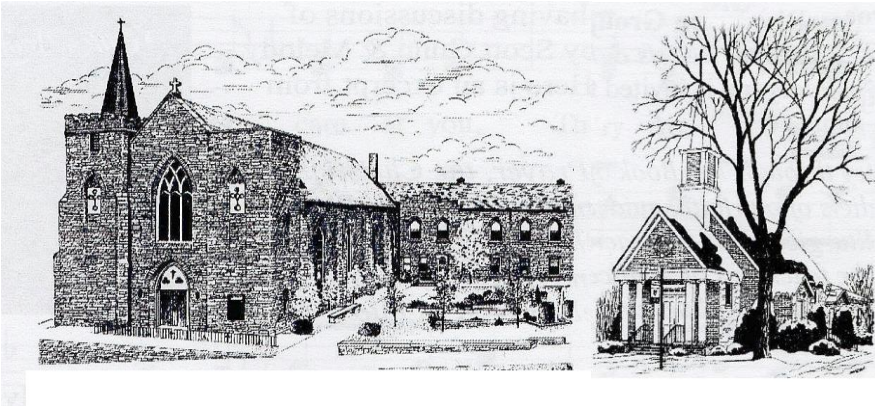


THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON

Alton, Illinois



St. Paul's Church
10 E. Third St.
10:30 a.m.

Trinity Chapel
1901 State St.
8:15 a.m.

September 24, 2023

The Rev. Christopher Ashmore+
Interim Rector

The Rev. Christopher Ashmore – Mobile - 217-473-1862 or Email: revkash@msn.com

Church Office Telephone – 618-465-9149

Church Email: episcopalalton@gmail.com

Office Hours – Tuesday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Admin. Assistant Office Hours – Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Noon

Welcome to the Episcopal Parish of Alton! We are glad to have you worship with us today. All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion or to simply come forward for a blessing.

**Asterisk is sung service music at St. Paul's Church only*

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

BCP p. 355

Prelude *Hail the Lord of all Creation*

F. Ritter

Hymn #410 *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*

The Hymnal 1982

Glory to God: *Gloria in excelsis*

*S280 The Hymnal 1982**

The Collect of the Day

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *Please be seated*

BCP p. 357

A reading from Jonah

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the

bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Psalm 145: 1-8

Exaltabo te, Deus

The people respond with the verses in bold italics

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

A reading from Philippians

Philippians 1: 21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Hymn #660

O Master, let me walk with thee

The Hymnal 1982

Please stand if you are able

The Gospel

Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the

owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Sermon

The Rev. Gene Stormer+

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

BCP p. 358

The Prayers of the People: Form III

BCP p. 387

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

Pre'lude modal

J. Langlais

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

Lift up your hearts: Sursum Corda

*S120 The Hymnal 1982**

Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus

*S128 The Hymnal 1982**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

*S119 The Hymnal 1982**

Jesus Lamb of God: Agnus Dei

*S164 The Hymnal 1982**

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive Communion, and everyone is welcome to come to the rail for a blessing.

If you do not wish to receive either the bread or the wine, please cross your arms across your chest as a silent request for a blessing from the priest.

Communion Anthem

Bread of Life

arr. J. Barr

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

The Blessing

BCP p. 366

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Hymn #690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

The Hymnal 1982

Postlude

Toccata

G. Young

SERVING TODAY

NEXT WEEK

Trinity:

Celebrant: The Rev. Gene Stormer+
Organist: Gay Anderson
Lector: Mary Molloy
Intercessor: Mary Molloy
CB/Acolyte: Jeff Dunnagan
Altar Guild: Lisa Springman

The Rev. John Henry+
Gay Anderson
Linda Dunnagan
Linda Dunnagan
Donna Fisher
Lisa Springman

St. Paul's:

Celebrant: The Rev. Gene Stormer+
Organist: Gay Anderson
Crucifer: Dereck Cook
Acolyte: Marie Drennan
Altar Acolyte: Destiny Drennan
Chalice/BB: Marti LoRusso

The Rev. John Henry+
Gay Anderson
Tom Harris
Marti LoRusso
Elias Silkwood
Donna Fisher

Lector:	Chuck Drennan	Connie Terry
Intercessor:	Chuck Drennan	Connie Terry
Altar Guild:	E. Bumbacher, C. Terry	D. Cook, J. Cook

Calendar & Announcements for the week of September 24, 2023

Tuesday, Sep 26	Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m., No Bible study
Tuesday, Sep 26	Evening Prayer at 4:30 p.m.
Friday, Sep 29	Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, Sep 29	<i>Feast of St. Michael and All Angels</i> -There will be no noon Mass. This feast day may be celebrated privately
Friday, Sep 29	Evening Prayer at 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sep 30	Workday - 8:00 a.m. to Noon at St. Paul's inside
Sunday, Oct 1	8:15 a.m. Mass – Trinity Chapel 10:30 a.m. Mass – St. Paul's 4 Paws Pet Food Pantry – 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals – St. Paul's Garden

The Altar flowers this morning have been provided by Anna Potter in recognition of her 85th birthday. Please join in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's following the 10:30 a.m. service for a celebration lunch provided by Anna's family.

An organ recital will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Edwardsville today at 2:00 p.m. to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ordination to Deacon of Fr. David Boase, our former Rector.

Property and Maintenance is having a workday from 8:00 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, Sep 30 at St. Paul's. We will be cleaning the inside of the church in preparation for the Landmark's tour on October 7. Please join us at any time and for as long as you can for this much needed work. Your time is greatly appreciated.

A CPR certification class will be held Tuesday, October 10th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's. Please contact Irene McLaughlin at ibmpat17@gmail.com for more information or to register.

If you are interested in joining the weekly walking group, please let Mimi Almonroeder know at diamondzoe@charter.net or 618-581-5756. We have been meeting on Friday mornings at 8:00 a.m. With cooler weather, walking should be more comfortable.

Please help out Parish Life by taking a turn at hosting Coffee Hour at St. Paul's after the 10:30 a.m. service. A sign-up sheet can be found in Heneghan Hall.

Bible Study. In Fr. Kip's absence, Bible Study is on hold until further notice.

Please join us in the Garden next Sunday, October 1, at 2:00 p.m. for The Blessing of the Animals. All pets must be suitably leashed or caged. Please invite your friends and their animal companions for this very special service.



Please remember in your prayers this week:

K-Lou, Fr. Kip, Nell, Claudette, Marie, Charles, Robin, Bianca, Albert, Audrey, Linda, Al, Mother Jane, Terry, Kay, Barb, John, Don, Tony, Dan, Nolan, Helen, Greg, Don, Irene, Katie, Judy and those known only to us.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*