

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

November 20 - November 26



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

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: Father Bill

There are sixty-six chapters in the Book of Isaiah, today's first reading comes from chapter sixty-five. It is what we call Third Isaiah. The Exile in Babylon is over, and Israel is back home in Palestine. All is desolation and ruin, but Isaiah message from Yahweh is one of hope, optimism, and joy. There is a new dawn, a new Eden, a new beginning, and a new Jerusalem. There will be rejoicing, music and dancing and the fruits of the earth will be eaten. Israel will build again.

Paul in the Second Reading to the Thessalonians, tells them that they must work if they want to build that kingdom of heaven that Jesus spoke of in his ministry. They cannot afford to be lax, waiting for his coming, but must follow the example of the Apostles and earn their keep.

In the Gospel Jesus prophesies about the times to come. It reflects on the difficult early days for the Christians in the post Christ era. So difficult is the Roman persecution that begins with Nero in 63 AD, that many have doubts about the very survival of the faith community and the Gospel. It is from these difficult days, of blood, death, and sacrifice that the legend begins to grow of a church being born in the blood of martyrs.

The Lectionary clearly knows that the church's calendar year is drawing to a close. It is the death of the year but also an eschatological celebration of the victory of Christ and church over death. They wish to leave us with a spirit of hope, that we too can somehow recapture and emulate that spirit and live the teaching and Gospel of Jesus to the fullest.

"Father, we pray for your church sorely tested in our pagan world. The ruins of a post Babylonian Jerusalem are all around us. The spirit of faith, that was once the ground seed of our communities, is now a sparse scattering, producing a lean harvest. Despite all the terrible disasters and horrific events of our time and world, the lords of materialism and greed persist in holding sway. We ask you to bless your few and bless your faithful church with your grace. Amen.

Father Bill

View from the Pew:

Heard from the Organ Bench

During the Covid time and without a Priest, many Sunday Worship hours were done with Morning Prayer. Although a meaningful service, without a congregation to sing, it was just not complete. As an organist it is soul filling for me to have a congregation that loves to worship God in hymns and liturgy. This past Sunday a grand chorus of voices sent praises to God that filled the church with joy and celebration. It is a boost to have a good song leader, as well as a certain tenor, but it took all the rest of you who lifted your voice to make this happen too. The Joy was palpable and I left there feeling renewed and refreshed. I hope all of you did too.

- Joyce Printz

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 or John Warriner at jdwarri@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

NOV
20



Readings for this Week: This Week's Ministers:

First Reading: Old Testament:

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalms: 46

The Epistle: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Ellen Ely

Organist: Mary Ann Dewitt

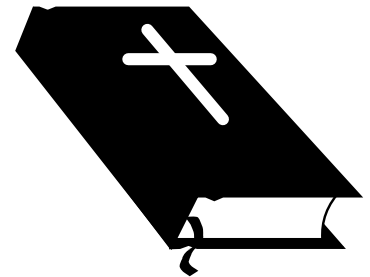
This week's Hymns:

Crown him with many crowns

King of glory, King of peace

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!

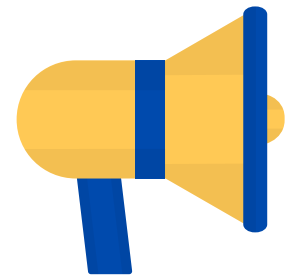


This week's Gospel according to Luke:

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

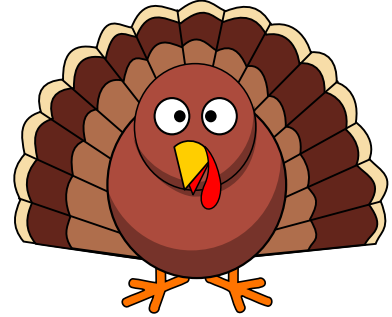
One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Happenings and Announcements



Sleeping Bag Ministry

We will not be meeting this week in observance of the holiday. We hope to see you December 14th at 10am!



Have a great Thanksgiving!



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, 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:

Brenda Syle 11/23, Bob Dun 11/25



This Months Anniversaries:

No Anniversaries this month; If you would like your Anniversary or your birthday added to this list, please call Kate in the office.

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.

Susquehanna County



We are collecting coats in
October & November

Distribution Dates

St. Paul's Montrose: Dec. 21-22

Last Week's Service and Events

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - NOVEMBER 13

Jerusalem, my happy home,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Your joys when shall I see?

The November 20th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and read as lector. Joyce Printz played the organ. 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.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.



Coats for Our Community

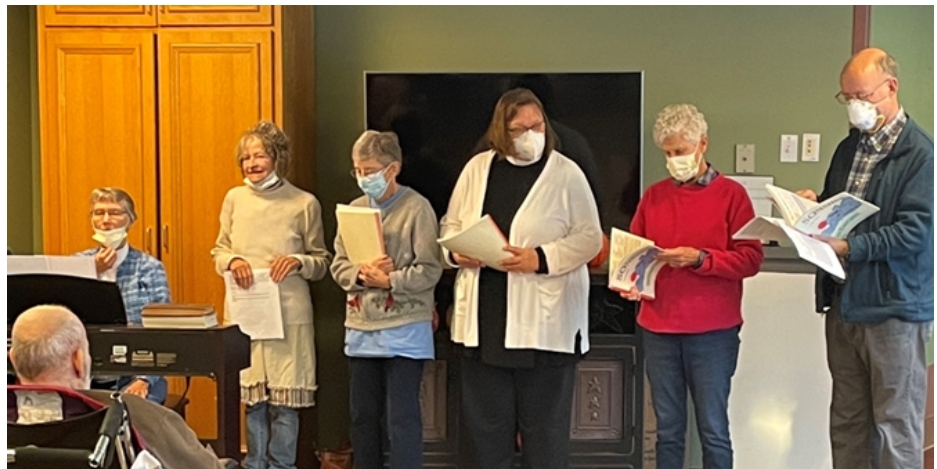
The Coats for Our Community caravan arrived at the Musa Stiles VFW Post #6223 in Great Bend on November 14th for coat distribution on the 15th and 16th. A new coat distribution site has also been established at the Trehab Food Bank in South Montrose. Coats will be kept there for distribution during the winter. Don't forget, we will need some help setting up at St. Paul's in December. We are giving out coats here on December 21st and 22nd.



Meadow View Visit

On November 16th, Mother Liz, Joyce and a group of St. Paul's parishioners visited Meadow View for their monthly gathering with the residents for a reading of Morning Prayer and hymn sing.

We sang some Thanksgiving hymns and the residents chose their favorites. Join us next month on Wednesday, December 21 at 10:00.



Pictured: Joyce Printz, Nancy Dooling, Mary Zalewski, Mother Liz, Lynne Graham, John Warriner



Snowbirds

From sunny Florida, Bob and Vera Dunn say: "We miss you guys." They sent a Disney Day shout out with their son's family to us yesterday. They will be back in the spring.

Concert at St. Paul's

On Friday, November 11th, St. Paul's hosted their third Susquehanna Symphony Society & NEPA/Chamber Music Society Concert. The Oboe and Strings presentation featured oboist Rong-Huey Liu, violist/violinist John Vaida, violinist Amy Iwqazumi and cellist Miho Weber.

It was well attended and, at intermission, light refreshments were served. Additional concerts are planned for the spring.



REMEMBER WHEN

Two weeks ago, we had a picture of our old sign. We were sent one that included both the sign and the tree we recently lost. Take a look.



MID-NOVEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“November comes, and November goes. With the last red winterberries and the first white snow.” It snowed on Tuesday night this week and, as always, the first snow coming down was pretty. While it quickly melted, at daybreak it covered the grass and sidewalks and made a mess. Our favorite Susquehanna vista was foggy and white. LaRue’s cows are in their fall pastures ready for winter and the geese that winter-over don’t seem too bothered by the snow. It’s starting to feel like winter.

