Soup Dinners are take-out only during the pandemic**

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Patrick Gallagher, Johanna Masters & Jeannine Ball.

Birthdays for April: Martha Kupscznk 4/16, & Naomi Bennett 4/27.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on your servants 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 lives. 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.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency

Contact: you can call the parish office during

office hours. After hours call Lynne Graham 570-934-1160.

Your tithes and pledges can be mailed to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801.

11 Photos this week.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun:
Alleluia!**

The Gospel – My Lord and my God

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. (*John 20:19-31*)

THIS WEEK

April 11th Service

This week we were greeted by daffodils and crocuses in the Memorial Garden! Our April 11th live-streamed Morning Prayer Service was led by Karen Blye-McAbee. The announcements and readings were done by Lynne. Cathy Hammons played the Organ Prelude, Organ Meditation, a Parting Hymn – *The Strife is o'er*, and Postlude. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it any time on YouTube.



St. Paul's Free Soup Night April 7th

As we all know by now, the first Wednesday of the Month is Soup Night at St. Paul's. This month the choices were chicken noodle and cream of potato. Parishioners volunteer to make a big pot of soup, generally we use about four, and help distribute it to senior housing residents and shut-ins. It's a lot of fun and helps our community.



Montrose Mobile Food Pantry April 9th

It was the second Friday of the month and the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry was up and operating. The Community Church parking lot in South Montrose was a busy place. It was cloudy but didn't rain. They distributed food to over 275 families. St. Paul's continues to supply the bread and our parishioners volunteer during the day. More help is always welcome; volunteers start bagging food at 10:00 a.m.



Who are these folks?

Look who's working at Price Chopper. Do you recognize them?



April in Susquehanna County

Spring is exploding around us every day! Native daylilies, called "road daylilies", are up. They bloom the first week in July and their Kelly green makes them easy to spot along the roads. This St. Paul's resident, a Northern Slimy Salamander, was uncovered while raking at church. (They need to get a better name!) Pussy willows can be seen along the roads and the daffodils are blooming along the walk from the parking lot at St. Paul's. April is a great time of year.



Think Spring – we have this to look forward to!

