

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Weekly Update

### September 11- September 17



**276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801**


Office 570-278-2954, Monday-Thursday 8:15am-3:00pm

Click on link to email St. Paul's: [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto: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>

To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

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.



**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

### Church Closures

Please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station.

# View from the Pulpit: Mother Liz

“And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.” Luke 9:17

As we continue to emerge from this period of disruption and isolation in our lives due to the pandemic, we recognize that we have felt the pain and frustration of distance, of diminished resources, and we are just beginning to be able to connect in the ways to which we are accustomed. (The huggers amongst us have been especially stunted in their ability to do so.) However, as we take inventory of our spiritual resources, the strength of our worship community, and our capacity for generosity, we realize that there is now, and always has been, More Than Enough.

God has provided for us. His grace has been abundant and unconditional. We are truly blessed, and we are thankful for all he has given us during this season of fallow.

We are told that fields are to periodically lie fallow in order to allow them time to rest and replenish so that they will have renewed health for next planting season. During the waiting time of our fallow season, we have relied upon our stored resources and prayed for the time when we were able to gather again and celebrate our blessings together.

That time has come, and we gather filled with gratitude for one another and our ability to share our resources with each other and our community in person once again. I know that we have been gathering in person for more than a year, however, we have continued to remain cautious about our interactions with each other. Gradually, over time we have been allowed to loosen guidelines for in person gathering.

In the coming days, I hope to make an announcement in this regard which I believe will be most welcome by everyone. First, we need to get our ducks in a row, in order to do so. So stay posted!

In the meantime, may you continue to be blessed and be a blessing to those you meet. And remember, with God providing, there is always, more than enough.

# View from the Pew:

## The Son

Author Unknown

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare inspirational works of art. They had Everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together, sharing stories about the great works of art.

When the Viet Nam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for inspirational art."

The young man held out his package.

"I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the portrait.

"Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected. The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great inspirational paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son.

# View from the Pew:

The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this portrait of the son. Who will bid for this painting?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted. "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?" Another voice shouted angrily. "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the long-time gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have \$10, who will bid \$20?" "Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters." "\$10 is the bid, won't someone bid \$20?"

The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the painting of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!" A man sitting on the second row shouted. "Now let's get on with the collection!"

The auctioneer laid down his gavel.

"I'm sorry, the auction is over. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the inspirational paintings. The man who took the son gets everything!"

God gave his son 2,000 years ago to die on a cruel cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is, "The son, the son, who'll take the son?" So if we receive the Lord as our savior he will bless us with all the treasures of life . Not materialistic possessions but far more important things like love, peace, happiness and his undying love for us.

- Sandy Seeger

## **We would love for you to be included!**

Article submissions (photos, community news items, or a personal or faith story) are due every Wednesday. This is YOUR newsletter, and all congregants are invited to share their stories and photos. Please email your items to Kate at [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto:stpaulsmontrose@epix.net) or John Warriner at [atjdwarr@me.com](mailto:atjdwarr@me.com); post an item to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 276 Church St. Montrose, PA 18801 on Facebook; or drop a note in the offering plate.



# Sundays Service

Sept  
11



## Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Old Testament:

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm: Psalm 51:1-11

The Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

## This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Barb Undercoffler & Nancy  
Dooling

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Lynne Graham

Organist: Cathy Hammons

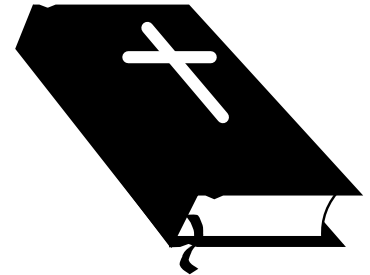
## This week's Hymns:

What wondrous love is this

The King of love my shepherd is

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven



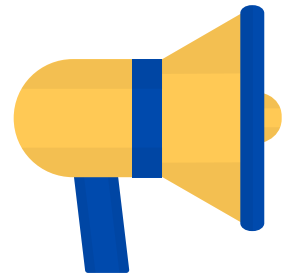
## This week's Gospel according to Luke:

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

# Happenings and Announcements



## Vestry Meeting

There will be a Vestry Meeting in the Guild Room on Wednesday, September 14 at 5:00 PM.



### For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Jeannine Ball, Sandy Nagy, Addie Evans, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rev. Janet Watrous, Joey Monaghan, Vanessa Smith.

### Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

You can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call Mother Liz 212-222-8109.



### This Months Birthdays:

Nancy Dooling 9/11, Sandy Seeger 9/15, Esther Welden 9/19, Sean Eckert 9/28



### This Months Anniversaries:

Harry and Wanda Peirce: September 4, 1981

### 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.

# Late Summer Pentecost: Conjuring Momentum in Slowness

Due to the pandemic, I think I have a better appreciation for time— how long things take to grow, to be of excellent quality, how much sweeter the satisfaction is after waiting a long while. How much more abundance I notice and enjoy when I commit to being present in the slowness of my timeline. Patience has been key to my enjoyment of time; life looks far more interesting when I take my time to notice every angle and perspective I have access to. There's so much to pay attention to!

We live deceptively linear lives while nature all around us runs on cyclical time: the moon waxes and wanes, seasons return. Every day, there is movement and change. The young shoots of a plant always seem to burst out of nowhere, but of course, it's been growing, very slowly, over time. A true group effort of various chemical factors came together to bring a small shoot to fruition. Tiny, tiny cells are working hard to sustain life, constantly in motion, without us even noticing.

Even when my life feels dull and unfulfilling, there is momentum in the slowness if I take the time to notice it because I am always growing, changing my mind, and learning new information throughout the year. Noticing, keeping vigilant, all of these awareness themes that began in the Advent season will come full circle at the end of the liturgical calendar, relevant as ever, ready to renew itself again in preparation for 2023.

All year we have pushed ourselves to return awareness to our enough-ness, which is directly tied to how we hold better relationships with ourselves, each other, and our world. Attention to our boundaries and capacities, the abundance in our connections and communities, allowing for multiple kinds of space, restoring our faith in one another, communicating better... all of it requires time. Believing that there is more than enough in all of those experiences requires patience. It's that kind of awareness that signals us to prune, to water, to repot the whole plant altogether to nurture more growth and abundance in our lives. And to know when to leave it alone to enjoy the progress. As we continue to think about sustainable giving as well as being, let us remember that we are what we sow.

Our Stewardship is importantly relational and active. And though the fruits of our labor in bettering ourselves and investing in community and the earth will often go unnoticed or unrewarded, we must trust the slow timing with all that goes into good work.

Elise Mills, TENS' Staff Writer, is a recent graduate, writer, and musician from San Francisco. She looks forward to taking afternoon naps with her cat. She is a member of Holy Innocents, San Francisco

**Questions for Reflection:** How do you find momentum in slowness? What work remains to be done, whether it be your own healing, helping your neighbors and family in some way, or participating in a larger social justice effort?

# Last Week's Service and Events

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 4

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

The September 4th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and Nancy Dooling read as lector. Cathy Hammons played the piano. The service included four hymns along with the Prelude and Postlude. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.

Praise to the living God!  
All praised be the Name,  
who was, and is, and is to be,  
is still the same;  
the one eternal God,  
ere all that now appears,  
the First, the Last, beyond all thought  
through timeless years!





## Soup Night is Back

With fall comes St. Paul's Soup night. Summer salads have ended with Labor Day and soup night is back.

September 7th was the first Wednesday of the month and this month's choices were Vegetable Beef and Chicken Noodle, including a small salad, a roll, applesauce, and a cookie. Soup makers are always welcome.

**Soup is Back!** 

**COME BY THE CHURCH FROM 3:30 TO 5:00 FOR YOUR FREE SOUP!**

September 7, 2022  
St Paul's Episcopal Church  
276 Church Street, Montrose

**This Months Soup:**  
Vegetable Beef  
Chicken Noodle

Comes with a small salad,  
a roll AND a cookie!

Pre-Orders and Donations  
are appreciated  
(570-278-2954)

Soup Pickup is on the left hand side  
of the church by the HO Mart



## September Sunrise

**Before** the storms this week the sunset was beautiful.



## EARLY SEPTEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn.” As we head into fall, we got our first soaking rain in the last three months this week. We got a lot. Our fields have turned from brown to green overnight. But the rain didn’t come soon enough to help with the farmer’s third haying. It was pretty sparse. Japanese knotweed, that invasive plant, is blooming on our roads and in our towns. Gertie, Jessup Township’s white deer, made it through another year, her third.

Fall is just around the corner but there’s still time to enjoy our Susquehanna summer.





## Soup Night Start-Up

We came up with the idea for free soup when we discovered that there was a need in the community. We started the ministry in the fall of 2021 in the middle of Covid. We had to do drive through pickup only. It was a snowy cold winter that year and the soup was a hit. We added rolls, applesauce and a cookie. Volunteers made soup at home and it was heated at church. The folks giving it out at the door froze a little but everyone took a turn. Here's some pictures of those early days

