

Gospel continued

They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**From The Zucchetto - a.k.a. Zucchini by the PiC
The Peace of God and Building Up a Great Church**



In this chaotic world peace seems to be elusive, a distant dream at best. But it need not be so. At the end of the liturgy every Sunday the priest blesses the church with these words: "The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord." The Peace of God! Sounds great, doesn't it, but what is it? And if there really is such a thing, how do we get it?

The Good News is that the Peace of God is a gift that is real and powerful and God wants you and me to experience it on every level of our lives. But, as a gift, it needs to be received, it needs to be opened to be enjoyed. We can open it and revel in God's peace, or we can refuse it and continue to live lives filled with worries, fears, and anxieties.

So, how do we do we receive it? Let me offer you five practical steps. One, through daily prayer. This practice focuses our thoughts and opens our hearts and minds to God's presence and thus, his peace. Read the Bible. I read three books of the Bible at a time: one chapter a day from a book of the Old Testament, Several of the Psalms, and a chapter a day from a book in the New Testament. Once I complete a book, I go on to the next one. Start wherever you like, but do it. You'll begin to know more peace than you would have ever of thought possible. Actively participate in the life of God's imperfect Church. Share your ideas and visions with the Saints of God, but wait upon the Lord for his timing to bring those things about. Peace comes as we wait upon the Lord and allow his will to be accomplished in his time not ours. Practice gratitude. So many wonderful things are happening at St. Paul's. Focus on what we have here and now rather than what we lack and give God thanks and praise for those things. Such a stance opens us up more and more to the Peace of God. Let go of control. I am the priest-in-charge of a great congregation; I have a vision of what God may be calling us to do. (Note: may be calling us to do not is calling us to do. Not my will but his will be done.) But getting there depends on God's timing, not mine. I need to get out of the way and let God be in the way, right in the middle!

By trusting God, engaging in prayer, and grounding ourselves in the Word of God, we can grow in, and maintain this divine Peace. Then, in moments of stress in the world and in God's imperfect church, we will know that Peace is not defined by the absence of troubles but rather by the presence of a Peace that far out passes our understanding. By embracing the teachings of the Bible and receiving the Peace offered by God we can boldly face our challenges with confidence and serenity. As you and I journey toward a deeper understanding, we will experience a peace that not only calms our hearts but also challenges those around us to open the gift of God's peace themselves.

Pray for the Church and the Body of Christ

The Daughters of the King are dedicated to supporting the prayer needs of 1St. Paul's. They are available in the west corner of sanctuary every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for private prayer. You can also submit intentions in the prayer box in the narthex. To add names to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise renewed.



Please pray for: Abby, Jerry Harrison, Jorn Jamison, Cathy Hargrave, Fr. Gordon

T H A N K  Y O U!



Growing a rose garden like becoming a strong Christian takes change. You tear out what's choking the soil. Break up the ground. Dig deep so new roots take hold.



Then you start laying new foundation, add good soil, rich nourishment, new plants, water, time, patience and a community of teamwork.



Jr. Warden Frank McKee thanks everyone who blessed us with donations, time and hard worked to update the rose garden: Myrna & Ray Pendley, Karen & Brad Smith, Dan Hibben, Suzanne Taylor, Mary Teasley, John Schofield. **New roses & new borders!**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



James Tissot, "The Pilgrims on the Road to Emmaus" Part of Tissot's major series illustrating the life of Christ (c. 1890; water color) Original work is part of collection at the Brooklyn Museum.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church*

The Rt. Rev. Robert P. Price, *Bishop*

The Rev. Gary D. Hill, *Priest In Charge*

The Rev. Gordon Miltenberger, *Assisting Priest*

David Gish, *Music Director*

Cathy Hargrave, *Organist*

3rd Sunday of Easter - April 19, 2026

Service Times at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

SUNDAY

10:30 am. HOLY EUCHARIST
11:45 am. FELLOWSHIP, CLARDY HALL

MONDAY

9:00 am. CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY

10:30 am. MORNING PRAYER II
6:00 pm. BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY

8:00 p.m. COMPLINE SERVICE <http://stpaulstx.org> Facebook

Sunday, April 19th

LEM/ Lay Readers Matt Wolff
Acolyte Karen Smith
Thurifer Laurel Pence
Vestry Person of the Day: Debbie Shaffer, Elizabeth Porter
Intercessory Prayer: Laurel Pence
Tech Team: Director-Jeff Faunce; Titles-Jennifer Faunce;
Audio-Brad Mathis; Cameras-Nick Stone
Social Media-Georgianna Harrison
Altar Guild: Laurel Pence, Nancy Wyant,
Georgianna Harrison

Hymns and Songs for the Day

Processional	Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks	H #178
Gospel	Easter Song	Handout
Offertory	I Love to Tell the Story	A3 #76
Doxology	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow	H #647
Communion	Come Now is the Time to Worship	A3 #26
	His Name is Wonderful	A3 #61
Procession to the World	Shine Jesus, Shine	A3 #142



Today's Stewardship Pearl

"For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body....If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just where he wanted them to be.As it is, there are many parts; but one body." - 1 Corinthians 12:13, 17-18, 20
(God's Church as described by St. Paul)

More Than Enough — Donate Digitally!

Open your phone's camera and aim it at this QR code. This will take you directly to our donation page at www.stpaulstx.org/giving where you can donate to our Giving Program.

Thank you for your support!



Holy Eucharist

Collect

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson— Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Lector: A reading from the Book of Acts

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 116: 1-3, 10-17 (read responsively by whole verse)

Dilexi, quoniam

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The Epistle - 1 Peter 1: 17-23

Lector: A reading from Peter's First Letter

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Hymn

The Gospel - Luke 24: 13-35

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.