

---

# *St. Paul's Episcopal Church*



The Sunday After The Ascension  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
*May 16, 2021*

---

*The Rev. Amanda Bourne, Preacher & Celebrant*

---

Welcome: Whatever your background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you. It is our prayer that you will encounter God's peace this morning. If you're new to our community, or if you have questions or other needs, please ask. There's no such thing as a stupid question. We've all been new at some point, and as the old adage goes, "we're all just walking each other home" one step at a time.

About Our Worship: This service may look and feel different than that which you have previously experienced.

As Christians in the Episcopal (episcopal=church with bishops) tradition, our worship is rooted in Holy Scripture and the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), which—for centuries—has united Christians all over the world in a common language of prayer and worship. These prayers have been used for hundreds of years by people all over the world, and are still used today. The hope of finding ourselves in the midst of this ancient tradition is that we might both learn from those who have come before, and add our own voices to the heavenly chorus. Our liturgy (the work of the people in worship) helps us when our words fail, ensures that we hear a thorough account of God's Word, and invites us to add our own voices and experience to God's story." The liturgy makes worship something the whole community does, not just the minister up front. Who we are and what we bring is enough because we are assured that God delights in our worship! You will find some people kneeling, bowing, and making the sign of the cross as expressions of devotion and blessing. This is neither requisite nor uniform, and we invite you to participate as you feel comfortable.

**As an act of care for yourself and all those gathered, please maintain appropriate physical distance at all times. Masks must be worn by all those above the age of two.** We will not be passing an offering plate, though there is an offering box available for use on the Welcome Table.

PRELUDE

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Held

OPENING HYMN

I want to walk as a child of the light

vv. 1,2

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
 Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and  
 When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

star of my life is Je - sus.  
 show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

*a tempo*

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

---

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God of all creation.

**God has given us new life and hope. God has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as God's own.

**God has brought us out of darkness. God has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Let us pray. 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.**



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Eternal God,  
you have given your Son authority  
in heaven and in earth;  
grant that we may never lose  
the vision of his kingdom  
but serve him with hope and joy;  
for he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever. **Amen.**

---

**THE EPISTLE LESSON***Ephesians 1:15-23**Jenna Monroe (Zoom)**Mike Fritz (Outdoor)*

Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength. God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. God put everything under Christ's feet and made him head of everything in the church, which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of Christ, who fills everything in every way.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**THE PSALM***Psalms 93**Elijah Jones (Zoom)**Femi Frierson (Outdoor)*

<sup>1</sup> GOD is Sovereign;  
clothed in splendid apparel; \*  
GOD is robed in majesty and girded with strength.

<sup>2</sup> **God has made the whole world so sure \***  
**that it cannot be moved;**

<sup>3</sup> Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; \*  
you are from everlasting.

<sup>4</sup> **The waters have lifted up, O God,**  
**the waters have lifted up their voice; \***  
**the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.**

<sup>5</sup> Mightier than the sound of many waters,  
mightier than the breakers of the sea, \*  
mightier is the HOLY ONE who dwells on high.

---

<sup>6</sup> **Your testimonies are very sure, \*  
and holiness adorns your house, O GOD,  
for ever and for evermore.**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**      Luke 24:44-53

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

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus 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 from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Look, I'm sending to you what my Father promised, but you are to stay in the city until you have been furnished with heavenly power."

He led them out as far as Bethany, where he lifted his hands and blessed them. As he blessed them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. They worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem overwhelmed with joy. And they were continuously in the temple praising God.

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

The Rev. Amanda Bourne



---

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

*The Nicene Creed, the Church's central statement of faith, emerged out of the first four councils of the Church in the 4th century in response to controversies about Jesus' divinity. The Latin root of the phrase "we believe" (credo) means to "give one's heart." The creed is our way of affirming who is deserving of our heart amidst fear and doubt. The term apostolic refers to the historic succession of the apostles (original leaders of the early church) through our bishops. The term "catholic" refers to the universal church throughout the world.*

Celebrant

Let us affirm our faith in the One, holy, and living God:

All

**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

Fern Brown (*Zoom*)

Wendy Van Hoozier (*Outdoor*)

Celebrant

We stand amazed, O God, at your presence with us in our time and beyond time. We turn our gaze to you, and ask for your guidance and protection.

---

### *Intercessor*

Fix the eyes of the church always on you, that we may see your glory and receive your blessing as we follow you in everything we do. Guide our leaders and give them hearts for you and your people. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Dunstan's Church, Bethesda; Seabury Resources for Aging; Friendship Terrace; St. Mary's Court; and Collington Episcopal Life Care Community. Pray for all Seniors and their Ministries in the Church. Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Thurgood Marshall

#### **Pray for the church.**

Turn the hearts of the rulers of the nations toward the peace which you intend for all people, toward wise stewardship of the earth's resources, for the good of all people in every time and place.

#### **Pray for the nations of the world.**

Increase our efforts to become determined and compassionate carriers of your love and comfort to a broken world. We lift up: **Mother Maria, Sewell Truitte, Cheryl Williams, Stephanie Hamilton, Barbara Huiras, Brooke Lyon, John Mathews, Gail Savoy, Re-Gathering Team, Sally, Donna, Diane, Jack, Joyce, Rodgers, Shauna, Margaret, Tom, George, Rev. Larry, Mary Anne, Jim, Tamika, Carly, Art, Bob, Cora, George, Hani, and Barbara.**

#### **Pray for those in need of healing.**

Receive those who have died into the heavenly kingdom where there is no pain or grief, where time is no more, where they sing with your glorious saints in light.

#### ***Pray for those who have died.***

Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may be your faithful witnesses in every area of our lives, everywhere you go, to everyone we meet. We depend on your constant presence and power. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Please add your intercessions, silently or aloud.*

### **THE PEACE**

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

---

*(In-person service only)*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING :**

*Celebrant* God 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.**

You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory, and gave him the name which is above every name: at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord.

In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we proclaim:

**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.**

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:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is coming again!**

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 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.

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

**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.**

*(Online Service Only)*

## **HOLY THANKSGIVING**

*Officiant*      Though we cannot be together in person to celebrate Holy Communion, God’s presence is with us. Let us pray in gratitude and trust for the Spirit flowing through this gathering:

*People*            **God of Love, we thank you for bringing us together in this place, on this day to honor and to celebrate you and your People, the living, loving Body of Christ. Jesus told his disciples, “Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Bless this gathering as a sacramental rite, a visible sign of your love for us, and**

our love for one another. Even in the absence of the bread and the wine, feed and fill us with your Son Jesus Christ. In faith and thanksgiving, we pray. Amen.

*(In-person service only)*

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*As an act of adoration, a moment of reverent silence is kept as the bread is broken. This symbolizes the breaking of Jesus' own body.*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*Upon the presentation of the consecrated elements,*

Behold you are: **may we become what we receive.**

### **THE COMMUNION**

*All those who are baptized, as well as those who yearn to be fed with Christ's grace, are welcome at this table. You need not be an Episcopalian to feast here. The Celebrant will bring the bread to your seat. Please stand to receive the consecrated bread.*

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

*Lord Jesus, think on me*

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is passed,

from harm - ful pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.  
let me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty, point thou the heav - en - ly way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see, and share thy joy at last.

---

*(in-person service only)*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & MILESTONE BLESSINGS**

**PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY**

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *she/he/they* begin another year. Grant that *she/he/they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARY**

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Take, O Take Me as I am*

3 times

---

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall  
 be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

## THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!  
 People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

Oboe Tune

Martin

---

## THIS WEEK

---

### Questions for Reflection

The Ascension of Christ to be seated at the right hand of God is a grand liturgical celebration in the life of the church. It marks forty days of celebrating Easter and God's triumph over the powers of oppression, depression, and our fear of death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is one of many images we have for Christ: good shepherd, suffering servant, great physician. How does the image of the ascended Christ affect your understanding of who he is? What are the strengths and weaknesses in this image of Christ for you?

### Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One, come into my heart this morning and give me eyes to see throughout this day all the ways that you rule. Put your resurrecting power to work in my life and

---

empower me to be a witness to Christ, that my life may be a song of thanksgiving to you. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

God, embrace me now at the end of this day. As in every day, there have been ups and downs, joys and disappointments. I thank you for my faith that, above it all, you rule. I put my trust in you as I give this day, now spent, to you. Do with it what you will, and send your Holy Spirit to pull forward threads from today that you will spin into good things tomorrow. I pray through Jesus Christ, who reigns with you, now and forever. Amen.

#### **PERMISSIONS**

Cover Art: *Ang Pababago: Peace-Love*, Jose Caution, ca. 21st century, Manila, Philippines

Prayer of the Day & Proper Preface: *A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa* © 1988. Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia.

Prayers of the People: *Rites and Rituals for Year B, 2020-2021* © 2020 Church Publishing, Inc.

The Opening Acclamation: *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for The Church of England* © 2000

The Psalm: *The Saint Helena Breviary*, The Order of St. Helena, Inc. © 2006. All rights reserved.

The Scripture Lessons: *The Common English Bible* © 2011

The Great Thanksgiving & Post-Communion Prayer: *Enriching Our Worship*, The Episcopal Church © 1998

Music reprinted and streamed with One License #A-734675

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
4535 Piney Church Road, Waldorf, MD 20602-3262  
Office: (301) 645-5000 • Pastoral Emergencies: (301) 535-4567  
[www.stpaulswaldorf.org](http://www.stpaulswaldorf.org)

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church  
The Rt. Rev. Mariann E. Budde, Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Washington  
The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Assisting Bishop of Washington

The Rev. Dr. Maria A. Kane, Rector  
The Rev. Deacon Steve Seely, Deacon  
Dr. Holly Oberle, Minister of Music  
Diane Hess, Parish Administrator  
Vicky Mumford, Sexton