# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

Easter Vigil Saturday, March 30, 2024 ● 7:00pm Celebrating: The Rev. Noah H. Evans Preaching: Nicole Starr Assisting: The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo, The Rev. Erin Morey

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.

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## Welcome and Greetings

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

#### Celebrant

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death. Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CelebrantThe light of Christ.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### The Exsultet

The Exsultet is now sung by the Rev. Erin Morey

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*. The Lord be with you. Answer And also with you. Cantor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Answer It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people. This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave. How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God. Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning – he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen*.

## The Liturgy of the Word

#### Celebrant

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how God saved God's people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

#### The First Lesson The Book of Genesis, from Chapter 1

The story of creation, as taken from the book of Genesis:

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. And God saw that the light was good.

Then God said, "Let the waters be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." ... "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit. And so it was. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night."... "Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth." ... "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind — livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth. And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness. So God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, every tree with seed in its fruit ... every beast of the earth, every bird of the heavens, everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given. You shall have them for food."

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

Here ends the lesson.

#### Hymn: Creator of the stars of night, vv. 1-5

#### The Second Lesson The Book of Genesis, from Chapters 2 and 3

The story of how we first turned from God, taken from the book of Genesis:

When God created all living things, God planted a garden in the east. In it was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God placed the man and woman in the garden and commanded them to not eat of that tree; for if they did, they would die.

Now the serpent, who was more crafty than any other beast God had made, tempted them, saying "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat from that tree?" The serpent continued, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of that tree your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

They saw that the tree was good for food and a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise. And so tempted, they both ate.

Then their eyes were opened, and they hid themselves from God.

But God called out, "Where are you?" The man said, "I heard you and was afraid because I was naked. God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

The man and woman told God that the serpent had tricked them and that they had eaten from the tree.

God then cursed the serpent. And God said to the man and woman, "Because you have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you not to eat, cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Here ends the lesson.

## Music: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree Steven Cosnek, Tenor

#### Derek Holman (1931-2019)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green; The trees of nature fruitless be, compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know but ne'er can tell The glory which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought; I missed of all but now I see 'tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil - here I will sit and rest awhile, under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

> This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

## The Third Lesson The Book of Exodus, from Chapter 14

The story of God's deliverance of Israel, from the Book of Exodus:

After Pharaoh allowed the Israelites to leave Egypt, he changed his mind and pursued them. The Israelites looked back and saw the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ... For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you, lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them."

When Moses stretched out his hand, the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, with the waters divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. In the morning, the Lord looked down upon the Egyptian army and threw the army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on through the sea on dry ground. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians.

Here ends the lesson.

## Music: The Lord is My Shepherd St Paul's Chancel Choir featuring Preston Shimer, oboe

John Rutter

## The Fourth Lesson The Book of Ezekiel, from Chapter 37

The story of the valley of dry bones, from the prophet Ezekiel:

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,'" says the Lord.

Here ends the lesson.

#### Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name; Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

## The Fifth Lesson The Book of Zephaniah, from Chapter 3

The story of the joy that will come when God's people have been gathered together, from the prophet Zephaniah:

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; For I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Here ends the lesson.

#### Celebrant

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

#### Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant	The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.	
Sponsor	I present Chrstina Ogletree to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.	
	I present Colette Elizabeth Ogletree to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.	
	I present Clara Rose Ogletree to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.	
Celebrant	Do you desire to be baptized?	
Candidates	I do.	
Celebrant	Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?	
Sponsor	I will, with God's help.	

CelebrantWill you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?SponsorI will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? *Sponsor and Candidates* I renounce them.

*Celebrant* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God? *Sponsor and Candidates* I renounce them.

*Celebrant* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God? *Sponsor and Candidates* I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior? Sponsor and Candidates I do.

*Celebrant* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love? *Sponsor and Candidates* I do.

*Celebrant* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord? *Sponsor and Candidates* I do.

Please stand as you are able.

CelebrantWill you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?PeopleWe will.

#### The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*Celebrant* Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to join with this person who is committing himself to Christ to renew the solemn promises:

## The Baptismal Covenant

The Duptionia	
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 People	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? 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 People	Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation? I will, with God's help.
Duouong fou th	no Comdidatos
<b>Prayers for th</b> <i>Celebrant</i>	Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Leader	Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader	Bring them 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. <i>Amen</i> .

#### 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

Christina, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*. Collette, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*. Clara, 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 these your servants the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them 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 Gospel of Luke, from Chapter 24

The story of the Resurrection, taken from the Gospel of Luke.

Two of Jesus's disciples were making their way to Emmaus, a village about seven miles from Jerusalem. A stranger soon walked alongside them. He asked them, "What are you discussing?" They stopped and looked sad.

One answered, "Are you the only person in Jerusalem who does not know the things that just happened there?" "What things?" he replied. "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word... and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be crucified. We hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. And just today, some of our women astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, but did not find his body. They told us they saw angels who said that he was alive. So, a few went and found the tomb just as the women had said; and they also did not see him."

Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, how slow of heart to believe what the prophets declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter his glory?" Then, beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted all that scripture said about him.

As they neared the village, the stranger walked ahead as if he were going further. But they urged him to stay, and when he sat down to eat with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized that he was Jesus; then he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road and opened the scriptures to us?"

They quickly returned to Jerusalem and found the eleven with their companions. They were all saying, "The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two disciples told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

## Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today

The Sermon

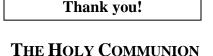
Nicole Starr, Candidate for Holy Orders

#### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* And also with you.

#### Announcements

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## Offertory Music: Hymn of Promise St. Paul's Handbell Choir and St. Paul's Chancel Choir

**Natalie Sleeth** 

#### The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

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. 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 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.



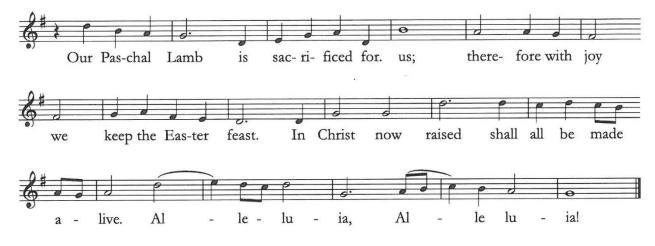
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

## 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.

*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 Music: Allegro, from *Water Music* St. Paul's Handbell Ensemble

## Post Communion Prayer—said together

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

## **Closing Hymn: He Lives**

(Turn to the back of the leaflet for music)

#### Dismissal

The worship is ended, the service begins. Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia! *People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

## Postlude: Toccata, from Symphony for Organ No. 5

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Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

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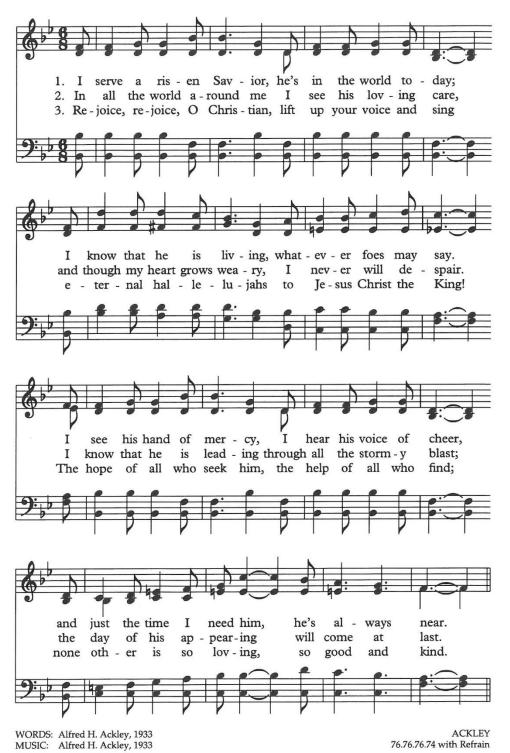
Alfred Ackley

G.F. Handel

CHRIST'S GRACIOUS LIFE

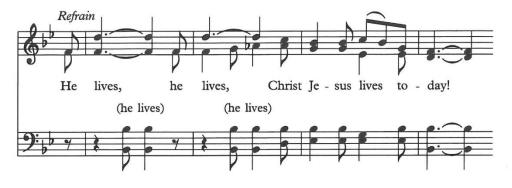
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# He Lives

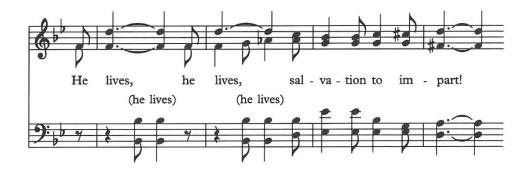


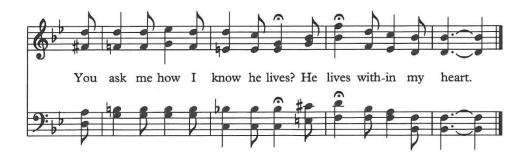
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RESURRECTION AND EXALTATION









# **Easter Season Announcements**

## **Newcomer Reception**

If you are new to St. Paul's over the last year or so, or even just came for the first time this week, you are invited to come to a Newcomer Receptions April 7 at noon in the Lounge. Come learn about what makes our church such a special community. Children are welcome! If you'd like more information, please contact The Rev. Noah Evans at noah@stpaulspgh.org or (412) 531-7153 x11.

## St. Paul's 101: Easter Season – beginning April 10

Are you new to St. Paul's, and trying to figure out the parish? Do you want to get connected or reconnected with the church during this time? Have you been here for a while, and want to learn more about the Episcopal Church or still find yourself wondering what's going on? Do you have questions you want to talk about? Join us for St. Paul's 101, an overview of our parish and the Episcopal Church. This class also would serve as preparation for adults who are interested in being formally confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church. To register or for more information, contact the Rev. Noah Evans at noah@stpaulspgh.org or at (412) 531- 7153 x11.

April 10 Nooks and Crannies tour of St. Paul's Building
April 17 Episcopal History: It's not just about a king's divorce! and Theology Close to the Ground: Scripture, Tradition and Reason
April 24 Worship: The Way of Prayer is the Way of Belief
May 8 Practicing our Faith: Lay leadership in the church and the world

## Sacred Ground: Easter Season – beginning April 8

St. Paul's will be convening Sacred Ground Circles on Monday nights at 7pm beginning on April 8, and due to the signup response, are also adding a second Wednesday evening circle! Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. Participants learn to explore our conscious and unconscious biases, and think about the history of our country in new ways. All sessions are private, so participants have an opportunity to speak honestly and openly. Over 100 people have participated in Sacred Ground at St. Paul's.

Sacred Ground consists of 10 sessions, held every two weeks, with video and written material to be covered in the off weeks at your leisure (provided by the Episcopal Church exclusively for Sacred Ground participants). The sessions will be offered in a hybrid (Zoom and live) format. Please email the Rev. Erin Morey at erin@stpaulspgh.org to sign up, with any questions, or if this time does not work for you and you would like to do Sacred Ground.

## Iftar Dinner with our Turkish Friends at St. Paul's

Our Turkish friends are generously sharing an Iftar meal with the St. Paul's community on Sunday, April 7 at 7pm in the Undercroft! Please come, share a meal, and celebrate! Please register for the event at the St. Paul's website, and you can also visit the website to sign up to volunteer to help with cleanup. Contact the Rev. Erin Morey at erin@stpaulspgh.org with any questions.

## Easter Season Small Groups – beginning the week of April 7

Join St. Paul's parishioners as we reflect on the book *Living Into God's Dream* this Easter season. This collection of nine essays is honest, pragmatic, and courageous in its real-world view of racism and how people of faith and conscience can work together to "dismantle racism." Groups start the week of April 7th and continue through Pentecost (May 19). Here are the times and leaders:

Tuesday at 7:00am on Zoom – Led by Noah Evans Email: noah@stpaulspgh.org Tuesday at 6:00pm at St. Paul's Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom – Led by Eileen Sharbaugh Email: sharbaugh@verizon.net Thursday at 11:30am on Zoom – Led by Erin Morey Email: erin@stpaulspgh.org