

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

November 27 - December 3



'Freedom from Want' by Norman Rockwell

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: Mother Liz

Fall is a time of endings and new beginnings. School starts again for children in September. The leaves fall in October (or November in my yard). The old church year ends (Year C- Luke) and a new one (Year A- Matthew) begins. Sunday marks the beginning of the new church year and so begins another season of Advent. We wait in hopeful anticipation for the birth of the Word among us, Emmanuel who will redeem the world from sin.

This Advent I have found two options for you to consider for your Advent Devotions -- one for the technically inclined and one for those who are interested in spending a little more time in contemplation. They are separate offerings and can be used alone or together if you have time and energy. Of course, it's already an incredibly busy time, so my advice would be to stick to one of them, so that you don't become frustrated and stop all together.

Finally, another ending and new beginning that I would like to mention is that I and eight other women have completed our training and on Saturday, the 19th, we were installed to the Order of the Daughters of the King. The past three months of discernment and study were enlightening and community building as we learned about the order and the three-legged stool of prayer, service, and evangelism, and the Daughters special concentration on the building up ministerially of women and girls throughout the world.

I am honored to have joined this faithful group of sisters as we share our continuing journey of faith together. Please feel free to ask questions if you are interested in learning more about the Daughters of the King. I would be happy to discuss the order and our mission.



AdventWord - 2022

Forward Movement has announced the 2022 reflection words for AdventWord, a global online advent calendar and community of disciples. For nearly a decade AdventWord has inspired followers of Jesus who wish to add an accessible prayer practice to their daily routine during this holy season.

Daily meditations and images—inspired by a prompt word selected from the daily lectionary readings—will be released at <https://adventword.org/en/sign-up-adventword/> beginning Sunday, November 27.

Participants can sign up to receive this daily message, in English and Spanish, by email or by following AdventWord on social media. For all who are technically inclined, please sign up to participate!

Many followers join the creativity each year by sharing their own personal reflections across social media using #AdventWord. Participants respond with photos, written responses, crafts, drawings, poems, found art, and other creative expressions inspired by the day's selected word.

"This year we enlisted volunteer community members to help with the selection of prompt words from the daily lectionary readings," said Richelle Thompson, managing editor at Forward Movement. "The online gathering of dozens of AdventWord community members was an inspiring way to kick off the planning for 2022 and a strong reminder that AdventWord is community-driven."

The prompts for 2022 #AdventWord are:

November 27 - Walk	December 7 - Winnowing	December 17 - Majesty
November 28 - Together	December 8 - Breathe	December 18 - Purify
November 29 - Teach	December 9 - Fire	December 19 - Sign
November 30 - Mountains	December 10 - Flourish	December 20 - Hear
December 1 - Make	December 11 - Messenger	December 21 - Obedience
December 2 - Ready	December 12 - Wilderness	December 22 - Choose
December 3 - Unity	December 13 - Stranger	December 23 - Restore
December 4 - Delight	December 14 - Beloved	December 24 - Birth
December 5 - Rain	December 15 - Thirsty	December 25 - Emmanuel
December 6 - Welcome	December 16 - Traveler	



The #AdventWord Images and meditations can be experienced through AdventWord.org, direct daily emails, as well as on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Meditations will also be available on www.adventword.org.

View from the Pew:

The Right Thing

It's been said that our life is a continuum of moral dilemmas. We go from one to the next, floundering sometimes, staying the course on others. They involve small daily mundane things to life changing predicaments. I remember an old Sanford and Son TV episode where Fred got two Social Security checks one month. Obviously wrong, La-Mont tried to convince him to do the right thing and return one. Fred, who was trying to rationalize why he should have two, said the Government wouldn't have sent two if they did not want him to have them and he should just keep it. I don't remember how it ended but it is a good illustration of a small moral dilemma that we are all sometimes faced with.

One from my childhood provided a life lesson that has stuck with me. I was in 4th grade. It was a little before Thanksgiving and I was coming home from school. It was dreary and raining and getting dark. Low and behold, there on the sidewalk down the street from my house was a wet five-dollar bill. Now many of those who are reading this probably remember that in 1957, \$5.00 was not an inconsequential sum of money. I had my eyes on a Plasticville set at the Ben Franklin Store for our Lionel train set that my brother and I were allowed to set up Thanksgiving weekend. How wonderful I thought! It was like a Biblical miracle had occurred. I peeled it off the sidewalk and rushed home to show my mother my good luck.

However, my excitement was dashed when she declared that I needed to go back and knock on our neighbors' doors to see if any of them had lost it. Hmmm! I remember thinking, "Why would I want to do that!" Like Fred Sanford, I began rationalizing with her why we would never find the owner and that I should just keep it. My brother didn't help my situation by adding that if I found the owner, maybe he/she would give me a quarter finder's fee. Great! My Plasticville purchase was rapidly shrinking away.

Grudgingly, I went out in the rain, in the dark and knocked on about five doors. I showed them the wet five-dollar bill and explained where I had found it and asked if it was theirs. Nobody admitted to losing it, and, trying not to look happy, I was able to re-port back that it looked like we wouldn't be able to find out whose it was. My mother hugged me and told me I could keep it and that she was proud of me for having done the right thing. It made me feel good.

Whenever I find myself rationalizing why I shouldn't do what I obviously know is right, I often think about that five-dollar bill, my mother, and one of those neighbors who probably did lose it, and who might just have been rewarding me for doing the right thing. When you do what you know is right, it feels good. You stand a little taller. And, by the way, if you're wondering, I still have that Plasticville house with the little couple on the bench that came with it.

- Dan Graham

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
27



Readings for this Week: This Week's Ministers:

First Reading: Old Testament:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: 122

The Epistle: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Nancy Dooling

Organist: Mary Ann Dewitt

This week's Hymns:

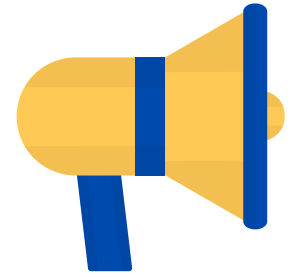
"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us
Lo! he comes, with clouds descending
Christ is the worlds true Light
The King shall come when morning dawns.



This week's Gospel according to Matthew:

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Happenings and Announcements



Soup Night

Before you know it, Soup Night is here again and we are looking for soup makers and volunteers. Come hang out with us in the kitchen on December 7 for Soup Night! If you can't make it but would like to donate a pot of soup, this month's choices are, vegetable beef soup and bean soup. Bible Study to follow, 5:00PM.

Country Store:

This year our country store is on December 3 from 9AM-3PM during Christmas in Montrose. North Pole Kitchen, Bake Table and Raffles. Volunteers needed in all areas! Please call Lynne if you are willing to offer some time!



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 Month's Birthdays:

Daniel Graham 12/4, James Cain 12/9, Vera Dunn 12/13, John Warriner 12/31



This Month's 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

Vestry Highlights

November 16, 2022

Mother Liz opened the meeting with prayer and we approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of the October 12, 2022 meeting.

Mother Liz read the Bible study scripture Luke 23:33-43 in which Jesus is mocked and tempted on the cross to save himself and the criminals on either side of him. Instead of giving in to temptations, Jesus asks forgiveness for the evil doers and grants the faithful criminal eternal life.

Mother Liz reported that she had an awesome trip to Israel. Before leaving, she officiated at a Rolnick funeral service. Mothers Liz and Rebecca will do a presentation of their trip on December 11, after church at 1:00 pm with lunch beforehand. Mary Ann Dewitt will now be in the organist rotation since Rudy Sumpter has to take a step back due to health reasons. Mother Liz welcomed the audience to the Susquehanna Symphony Society concert on November 11. She attended an Altar Guild meeting and the new clergy meeting in conjunction with the Diocese of Central PA. She completed the DOK training. She has been asked to be the litanist for Betsy Sentigar's ordination on December 10.

We accepted the Property Committee Report. Several sections of sidewalk need to be replaced as they are cracked. The bathroom wall in the right bathroom as you face the office from the kitchen will be repaired with new drywall after the holidays. The committee would like to purchase screens for the Celtic Room to hide the tubs which store coats for Coats for Our Community. Estimates for replacing the Chestnut St. door with one similar to the ramp door will be solicited. The committee will seek another bid for making a downstairs office for Mother Liz.

Once the Vestry minutes are typed up, Lynne will proceed with getting a church credit card from Visions FCU.

We discussed nominations for the next Vestry term.

Looking Ahead:

Christmas in Montrose—Country Store at St. Paul's, December 3 from 9-3

Soup Night December 7 @ 3:30

Bible Study December 7 and 14 @5:00

Morning Prayer at Meadow View Wednesday, December 21 @ 10

Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day (Sunday) service @ 10

Annual Meeting January 15 after service with potluck lunch

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

Our next Vestry meeting will be Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Last Week's Service and Events

TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - NOVEMBER 20

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.**

The November 20th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and Ellen Ely read as lector. Mary Ann DeWitt 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.



**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus, out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood.**





Coats for Our Community

The Coats for Our Community caravan left Musa Stiles VFW Post #6223 in Great Bend and arrived at Grace Lutheran Church in Hop Bottom for distribution on the 26th. The picture below shows the American Legion guys who help deliver. The coats will arrive back at St. Paul's the week of the 12th. 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.

Montrose Decorated for Christmas

Well, it's that time again – decorating Montrose for the Christmas season. On Saturday, St. Paul's parishioners and other community members were there helping. Vickie, John, Gaby, Lynne, Teddy and Ginny Lewis were wrapping the town's light posts with greens. It was a cold day but Montrose is getting ready for Christmas in Montrose which will be the first weekend in December this year.



Second Clean up Day

On Wednesday, the 23rd, we had a second clean up day. Several volunteers showed up to help rake leaves in the Memorial Garden. Five truckloads were taken to the borough yard waste dump. Thanks to John Finlon, Pat Gallagher, Corey Golden and John Warriner.

Uh-Oh!

Yep. it's that time of year. If you notice, those two harbingers of winter just appeared at our two doors. The five gallon bucket of snow melt and a snow shovel. If you are at church and the walks need a little salt, please put some on.



New Bell Ringer

Dan got some help ringing the bell before the service started Sunday from Lydia Rogers, Martha Cobb's granddaughter. We ring the bell before service to let the town know that we are having a service and Lydia was quite the ringer.

REMEMBER WHEN— Our Pre-COVID Peaces



LATE NOVEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.”

It was our first cold week. There wasn't a lot of snow, but what was around added to the ambience. It was a week of orange sunrises and crisp, cold nights. It's turkey week – from turkey hay bale art to cooked ones. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

