

# **ŞT:PAUL'S** EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

APRIL 28, 2024 10:00 A.M.

# Welcome to St. Paul's

No matter where you come from or where you're going
No matter what you believe or what you doubt
No matter what you feel or just don't feel today
No matter whom you love
You are welcome into this space
to be met by God And to join fellow travelers.
Welcome. It is good that you are here.

If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor card found in the pew racks, place it in the collection plate or give it to an usher or worship leader after the service. We want to get to know you.

Please join us for coffee hour in the Garden Room immediately following the service.

# **6**

# **Every Sunday Morning at St. Paul's**

# 9:00 am

Adult Forum - Garden Room, 1st Floor

Godly Play Spiritual Formation for Children - 3rd Floor Classrooms

Nursery open

# 10:00 am

Worship - Holy Communion - In the church nave Children's Worship - Liturgy of the Word - 3rd Floor Chapel (then to nave for communion)

The **nursery** is open on Sunday mornings for children four years and younger. It can be found by following the hallway through the bell tower on the east side of the worship space.

#### 30 00

We are so glad you are here to worship with us. Our community has been worshiping at 40th and Main in midtown Kansas City for over 100 years now. We worship each Sunday at 10:00am. The faith we share here finds its source in the Good News of God in Christ that promises an unending love, joy, and hope for all people, without exception. These promises are central to who we are, guide all that we do, and connect us more deeply to one another as we seek to make this same love, joy, and hope known to our world. We do this as we feed over 2000 people per month through our food ministries. We do this in our commitment to the faith formation of each person, life-wide and lifelong. We do this as we practice an historic, tradition-rich faith that speaks to our modern lives with beautiful worship and music. We have a day school with nearly 500 students, provide financial resources for our sister school in Haiti, and much more! In all of these, and more, we seek to be a community committed to learning and growing in faith, to sharing our lives with one another in all their ups and downs, to beauty in music and worship, and to service with and for our neighbors. Most of all, we are glad you are here and hope you join us again!

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All stand

Hymn 379 God is love, let heaven adore him



Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

glo

ry of

God

the

Fa - ther.

Α

men.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

# THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 Robert Powell S-280 1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace earth. 2. Lord to his peo-ple on God, heaven - ly al - might - y King, God and Fa ther, we wor - ship you, 3. Lord Je - sus give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you oftake the sin the world: have a - way mer cy 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:  $\mathbf{on}$ us; re prayer. 6. For a - lone are the Ho - ly One, ceive our you Lord, 7. you a - lone you a - lone are the High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho ly Spi - rit, in the

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

# THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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.** 

All sit.

# THE FIRST READING

Reader: A reading from the book of Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Acts 8:26-40

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The choir sings the antiphon which is repeated by the congregation. The congregation is invited to sing the antiphon at the indicated places, while the choir sings the verses of the Psalm.

THE PSALM K. Knecht



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!"

**Antiphon** 

- 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.

**Antiphon** 

- 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.

**Antiphon** 

Psalm 22:24-30

# THE SECOND READING

Reader: A reading from the first book of John.

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.

1 John 4:7-21

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 704 O thou who camest from above



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Hereford, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).

# THE GOSPEL

Reader: 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."

John 15:1-8

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All stand.

# THE NICENE 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.

Please kneel or stand.

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the course of silence after each bidding, you are welcome to add your own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for... In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for...

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Diane our Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and laity:

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joseph, the president, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on [those in the prayers of this parish], and on those who suffer from any grief or trouble:

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others; especially our food ministries, the people of South Sudan, Holy Cross School, Ravine a l'Anse, Haiti, St. Paul's Day School, Gordon Parks School, and Citizens of the World Academy.

We invite your intercessions and petitions, silently or aloud.

The Celebrant adds a Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Bishop Search Prayer.

All: O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop. O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day. O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. Amen.

# THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

# THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

More information can be found on the insert, by visiting our website, stpaulskcmo.org, or scanning the QR code on the back cover of the bulletin.

To make a contribution online, choose the QR code here.



Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY:

I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me

C. Hubert H. Parry

St. Paul's Choir

I was glad, glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord.

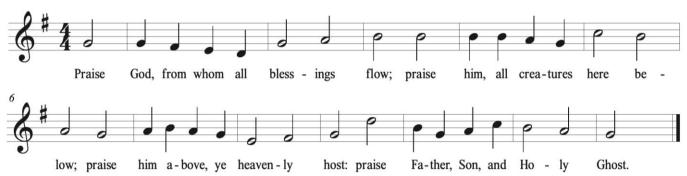
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

DOXOLOGY Old 100<sup>th</sup>



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.

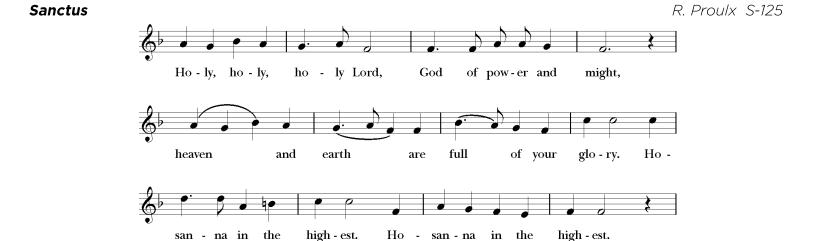
Blessed is

he who

*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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:





in the

name

comes

Ho -

Lord.

of the

Please kneel or stand.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant & People: We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

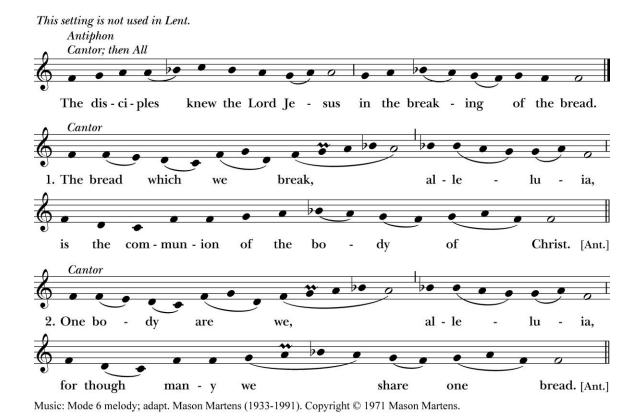
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

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.

Fraction Anthem M. Martens S-167



Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All who feel called by God are invited to the altar.

Those who wish only a blessing should come forward and cross their arms in front of their chest while at the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

All sit until dismissed by the usher to receive Communion.

Hymn 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

Please kneel or stand.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving 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.

Hymn 529 In Christ there is no East or West

McKee



# THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

# THE POSTLUDE

Caprice C. Harris

**Preacher:** The Reverend Steven King

**Celebrant:** The Reverend Brittany Sparrow Savage

Music Director:Sam AndersonOrganist:Kurt Knecht

**Readers:** Bridget Wagstaff

Cheryl Dillard

**Prayers of the People:** Nancy Franklin

Chalice: Nancy Day

Meredith Seaton

**Acolytes:** Lillian Hosty

Ella Howard Jackson Seitter

**Ushers:** Sterling Roath

Richard Scarritt Marie Thompson

# THE VESTRY OF ST. PAUL'S

Gabe Beam, Senior Warden
Sterling Roath, Junior Warden
Bill Lacy, Treasurer
Nancy Franklin, Clerk
Ellen Aisenbrey
Liz Barnes
Nicole Blanc
Jonathan Brouse
David Collier
Alexandra Connors
Craig Hakkio
Donn Harrison
Whitney Hosty
Jane Lampo
Deb Schneider

To read our ePistle, visit our website, and more, scan this QR Code

Marie Thompson



# PRAYER LIST

Merciful God, we bring before you those who seek our prayers.

We ask that you would look with compassion on the whole human family, and guide, guard and protect all people who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life. Lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God. Amen.

Scott, Michael, Carmen, Carly, William, Jesse, Wilbur, Karen, Paul, Kathy & Jim, Mamaw Palmer, Mary, Lonnie, Tom, Courtney, Stephanie, John, Alane, Lia, Carol, and Alan

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# Embracing Easter: Hope, Love, and Resurrection in Today's World

What difference does Easter make today? Join us during the Sundays in Easter for a series of insightful forums exploring the profound impact of the Easter season in our modern lives. Whether through war and violence, illness, or any other troubles, we know that as followers of Jesus, hope, love, and joy always find a way. Together, let's reflect on embodying these promises amidst the woes of today's society.

Next Sunday, May 5: "Signs of Life in the Empty Tomb: Cultivating Hope in Times of Darkness"

#### Volunteer for St. Paul's Food Ministries

We are in need of help! We are especially short of food distribution volunteers on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 to noon, but other opportunities are also available. If this ministry might speak to you, please reach out to the church office, and we'll link you up with Paul Herbers.

# St. Paul's Choir Concert May 15 - Save the Date!

Save the date for a wonderful concert full of high Anglican choral music presented by St. Paul's Adult Choir, led by Sam Anderson. We're still ironing out some exciting details, so the exact location has yet to be determined. In any case, we would love to see you there to support our outstanding St. Paul's musicians. Be on the lookout for more details in the near future.

# Save the date for food and fun at St. Paul's Annual Pentecost Picnic!

May 19th after church under the tents on the upper field. Please bring a generous side dish - enough for your family and a few more ~ e.g. salads, beans, casseroles, rice, cookies, etc. St. Paul's provides the chicken, biscuits and drinks.

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT ST. PAUL'S

# **EVERY SUNDAY**

# Children in Worship

People of all ages are welcome to worship in the Nave. In the narthex, you can find children's bulletins and a support shelf with resources for adults, youth, and children that can aid in engaging in the liturgy. There is also a listening pew, located at the front row on the left side for families with young children to have more space for movement.

#### Nursery

Children four and under are welcome in the nursery, professionally staffed by two licensed childcare providers. Conveniently located near the nave, off the tower door. Just follow the blue signs. The nursery operates from 9 a.m. until the end of the Sunday service.

#### Children's Worship

Children 5 through 8 years of age are also welcome to attend Children's Worship. Children's Worship uses an adapted liturgy of the word that includes a conversational sermon. During the passing of the peace, children will come into the Nave for the second half of the service called the liturgy of the table.

Please ask an usher to help guide you to the nursery or the Children's Chapel.

#### UPCOMING THIS SUMMER

VBS at St. Paul's | Linked by Love | July 15-19 | 1st through 5th grade

St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Summer in the City are excited to offer a VBS specialty camp Linked by Love. God's love can be experienced in so many different ways. Over the week, kids 1st-5th grade will explore Bible stories, sing songs, play games, and engage in service projects, inviting kids to reflect on how God's love links us to one another and God. VBS will run from 9 am to noon. However, the Summer in the City staff has graciously allowed us access to early drop off at 7:45 am and lunch, which will be served at the school at 12. Use the QR code to learn more and sign up!

### Would you like to Volunteer, Participate, or ask Questions?

Use the QR code to visit our website and reach out to Mtr. Brittany.



#### Host a Coffee Hour after church!

A warm, inviting, and well-stocked coffee hour is a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends old and new. For visitors, it helps creates a welcoming environment, and puts on showcase a bit of who we are here at St. Paul's.

Whether it's pastries, fruit, or finger foods, your offering, whether store-bought or homemade, is warmly welcomed. To make the process easier for you, we have set up a up Genius link where you can choose the day that suits you best to bring your offering.

Sign-

#### Stay Connected with St. Paul's!

Are you following us on social media? St. Paul's is active on both Facebook and Instagram! We share inspirational messages, upcoming events, photos capturing our shared life together, and more.

By following us and engaging with our posts, you'll help us spread the word about St. Paul's to a wider audience. Every like, comment, and share helps us connect with more people in our community.

Find us here:

Facebook: facebook.com/StPaulsKCMO Instagram: instagram.com/saintpaulskcmo

We look forward to connecting with you online!

#### What's Next?

- pril 28 Book Club
- May 5 Handbell Concert
- May 15 St. Paul's Choir Concert
- May 19 Pentecost and Parish Picnic
- June 8 Pride Mass