




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: 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.

Feb. 6 – 12, 2022

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

Bible Study 1st & 2nd Thursdays. We will start at 5:00.

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger & Marsha Jones
Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski
Announcements: Lynne Graham
Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth
Lector: John Warriner

Readings for this Week

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13]
Psalm: 138
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

St. Paul's Calls Deacon Liz as Priest-in-Charge



After a long process and a longer wait, the Vestry voted on January 27, 2022 to call the Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski as our Priest-in-Charge. Deacon Liz was appointed as our Deacon in mid-August and has been with us almost six months. During that time we have had the unprecedented opportunity to get to know her, to work with her, and to discern that she is a good match for our needs.

Deacon Liz posted an autobiography in last week's email Update. I won't reiterate her story except to point out that she was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on July 24, 2021 after graduating from Sewanee in TN. She will be ordained a priest at St. Paul's on Saturday, February 26, 2022.

The Vestry is very excited about having such a thoughtful, kind, pastoral presence at St. Paul's. Deacon Liz has a great sense of humor and if you have not had a chance to sit and get to know her, you're missing out! In the near future, we will plan small get-togethers to offer everyone the opportunity to meet Liz in a small group setting.

We, the people of St. Paul's, have been prayerful, faithful, and patient. We look forward to a rewarding relationship with our new Priest-in-Charge. As details of the ordination are presented to us, we will pass them on. Thanks be to God.

Lynne

View from the Pew

Anonymous

The QUILT of HOLES

As I faced my Maker at the Last Judgment, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls. Before each of us laid our lives like the squares of a quilt in many piles. An angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestries that represented our lives.

But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was - they were filled with giant holes! Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I had been faced with in everyday life. I saw all the hardships that I had endured, which were the largest holes of all.

I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares! Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color, and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life, and was disheartened! My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of my cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air.

Finally, the time came when each life was to be displayed and held up to the light - the "Scrutiny of Truth! The others rose; each in turn holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been! My angel looked upon me, and nodded for me to rise.

My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes as the others had shown.. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness, and wealth, and false accusations that took from me my world, as I knew it. I had to start over many times! I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly

judged me.

And now, I had to face the Truth! My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it was. I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light. Awesome gasps filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes.

I then looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in His eyes, and he said to me, "Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships, and My struggles."

"Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let Me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you" May all your quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing Christ to shine through! God determines who walks into your life ... so it's up to YOU to decide WHO you let walk away; who you let stay; and who you refuse to let go.

I know my quilt of life is full of holes, but I wouldn't trade one hardship that I've endured for any amount of money because I am far richer than many people I know, and it's those holes that have made me rich!

- From Grandma's Country Front Porch
- Submitted by Martha Cobb

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.

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

First Wednesday of the Month on Mar. 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.

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

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

7 Photos this week.

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany, January 30th

**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-

Jesus said to the twelve, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."
(Matthew 10:16-22)

**Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me**

**I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see**

Father Bill's Morning Prayer

This was the day, exactly fifty years ago, a day that started out like any other day, but ended as the saddest day. This was the day when Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr philosophy of 'non-violent resistance' died on the street of a city in the North of Ireland. This was the day that ended with thirteen bodies lying cold and dead on the blacktop of a city street after a Civil Rights March. This was the day that lit the fuse of years of the 'Troubles', thousands of deaths and the destruction of so many lives. This was 'Bloody Sunday'.

We pray today, dear Lord, that we will never ever see such a day again. We pray for the dead on their 50th anniversary. We pray for families who mourn a father or a son, we pray for all who have grieved and struggled to come to terms with tragedy and sought Justice.

Yet, Lord, your life and death taught us that there is no justice, not in this life. There was no justice for your death nor for the hundreds of thousands of your followers persecuted, imprisoned and put to death in your name. Violence begets violence, death brings death. Only in peace and love do we heal and grow.

Today they will march as they did fifty years ago, singing their songs and hymns. Who will care? Not the Westminster politicians sipping brandy in their London Clubs. Not the Commanders of regiments who cut their polished accents on the playing fields of Eton and Harrow. Not the rich, the wealthy, the corporations that keep wages low and herd the poor into Ghettoes. "We taught them a lesson," they said, "we taught them a lesson they will never forget."

Lord, today we pray for Justice; a justice that rises above the prejudice of the few; a Justice that stands like a shining beacon for all. We pray that you let freedom and liberty reign for all men and women. We pray for respect for the dignity of every human person. Whether in Ukraine, India, China, Ireland or America every human being deserves the right to live, and to live with dignity.

"Last Night I had the strangest dream, I've ever had before
I dreamed the world had all agreed to put an end to war.
I dreamed there was a mighty room, and the room was filled with men.
And the paper they were signing said: 'they'd never fight again.'"

We pray on this day for peace. Peace in the hearts of all who cherish the rights of all. We pray for healing.

"Now the music's gone but they carry on,
though their spirit's been bruised never broken.
They will not forget but their hearts are set,
On tomorrow and peace once again.
For what's done is done, and what's won is won
And what's lost is lost and gone forever.
I can only pray, for a bright brand-new day,
In the town I have loved so well."

Amen.

THIS WEEK

January 30th Service

It was another cold morning and those who came braved the cold. The January 30th live-streamed 10:00 Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham did announcements and Karen Blye-McAbee was the lector. Cathy Hammons played the organ Prelude and Postlude, along with four hymns and Alan Lane from Baltimore accompanied her on the trumpet. Our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube.



Trumpet Accompanies the Organ

Accomplished trumpet player Alan Lane, accompanied Cathy Hammons on several hymns during the service on Sunday. Alan was visiting Dan and Lynne Graham and brought his trumpet. Alan routinely plays for his own church, St. Barthomew's in Baltimore.



EARLY WINTER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“Oh the weather outside is frightful, but the fire is so delightful.” It’s the middle of winter and it has been a cold week. The snow we got two weeks ago is still with us and the ponds are frozen. The temperature hovered around zero most every morning. Icicles are hanging off St. Paul’s roof and the furnaces are working full time. Time to find a fire and a good book. Stay warm.



OLD PICTURES OF ST. PAUL'S

This is the earliest picture we have of St. Pauls. It's a wood cut dated 1887 entitled the "vine-clad Episcopal Church." It is from a Susquehanna County history book. You can see the Odd Fellows Hall to the right.

