# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 28, 2024 ● 10:45am
Celebrating: The Rev. Noah H. Evans
Preaching: Theodore Somes III, Candidate for Holy Orders

# 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, or gender identity/expression, and 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 sure what they believe. There is a place here for you.

### Give to St. Paul's

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Thank you!

# Prelude

# **Welcome and Greetings**

# Opening Hymn: God is Love, let heaven adore him

Hymnal 379

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People Christ 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: We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

Hymnal 296

# The Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

# The Lesson 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord. *People* Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30 Setting, Robert A. Hawthorne

*Please join in singing – turn to the back of the leaflet for music* 

Sequence Music: Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord, v.1

Hymnal 178

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

The Gospel John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John. *People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord. *People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### The Sermon

Theodore Somes III, Candidate for Holy Orders

### **Presentation and Examination of the Candidate**

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents I present Evelyn Mary McCoy 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?

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

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

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

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

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

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

Parents and Godparents I do.

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

Parents and Godparents I do.

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

Parents and Godparents I do.

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in their 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 Candidate** 

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

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring her 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 forever. 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 forever 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 forever. *Amen*.

#### The Baptism

Evelyn, 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 forever. *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 her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her 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*.

### 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**

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Thank you!

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: With A Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

Presentation Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, vs. 1 Hymnal 460

# The Great Thanksgiving, EOW Prayer 1

The people may stand or kneel.

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.

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

#### Celebrant

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People Hymnal S 128

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.

# The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Amen Hymnal S 146



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

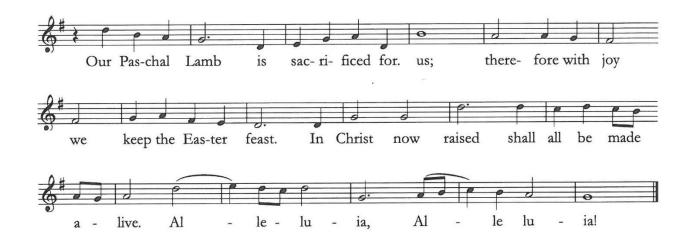
# The Lord's Prayer

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, forever 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.

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. Please come forward to receive through the center aisle, returning through the side aisles. You are welcome to receive just the bread, or the bread and the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please take the bread in your hand and sip the wine from the chalice. For sanitary reasons, we ask you not to dip the host in the wine. If you would like communion brought to you, please let a greeter know.

# Communion Hymn: Panis Angelicus (Bread of the Angels) Emily Hastings-Keene, solo

Cesar Franck

# **Post Communion Prayer**—said together

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

# **Blessing**

# Closing Hymn: In Christ there is no East or West

Hymnal 529

### **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**

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lillian Annette Burke.

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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.

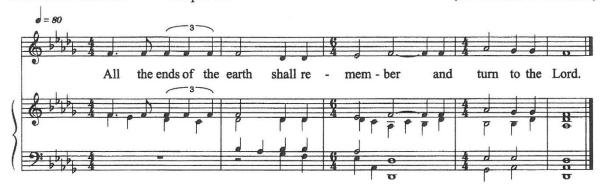


RCL Psalm 22:22-30 RCL Psalm 22:24-30

RCL Psalm 22:18-27

Lent 2B Easter 5B Proper 7C Psalm 22

(All the ends of the earth)





- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

  I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*
  "May your heart live for ever!" Refrain
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*
  and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*
  he rules over the nations. Refrain
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*
  all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \* they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \* the saving deeds that he has done.

Refrain