

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

January 1 - January 7



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

As 2023 begins, let us all pray for peace, love, and harmony among the peoples of the world. May we see Christ in those we meet each day, treating one another as our adopted brother and sister regardless of our superficial differences. God desires our love for Him, for ourselves, and for one another, above all else. Let us also pray those in positions of power, that they may lead with compassion and justice. Below, I've attached a prayer from the Daughters of the Kingdom service held on December 19th for your prayerful contemplation. May you and yours be blessed with health, safety, and joy throughout 2023.

"Not Only Christmas Day" By Mary Fairchild

Lord, this is my prayer
Not only on Christmas Day
But until I see you face to face
May I live my life this way:

Just like the baby Jesus
I ever hope to be,
Resting in your loving arms
Trusting in your sovereignty.

And like the growing Christ child
In wisdom daily learning,
May I ever seek to know you
With my mind and spirit yearning.

Like the Son so faithful
Let me follow in your light,
Meek and bold, humble and strong
Not afraid to face the night.

Nor cowardly to suffer
And stand for truth alone,
Knowing that your kingdom
Awaits my going home.

Not afraid to sacrifice
Though great may be the cost,
Mindful how you rescued me
From broken-hearted loss.

Like my risen Savior
The babe, the child, the Son,
May my life forever speak
Of who you are and all you've done.

So while this world rejoices
And celebrates your birth,
I treasure you, the greatest gift
Unequaled in your worth.

I long to hear the same words
That welcomed home your Son,
"Come, good and faithful servant,"
Your Master says, "Well done."

And may heaven welcome others
Who will join with me in praise
Because I lived for Jesus Christ
Not only Christmas Day

View from the Pew: Carol Marker

Get Started

There is a funny, but insightful perspective about success that goes, "you don't wait for all the traffic lights to be green before leaving your driveway." The point is that there will always be unknowns in our path that we cannot anticipate, but we need to begin anyway.

This concept may have originated with Solomon's teaching in Ecclesiastes. He writes in Ecclesiastes 11:4-6 "Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest. Just as you cannot understand the path of the wind or the mystery of a tiny baby growing in its mother's womb, so you cannot understand the activity of God, who does all things. Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don't know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both."

We need to have our plan, then get moving, and adapt, with God's help, as we proceed.

Dear Lord, as Solomon says, you do all things, and we cannot understand the intricacies. We do know that you love us and with are us through it all. Help us act with confidence in your care and live our lives as good examples for you. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

Written by John Nyquist

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

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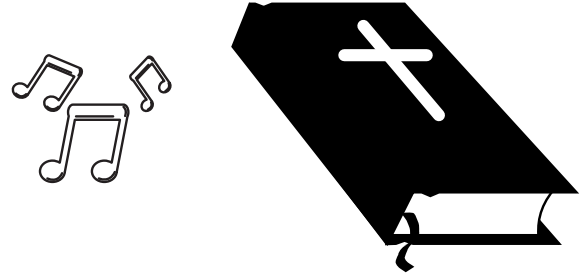
Readings for this Week: This Week's Ministers:

First Reading: Old Testament:
Numbers 6:22-27
Psalm: 8
The Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 2:15-21

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski
Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski
Announcements: Lynne Graham
Lector: Nancy Dooling
Organist: N/A

This week's Hymns:

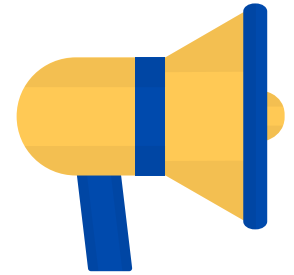
All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
How bright appears the Morning Star
At the Name of Jesus
Joyful, joyful we adore thee



This week's Gospel according to Luke:

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Happenings and Announcements



Soup Night

Our next soup night is coming up fast, January 4th, but we aren't actually serving soup this month... we will be serving Mac n' Cheese! We always need help in the kitchen whether it be to scoop out the entree's or to make the side salads or even just to donate your favorite mac n' cheese recipe. We always have a good time so if you would like to help out in any way, please contact Lynne Graham to let her know that you are coming or if you are dropping off some of your very own mac n' cheese.

Bible Study will follow after Soup Night.



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:

Charles Cesaretti 1/2, Karen McAbee 1/4, Molly Brunner 1/16, Anne Shafer 1/16, Bill Rathbone 1/18, Nathaniel Syle 1/20, David Calby 1/24, Marsha Jones 1/26



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.

Are you Safe Church compliant?

Maintaining your required trainings and clearances is vital because it helps us to keep all the people in our congregations safe. Episcopal Church canons require all people who have contact with children in an Episcopal Church to take online trainings to learn best practices, appropriate boundaries, and who to contact if they need help or suspect child abuse. Both Episcopal Church canons and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania laws require everyone who has contact with children and those with any sort of leadership position in the church to obtain background checks.

If you are a clergy person, lay employee, vestry member, volunteer who works with children, or a keyholder in the church, there are steps you need to take to be in compliance with Pennsylvania law and the Episcopal Church Canons.

The learning modules and Safe Church Training site have been recently updated. Learn more about what you need to do in order to be compliant and to keep your church safe. Contact Kate Aukema in the office if you have any questions or concerns about Safe Church compliancy.

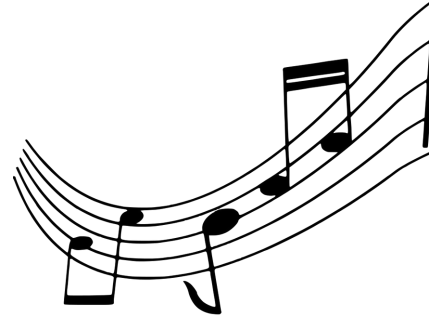
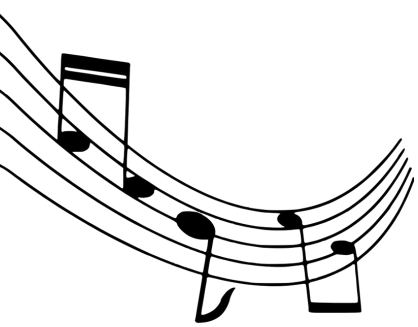
Kate will be contacting those whose compliancy status is about to expire to remind them that they must complete the modules to renew their status. It only takes about an hour to complete the modules for renewal.

Please, help us to keep our congregation safe.

Thank you

Mother Liz

Last Week's Service and Events



Last week we held our Christmas services. Unfortunately this week we are unable to reminisce on them with pictures from Dan Graham as we normally do because of our busy schedules (and Dan having the wonderful company of his grandchildren for the holiday season). We will have an update for you with what happened during our Christmas services soon!

Thank you!

