

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update May 19 - May 25



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.

Our Vestry Members

The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

John Warriner, Sr. Warden

Vickie Calby, Jr. Warden

John Finlon, Treasurer

Wanda Peirce, Clerk

Jack Lasher

Dan Graham

Vera Dunn

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

“The Word.”

Easter Week 7: In this the final week of the Easter Season we read in Acts 1:15–17 and 21–26 of the election of Matthias as the one to replace Judas among the twelve Apostles. Many would see this as a passage in support of Apostolic Succession and the authority of the Apostles. I find it more interesting that there were so many followers of Jesus, not counted among the Apostles, who played a critical role in the growth of the Early Church. Not least among these must be so many women, who followed Jesus and served his ministry. We immediately think of Mary, Mary the mother of James, Salome, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and others.

In the second reading John writing to the Christians, speaks of revelation. He means that God has revealed his Son to us and in so doing, he has told us so much about himself. Not least, that we can know nothing without this revelation. Without it we are just a ball flying around in the darkness of space, without purpose, destiny, or destination. We simply live and die in a world and Universe of ‘unknowing’.

Because God has revealed himself, we have life, purpose, and destiny. God has given us life and meaning. Believing in Jesus; knowing who he truly is; gives us life and ultimately eternal life. —Moving to the Gospel John 17: 6---19, we arrive at one of the discourses of Jesus to his disciples, just before his Passion and death. Jesus attempts to prepare them for what is about to happen. Today’s reading begins with Jesus speaking his words to the Father. We as the audience are privileged to be listening to a two way conversation, where we are only party to one of the voices.

Again, it is about revelation. As the Father has made himself known, through the Son, so the Son has imparted knowledge to them of the Father. Jesus gave truth and his disciples have accepted that truth. The protection he asks for the disciples, is that they received the strength and power of the Holy Spirit. He wants to unite them as one, knowing that in that unity is a strength that will endure all that faces them in the time to come. The dualism we find in John’s Gospel surfaces here. Jesus states that they no longer belong to the world, now that they have received, heard, and accepted, ‘the word’, the truth of God’s revelation. The Word is something ‘holy’ and it as been given to them.

What they must do with God’s truth is clear, ---they must go forth and proclaim it. Jesus fears for them in a world that will hate them, and he prays, that they may be sanctified in this holy truth. Amen.

View from the Pew: Dan Graham

I Bless This Garden

Springtime comes rolling round slowly in Susquehanna County, and with it gardening. Gardeners wait all winter for springtime, getting excited by each seed catalogue that comes in the winter. But our wait is long. It snows here in April and we can't plant tomatoes until Memorial Day. We are patient and we wait.

I always thought there was a gardening gene you somehow inherited from some forbearer - perhaps a parent or grandparent. Love of gardening is genetic, it's in your makeup or it isn't. You like the feel of dirt or the smell of slightly decaying vegetation or not. You can't just decide on the spur of the moment that you are going to become a gardener. It doesn't work that way. It's coded in your DNA. By pure luck, I married someone who has her own gene. She got it from her grandmother and gardening is something we enjoy doing together.

I got my gene from my mother's father. I associate my earliest memories of him in his garden, sitting in an old aluminum lawn chair and smoking his corn cob pipe, resting, holding a shovel. He had retired from the steel mill when I was four. My mother always said: "men need something to do when they retire," and for my grandfather, it was his garden. During the summer, I was often at my grandparent's house and I was his helper. My first job was weeding, a skill I still possess.

During the depression, Grandpa had rented a large plot about a mile from the house and grew everything in it for his family, walking there after a 12-hour shift. Grandma would can what he grew. During World War II, he also dug up the back yard and planted it completely. When I came along, he just had his back yard garden. During spring, there were cups and glass jars in the windows and all over the house with seedlings in them. They disappeared by May. He grew all his plants by seed. When he planted the first seeds, usually the peas, he would bless the garden and pray for a good season. He'd known good ones and bad ones.

He taught me when to plant root crops and how far apart to plant beans. What bugs were bad and how to check your fence for rabbit holes. And Tomatoes! Ah Tomatoes. Tomatoes were his specialty. We spent the most time on his tomatoes and he taught me what he knew. What I know about growing tomatoes I learned from him. I actually feel him smiling at me when I pick our red first one. A successful garden each year is measured by how your tomatoes did.

Visits to my grandparents' house during the summer after church, even if you had just been there the week before, required an obligatory trip to the back yard. Grampa wanted to show off his garden, as we all do. Gardeners of course, are proud of what they produce and love to give it away. Who hasn't heard "Would you like some zucchini?"

So, here it is, May, another year. Last year's garden's trials and tribulations are forgotten. All things are possible. It's springtime, and almost time for a new garden. We are patient and we wait. I never said it to him then but will now. Thank you Pap - I bless this garden.

Sundays Service

May
19



Whitsunday

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Psalm: 104:25-35, 37

The Epistle: Romans 8:22-27

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Lynne Graham

Hospitality: Shelley Green

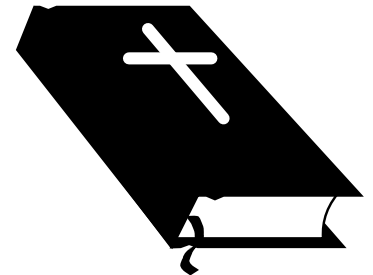
This week's Hymns:

Hail thee, festival day!

Come thy Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Come down, O love divine

There's a sweet, sweet spirit



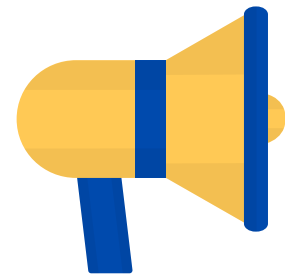
This week's Gospel according to: John

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Happenings and Announcements



Vestry Meeting 5/23

There will be a Vestry Meeting on Thursday, May 23 at 5pm in the Guild Room, all are welcome!

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.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker,

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:

Bob Kimmel 5/1, Mother Liz 5/5, Harry Peirce 5/9, Richard Marker 5/10, Gaby Warriner 5/26, Kate Aukema 5/27, Jerry Sock 5/29



This Months Anniversaries:

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.

Last Week's Service and Events

Seventh Sunday After Easter, May 12, 2024

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul and sing
Of Him Who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

The May 12th, 2024, 10:00 Morning Prayer Seventh Sunday of Easter Service was officiated by John Warriner who also gave announcements. Lynne Graham served as lector. Penny Jaggars played a prelude, 3 hymns and a postlude on the piano. 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.



Pentecost Sunday

Reminder, Next Sunday, May 19 is Pentecost Sunday. Tongues of fire descended on the Apostles as they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Wear something RED to church!



Happy Birthday

Rich Marker and Harry Peirce had a birthday celebration at the new craft beer place on Saturday. They weren't telling how old they were but their birthdays were one day apart.

Happy birthday! Dan, John Warriner, Jack and John Lasher were there to help them celebrate.



Dulcimer Class

As you know, several of the Montrose Adult classes are held in our church. One of the coolest is the Dulcimer class. According to the teacher, the Appalachian dulcimer is a fretted string instrument of the zither family, typically with three or four strings, originally played in the Appalachian region of the United States. You can sit in the back of the room and listen to them play. They're kinda neat.



Northern Lights

Thanks to an historic geomagnetic storm last weekend, from Friday early morning through Sunday, the northern lights were visible in many parts of the United States. Although clouds seem to roll in here whenever there is a celestial event, at least one photographer got a shot of the Montrose sky.



Trip to the Greenhouse

It's time to start the gardens and the nurseries and plant stores are chocked full of veggies ready to go into the ground. Annual flowers are also on sale and the trip a gardener waits for all winter has arrived. The trip to the greenhouse.



MID-MAY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.” A Baltimore Oriole thinks that it is a hummingbird and drinks regularly at the feeder. A robin built its nest and laid its eggs in our shed in the Memorial Garden. Three bears – a mother and two yearling cubs, crossed the road in front of the truck. Wild mustard grass lines the roads – it makes the cow’s milk taste mustardy. That harbinger of spring, skunk cabbage, is in wet areas now. It’s spring and everything’s green.

