

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.stpaulspgh.org

Third Sunday after Epiphany • January 23, 2022 • 10:45AM

Celebrating: The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo

Preaching: The Rev. Noah H. Evans

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, 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 quite sure what they believe. There is a place here for you.

Prelude: A Love So Fierce and Free: A Litany

Three Movements from *Exultate: A Liturgical Suite for Organ*

I. Kyrie

II. Sanctus

III. Agnus Dei

David Ashley White (b. 1944)

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

Welcome and Greetings

Opening Hymn: God is love, let Heaven adore him

Hymnal 379

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People Glory to God forever and ever.

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.*

Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal S 280

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where

would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: O Christ, the Word Incarnate

Hymnal 632

The Gospel

Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Noah H. Evans

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Prayers of the People are written by Jerry Rutledge. Respond with "Hear our prayer."

Confession of Sin

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Spiritual Growth Commission Testimonial

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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Offertory Anthem: How Lovely are the Messengers, from St. Paul

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace.
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings.*

The Great Thanksgiving, EOW Prayer 2

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the

creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Celebrant and People now sing

Sanctus, Hymnal S 125

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Paul and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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.*

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.

Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei

Hymnal S 163

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. Communion will be brought to your seating area. You may then share the bread with those seated with you.

Communion Music: "How Beautiful are the Feet," from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Annette Tierney, Soprano

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings.

Post Communion Prayer—said together

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling

Hymnal 539

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: “Gloria” from *Exultate: A Liturgical Suite for Organ*

C. Phillips

Music Notes:

Today’s music celebrates both the Third Sunday after Epiphany and the feast day for the conversion of our patron St. Paul, which falls on January 25 in the liturgical calendar. Our choral anthem at the offertory and solo at the communion signify the “messenger of truth,” which accurately describes the transformation of Paul from killer of Christians to lover of Christ.

The texts for Mendelssohn’s “How lovely are the messengers” and Handel’s “How beautiful are the feet” are taken from the Book of Romans. Mendelssohn’s chorus from his oratorio *St. Paul* begins with a choral duet between men and women of the choir. At the words “To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,” the music breaks out into full four-part harmony. Handel’s solo aria from *Messiah* is a lyrical dance in 12/8 meter commonly portraying a pastoral scene, so here the “beautiful feet” are those of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

The organ works are by two contemporary Episcopal musicians at work today. Craig Phillips is organist and Director of Music at All Saints, Beverly Hills, California. I play four movements from his liturgical suite, which was commissioned by the Pittsburgh Organ Artists Series in 2018. David Ashley White, a parishioner at Palmer Memorial (Episcopal) Church in Houston, Texas, is the Endowed Professor of Music in the Moores School of Music and Composer-in-Residence at Palmer Church.

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