

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

3rd Sunday of Easter - Sunday, April 18, 2021 • 10:45am

Celebrating & Preaching: The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo

Know that God loves you, no exceptions.

You are always welcome at God's table at St. Paul's.

St Paul's is a spiritual home and welcoming community to people of all ages, generations, educational backgrounds, financial means, abilities and disabilities, races, ethnicities and nationalities, without regard to sexual orientation, gender, gender identity/expression, with many different family and religious backgrounds. Some of us are lifelong Episcopalians; some were raised in other Protestant denominations or in the Roman Catholic Church; some are new to the Christian faith; some are not quite sure what they believe. There is a place here for you.

WELCOME!

Prelude: Organ settings with "star" as symbol of the Divine.

Prelude on *Conditor Alme Siderum* (Creator of the Stars of Night)

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Trio on *Conditor Alme Siderum*

Alfons Syus b. 1973

Cantus in Pedal, *Conditor Alme Siderum*, Vs. 1

Jehan Titelouze (1563-1633)

Canon at the fifth, vs. 3

Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern (How brightly shines the Morning Star) Johann Pachelbel (1553-1706)

Welcome and Greetings

Opening Hymn 182, Christ is alive! vv. 1, 2, & 5

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Song of Praise 412 Earth and all stars, vv. 1 & 6

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though

he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Music: When you wish upon a star, J.S.Bach homage, Ned Washington

The Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Laura Di Panfilo

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor

Parents and Godparents I present Charlie Jean Davis to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I do.

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Candidate, Parents, and Godparents I do.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People We will.

Celebrant Let us join with this person, who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?
People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

Celebrant Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open his heart to your grace and truth.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send him into the world in witness to your love.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

____, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

Be with us as a light to the world. *Amen.*

Celebrant

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

If you would like to make an announcement, or have something announced, please contact Noah by the Thursday before the announcement.

Early Communion Recognition

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music: Starry, Starry Night (Vincent)
John Murphy, Piano

Don McLean, b. 1945

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

The people may stand or kneel.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.

A Prayer for a Person Unable to Take the Eucharist

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen. (Written St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Communion Music: Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern

Max Reger (1873-1916)

Post Communion Prayer—said together

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Dismissal

The worship is ended, the service begins.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: How lovely shines the Morning Star

Jan Bender (1897-1994)

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Music Notes:

The star is a symbol of the divine. In the beginning, creation began with the stars and all heavenly bodies. The Star of Bethlehem led the gentiles to the King of Israel and, indeed, the King of Kings. Jesus is named the Morning Star, the hope for His return. Throughout history artists have channeled the divine nature of stars in their works- Van Gogh's, "Starry Night" as hope's light in darkness; and, in his elegiac poem, "When Lilacs last in the Dooryard Bloomed," Walt Whitman's portrayal of the fallen president, Lincoln, as the "drooping star" (Venus) in the western sky. Certainly, there are many hymns using star as sacred metaphor.

Today, I am joined by pianist, John Murphy and we play many pieces about the symbolic and sacred star. At the prelude are settings of the chant, "Creator of the stars of night," (Conditor Alme siderum) and the German chorale, "how brightly shines the morning star." The sequence music begins with J. S. Bach but takes a surprising turn to a great song from Disney's Pinocchio...yes, "when you wish upon a star." At the offertory, John plays the poignant song, "Starry, Starry Night" by Don McClean. Whether you view the star as a religious geometric symbol or an idea of faith and hope, it has and will continue as a profound inspiration for artistic expression.

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-713615

Pastoral Care 24/7 Hotline 412-440-8123

In the event of a pastoral emergency such as serious illness, injury or death, please call.

A clergy person will either answer or call you as soon as possible.

**Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!
Ministers, The Entire Congregation**

The Rev. Noah H. Evans, Rector

The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo, Assistant Rector

The Rev. Jean Chess, Deacon

Douglas Starr, Director of Music and Arts

Christin Cooper, Music Assistant for Children

Kara Viggiano, Interim Parish Administrator

Monica Miller, Financial Administrator
Andrea Kamouyerou, Director of Engagement
Kristen Morgan, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
Matt Wachtler, Head Sexton
Eileen Sharbaugh, Nursery School Director
The Rev. Luke Zerra, Youth Minister
The Rev. Ted Babcock, Priest Associate
The Rev. Charles L. Fischer III, Priest Associate
The Rev. Catherine A. Munz, Priest Associate

Vestry

Ginny Barnicoat, *Senior Warden*
Pam Ryan, *Junior Warden*
Jan Toth, *Treasurer*
Frank Horrigan, *Clerk*
Gina Brownfield, Meghan Clark, Kathleen Davies Hendricks, Mark Lamendola,
John Sheehan, Ell Vines, Karen Melvin, Leigh Coogan
Assistant Junior Warden, Geoff Hurd