

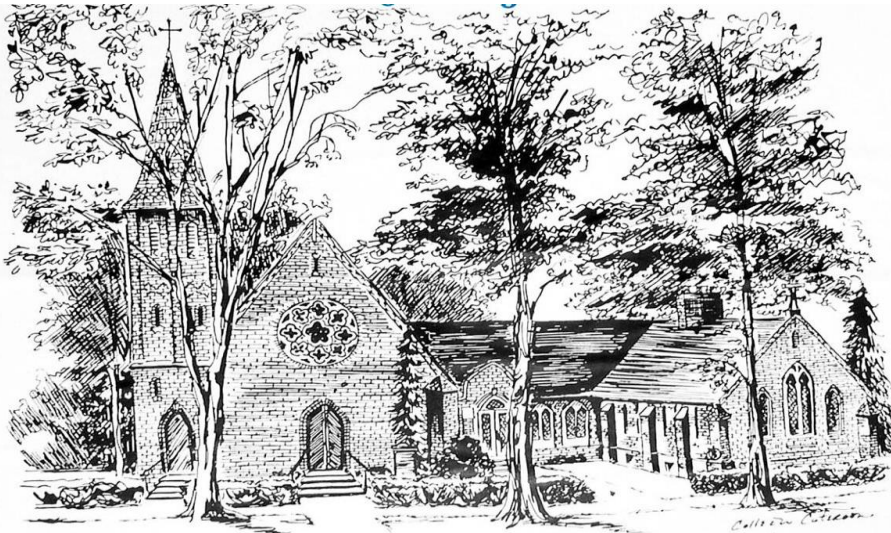
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

276 Church Street,
Montrose, PA 18801, 570-278-2954

stpaulsmontrose@epix.net

<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

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



Service of Morning Prayer

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 9, 2021

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

SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELL BY ORGAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Steven Scott

OPENING SENTENCE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift:

You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us. We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom, while building walls between ourselves and others. We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are, while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, or the shape of features, or the varieties of human experience. We have tried to love our neighbors individually while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression.

Forgive us, Holy God.

Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people. Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love. Restore us in your image, to be beloved community, united in our diversity, even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit, Holy and undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE JUBILATE Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands:*

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God:*

he himself has made us, and we are his;

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;*
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;*
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
**and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Reader: Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING - Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

THE THIRD SONG OF ISAIAH Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,*
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land;*
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise,*
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light,*
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open;*
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord,*
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land,*
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation,*
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day,*
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light,*
and your God will be your glory.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE EPISTLE READING - 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Song of the Redeemed Revelation 15:3-4

***O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done,*
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,*
O King of all the ages.
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name?****

***for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you,*
because your just and holy works have been revealed.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

ORGAN MEDITATION

Day of Prayer

James Southbridge

THE GOSPEL - John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God loved us and sent the Son who laid down his life and called us his friends. Let us offer prayers to God for the whole human family and the world, saying ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the Church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our bishop, and the local clergy who support us, Charles and Melinda, that we who are baptized into Christ may abide in his love and bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For this parish family, and those of Christ Church and St Marks, that we who have been born of God, and know the God who is love, may be instruments of love and healing in the world. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all mothers, and those who have shown us a mother's love, that God will watch over them, bless them with every good gift, and fill their hearts with joy. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all who by lives of service make themselves friends to those in need, that we may see them as signs of Christ who laid down his life for his friends. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all those whom we find it difficult to love, that God will touch our hearts to recognize them as sisters and brothers who, like us, are loved by God. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For a new sense of responsibility for the earth and its resources, that the Spirit will strengthen our resolve to care for God's creation and ensure resources for future generations. **Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those struggling with Covid-19, especially those in India, that God will heal the sick, give strength to caregivers, open minds and hearts to the vaccine, and hasten the end of the pandemic. **Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all those in need of our prayers, remembering especially, , that they may be strengthened and renewed with the power of God's love. **Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those suffering from addiction and for those who love and support them, that we share God's healing love through our unity in witness and action.

For those who have died, remembering especially, . . . Ralph Very. . . . , that they may abide in Christ's love and know forever the victory of our God. **Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, 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, Lord of heaven and earth, who gives the Holy Spirit to all who believe. Hear our prayers for all people and grant that all the earth may abide in your love and know the joy of your friendship, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.***

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Festive Voluntary

Robert Lau

Officiant: John Warriner
Announcements & Lector: Vickie Calby
Organist: Catherine Hammons