

276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801 Office 570-278-2954, Mon., Wed. & Thu. 8:10am to 2:30pm Click on link to email St. Paul's: <u>stpaulsmontrose@epix.net</u> Click on link to go to our Website: <u>http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org</u> Click on link to go to our Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose</u>

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

# Jan. 30 – Feb. 5, 2022

In person worship or you can watch live streamed on YouTube. Go to St. Paul's website <u>http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org</u> and click this red button on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

## First Wednesday of the Month on Feb. 2nd:

Free Soup Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only.

**Bible Study 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays.** We will start with a light supper at 5:00 provided on a rotating basis by one of the members of the group.

## This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski Announcements: Lynne Graham Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth Lector: Karen Blye-McAbee

## **Readings for this Week**

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm: 71:1-6 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

## View from the Pew

How's everyone doing this week? Hanging in there? It's almost the end of January. Its been cold and more of the same and worse is forecasted. Sometimes just hanging in there is the best we can do. Waking up, putting all our ambition and motivation on hold while we wait. Wait for things to happen, wait for things to pass, wait for answers to questions and prayers to be answered, wait for Spring. Waiting may seem lonely, painful, and very difficult when you want things to change or for something to happen, but there is a verse in the Bible that addresses this problem we all seem to have at various times in our lives. Psalms 46:10 reads, "Be still, and know that I am God".

That verse is one of my favorite verses in the Bible and has helped me so many times in my life. The first time it really came into play in my life was when I was going through my divorce to my first husband. Most people know that divorce is no fun and takes much, much longer than it should or than we want it to. Divorce causes you pain, all you want is for it to be over, and there is not too much you can do to speed it along. Have you ever noticed that the more you try to speed something along, the harder you try, the longer it takes and the harder it becomes? That was the case for me in my divorce to the point that I just needed help. That help came for me when I opened my Bible and found that verse in Psalms.

To me that verse is about surrender, trust and hope. Be still; don't do anything. That was a new concept for me! Sit back, surrender the issue/problem to God. Let him take over, do the work and be in charge of the outcome. That involves trust. Trust in God to be in control. That's scary! Scary because what do I do? I must need to do something to push things along? But what I found was that surrender and trust is very freeing and makes the waiting period much more tolerable; much more stress-free when you trust and hope in the sovereignty of God. Hope knowing that God can. He is able. He is able to help you through the waiting period, however long that is. He is able to get us through the painful, lonely, dismal, long winters of our lives by surrendering to, trusting, and hoping in Him. "Be still and know that I am God".

Love to all my church family,

- Karen Blye-McAbee

**Birthdays for February:** John Brunner 2/4, Kristina Kinney 2/24, Carol Lasher 2/27, & Nancy Finlon 2/28.

**Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:** you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Deacon Liz 212-222-8109.

**Reminder with winter** comes winter weather!. This is just the annual reminder to say: if there is ice or snow and there is a question about church being canceled, listen to WPEL at 96.5 FM.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Johanna Masters, Jeannine Ball, Sandy Nagy, Ray Arcario, Addie Evans, Carol Marker & Ellen Ely.

**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.* 



**Donations** You can scan the QR Code. Or go to St. Paul's Website and click the Donate Button for online giving. You can mail your tithes & pledges to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801

8 Photos this week.

# Third Sunday After Epiphany, January 23rd

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word, Spread the kingdom of the Lord, Wheresoe'er his breath has given Life to beings meant for heaven.

## THE GOSPEL- The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, retuned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (*Luke 4:14-21*)

I who made the stars of night I will make their darkness bright Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night I will go, Lord If You lead me I will hold Your people in my heart

## Deacon Liz, View From the Pulpit

This week we celebrate our patronal Feast. Many struggle with some of Paul's writings, however he has provided great theological interpretation of Christ's teachings. Below is a brief history of Paul's ministry and life. It speaks to his miraculous conversion, his ministry to the Gentiles, and to his faith in God, despite his human frailty.

~ from Holy Women, Holy Men

Paul, or Saul as he was known until he became a Christian, was a Roman citizen, born at Tarsus, in present-day Turkey. He was brought up as an orthodox Jew.

A few years after the death of Jesus, Saul encountered the new Christian movement, and became one of the most fanatical of those who were determined to stamp out this "dangerous heresy." Saul witnessed the stoning of Stephen which he approved of.

He was on the way to Damascus to lead in further persecution of the Christians when his dramatic conversion took place. He was blinded until he turned his life over to Christ, then the scales were lifted from his eyes. From that day, Paul devoted his life totally to Christ, and especially to the conversion of Gentiles.

His letters, the earliest of Christian writings, reveal him as the greatest of the interpreters of Christ's mind, and as the founder of Christian theology. He writes, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Paul describes himself as small and insignificant in appearance. He writes of having a disability which he had prayed God to remove from him, and quotes the Lord's reply, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, Paul went on to say, "I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Paul is believed to have been martyred at Rome in the year 64 under Nero.

A Collect for January 25, 2022:

O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Let us take time this week to consider the great witness of Paul and pray for gratitude for the teaching he provides for each one of us as we live more deeply into our faith in Christ.

## THIS WEEK

## January 23rd Service

It was a cold morning and those who came braved the cold. The January 23rd live-streamed 10:00 Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham did announcements and Tom Undercoffler was the lector. Cathy Hammons played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude, *Beautiful Savior*, along with four hymns. Our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube.





## EARLY WINTER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

"The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January and February, at least we notice that the days are getting longer." It was really cold this week with crisp and clear days and nights – perfect for star watching – and temperatures below zero.. Snowed a little every night. Lake Montrose had its first ice fishermen. That guy looks cold! The heat from a wood stove is comforting and the coals are hot. There was a full moon this week and with the snow with an icy glaze you could see perfectly, shadows and all – a hunter's moon. Stay warm!







## MORE PICTURES OF OLD RECTORY

Virginia Lewis had two pictures of our old Church St. Rectory (the building that's to the west of the funeral home). These were taken in 1922 when Rev. Ralph Armfield Weathery, our minister from December 1921 to January 1928, had just started. The man in the lower right was probably Rev. Weathery. He is noted as bringing a lot of energy with him. These pictures are neat because the following year the vestry came up with the money to "modernize" the house. All the old tourist rooms in the rear, which you can see, were removed and a "colonial" entrace was added to the front.



