

ST PAUL'S ELKINS PARK

An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024 9:00 a.m



Welcome to St. Paul's Elkins Park!

*We are on a mission to know Christ;
to make Christ known in our community;
and to follow His Way of compassion and service to others.*

The Rev. John D. Daniels, Priest in Charge
The Rev. Simpson Coriolan, Priest Associate
The Rev. Jeannie Sachs, Deacon
David Antony Lofton, Music Director
Tessika McClendon, Soprano
Shango-Jamal Lewis, Baritone

Holy Eucharist

The Ministry of the Word

Prelude *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
Irish Melody arr. Dan Forrest

WELCOME

Opening Hymn *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*
Blue #518 vs 1,3

Opening Sentence

Celebrant: Blessed be the Lord Our God.
People: ***For ever and ever.***

Celebrant: We seek to walk the path of Christ.

People: ***May the Spirit be among us, in us, and through us.***

Hymn of Glory *In My Life, Lord, Be Magnified*

Levas #216

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson **Acts 4:5-12**

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Blue #664 vs 1

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 10:11-18

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily The Rev. Jeannie Sachs

Our Affirmation of Trust in all that is Holy

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.*

The Prayers of the People

(The Reader and People pray responsively)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
(Silence)

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Congress and the President, for peace among the nations, for all those in uniform
now serving in harm's way, and for those who suffer for the sake of conscience.
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Give us hope in this time of uncertainty. Strengthen those who are afraid and give us
courage in the face of violence and hate. Open our hearts and the hearts of our
enemies to your ways of peace; break down the walls that divide us.

Make us instruments of reconciliation and show forth your love.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Daniel, our Diocesan Bishop; for John, our Priest in Charge, for Simpson, our Priest Associate, for Jeannie, our Deacon, for David our Music Director, for Tessika and Shango-Jamal, our singers, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all people everywhere;

For all who serve in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation,

(The People may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud)

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(The People may add their own thanksgivings either silently or aloud)

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

(The People may pray for those who have died, silently or aloud.)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace (*All stand.*)

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

(The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

Words of Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Enriching Our Worship

Eucharistic Prayer I

Offertory Anthem

In Christ Alone

By Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

Shango-Jamal Lewis, baritone

The Doxology:

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Blue #380 verse 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People: Sanctus

Blue #S 130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: 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.

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 poured out in forgiveness. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Remembering his death, resurrection, and ascension, 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 St. Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name forever. 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. ***Amen.***

Celebrant: And now, let us say together the words Our Savior taught us,
Celebrant and People:

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***

The Breaking of the Bread (*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*)

Celebrant: Alleluia. We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: ***We who are many are one body, for we all share
in the one bread and the one cup. Alleluia.***

Agnus Dei

Blue #S 164

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Grant us peace.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and 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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,
be with you and with those you love, this day, and for ever more.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn *We've Come This Far by Faith* Levas #208

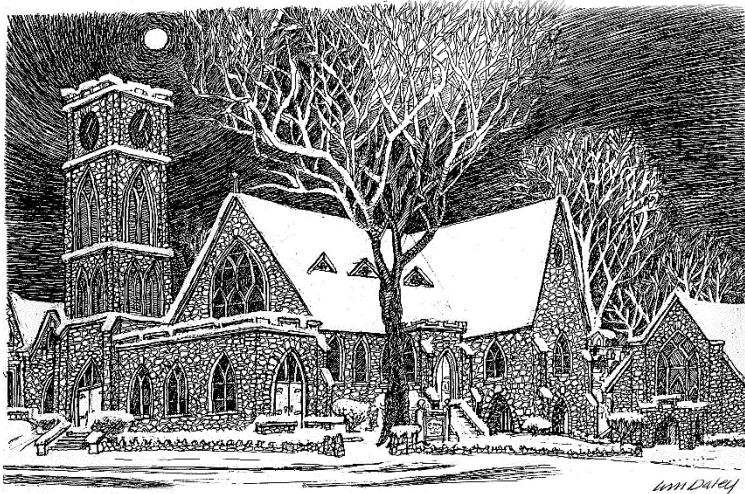
The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth with the Risen Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Postlude *The Rejoicing*

by Charles Callahan



ST PAUL'S ELKINS PARK

An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church

**7809 Old York Road
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office@stpaulselkinspark.org**

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Shango-Jamal Lewis, Baritone

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a multi-cultural community of faith
with members from all over the world.*

Sunday Service

9:00 a.m. Family Communion in the Sanctuary or on Zoom

Contemporary worship with ancient depth and great music

**www.stpaulselkinspark.org
www.stpaulsfriends.org**

Subscribe to our calendar: www.stpaulselkinspark.org/parish-life/events/

(Drawing above by William Daley)