

Alleluia! He is Risen!



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

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

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

Church Office Telephone – 618-465-9149

Church Email: episcopalalton@gmail.com

Office Hours – Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

BCP p. 355

Prelude *Prelude in G*

G. F. Handel

Hymn # 379 *God is Love, let heaven adore him*

The Hymnal 1982

Glory to God: *Gloria in excelsis*

#S280 *The Hymnal 1982*

The Collect of 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.

The Lessons *Please be seated*

BCP p. 357

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 8:26-40

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.

Psalm 22:24-30

Deus, Deus meus

The people respond with the verses in bold italics

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!"

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.

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.

A reading from 1 John

1 John 4:7-21

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.

Hymn #323

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed

The Hymnal 1982

Please stand if you are able

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

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.”

The Sermon

The Rev. John Henry+

The Nicene Creed *Please stand* *BCP p. 358*

The Prayers of the People: Form III *BCP p. 387*

Confession of Sin *BCP p. 360*

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J. S. Bach

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 (*sung*) *BCP p. 364*

Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei #S119 *The Hymnal 1982*
#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	<i>Communion</i>	L. Vierne
Post-Communion Prayer		<i>BCP</i> p. 366
The Blessing		<i>BCP</i> p. 366
Dismissal		<i>BCP</i> p. 366
Hymn #529	<i>In Christ there is no East or West</i>	<i>The Hymnal 1982</i>
Postlude	<i>Flourish</i>	L. Nelson

SERVING TODAY

Trinity:

Celebrant: The Rev. John Henry+
Organist: Gay Anderson
Lector: Laurna Hutchinson
Intercessor: Laurna Hutchinson
CB/Acolyte: Laurna Hutchinson
Altar Guild: Sue Goers

NEXT SUNDAY

The Rev. Gene Stormer+
Gay Anderson
Linda Dunnagan
Linda Dunnagan
Jeff Dunnagan
Linda Dunnagan

St. Paul's:

Celebrant:	The Rev. John Henry+	The Rev. Gene Stormer+
Organist:	Gay Anderson	Gay Anderson
Crucifer:	Tom Wrausmann	Robbie Cupp
Altar Acolyte:	Elias Silkwood	Destiny Drennan
Acolyte:	Marti LoRusso	Elias Silkwood
Chalice/BB:	Donna Fisher	Susan Lukasik
Lector:	Chuck Drennan	Tom Harris
Intercessor:	Chuck Drennan	Tom Harris
Altar Guild:	E. Bumbacher, C. Terry	D. Cook, J. Cook

Calendar and Announcements for the Week of April 28, 2024

Tuesday, April 30 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer-St. Paul's
10:15 a.m. Bible Study-St. Paul's

Wednesday, May 1 *The Feast of the Apostles Saint Philip and Saint James* – This
Feast Day may be celebrated privately.
10:00 a.m. ECW meeting at St. Paul's

Sunday, May 5 Offering for Rector's Discretionary Fund
8:15 a.m. Mass--Trinity Chapel
10:30 a.m. Mass – St. Paul's
12:30-1:30 p.m. Pet Food Pantry

Bible Study will be held Tuesday, April 30th following Morning Prayer in St. Elizabeth's Chapel at 9:30 a.m. Bible study begins at 10:15 a.m. and lasts approximately an hour. We are currently studying *The Gospel of Mark*. All are welcome to join – be sure to bring your Bible!

On Saturday, May 11th, our parish will be hosting the Saturday Café at First Presbyterian Church. Food, preparation, serving and cleanup are our responsibilities. Volunteers are needed beginning around 10:30 a.m. We will be serving approximately

forty people. The menu will be: fried chicken, potato salad, lettuce salad, green beans, fruit cups, dessert, soda and water. We are asking parishioners to donate the following items: 4 large bags of salad mix from Walmart, a container of grape tomatoes, 1 bag of shredded cheese, a variety of fruit cups (40 servings) and dessert (cookies, brownies). Please deliver to St. Paul's by Friday, May 10th. Please contact Tony Springman (615-513-8685 or springmant@gmail.com), for more information.

Our Spring United Thank Offering (UTO) will be collected through Sunday, May 26th. UTO pink envelopes have been provided in your pledge boxes, or envelopes are also in the church narthex. Gifts may be placed in the collection plate or mailed to the Church office. Please designate "UTO" in the memo if you are submitting a check.

Mark Your Calendars!! The Guild of Grace and ECW will be holding a Puzzle Palooza, Thursday, June 13, 6:00- 8:00 p.m. Get your bunko group, card club, coffee group, pickle ball group, golf buddies, what have you, to join us for a fun evening of puzzle palooza!!! Reservations should be made with payment of \$25 to The Guild of Grace by June 7th in the office of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. See further details in the next Angelus newsletter.

If you are interested in joining the weekly walking group, please let Mimi Almonroeder know at diamondzoe@charter.net or 618-581-5756. The exact time and location are determined on a weekly basis.

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.

Please remember in your prayers this week:



Ron, Pete, Sarah and the Dobson family, Rebecca, Jeanne, Judy, Tori, John, Jeanie, K-Lou, Fr. Kip, Claudette, Marie, Charles, Robin, Bianca, Albert, Audrey, Linda, Mother Jane, Terry, Kay, John, Don, Tony, Dan, Nolan, Helen, Greg, Don, Irene, Katie, Judy and those known only to us.

For Prayers of the People, we use **Form III, found on page 387.**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

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

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Brian, our Bishop; John, priest with us today; our next Rector, Garron; and all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

We pray for Joseph, our President; J.B., our governor; the Congress, Legislatures, and the Courts; and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

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

That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for: Ron, Pete, Sarah and the Dobson family, Rebecca, Jeanne, Judy, Tori, John, K-Lou, Fr. Kip, Jeanie, Claudette, Marie, Charles, Robin, Bianca, Albert, Audrey, Linda, Mother Jane, Terry, Kay, John, Don, Tony, Dan, Nolan, Helen, Greg, Don, Irene, Katie, Judy, all those in harm's way around the world; those known only to us, and those we name now. (pause) Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Paul, and all your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.