

# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## *The Conversion of Saint Paul*

*January 24, 2021 10:00 AM*

**The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector**  
7809 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 215.635.4185

# ST PAUL'S ELKINS PARK

*An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church*

**The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector**  
**The Rev. Simpson Coriolan, Priest Associate**  
**David Antony Lofton, Music Director**

***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.***

## **Online Sunday Service**

10:00 AM Family Communion

with Sunday School; contemporary worship with ancient depth,  
with all kinds of music.

## **Online Tuesday Service**

10:00 AM Spoken Morning Prayer

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

*We welcome all at the Holy Table in our church,  
without exception, wherever you are in your spiritual journey.*

Front cover illustration: *Caravaggio*

# *Holy Eucharist*

**The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector**  
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## The Ministry of the Word

*Prelude: Scarlatti/The Light of God*

### WELCOME

#### **Opening Hymn**

*In Christ there is no East or West*

**Lift Every Voice #62**

**Join our soloists and sing along at home!**

In Christ there is no East or West,  
In Him no South or North;  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord,  
Close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, members of the faith,  
Whatever your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as a son  
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,  
In Him meet South and North;  
All Christly souls are one in Him  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

#### **Opening Sentence**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be the Lord Our God.

*People* **For ever and ever. Alleluia.**

## Hymn of Praise

The Lord is my Light

**Join our soloists and sing along at home!**

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

*Whom shall I fear?*

*Whom shall I fear?*

*Whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the Strength of my life*

*Whom shall I fear?*

*In the time of trouble, he shall hide me*

*In the time of trouble, he shall hide me*

*In the time of trouble, he shall hide me*

*Whom shall I fear?*

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*In the time of trouble, he shall hide me*

*Whom shall I fear?*

## The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## **The First Lesson**

*A reading from Acts 26:9-21*

Paul said to King Agrippa, "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

"With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles-- to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

"After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me."

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

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 67**

May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.  
Let your ways be known upon earth, \*  
your saving health among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has brought forth her increase; \*  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.  
May God give us his blessing, \*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

## **The Second Lesson**

*A reading from Galatians 3:26-29; 5:5-6*

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love.

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

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Hymn**

*Just as I am*

**Lift Every Voice #137 vs. 2 & 5**

**Join our soloists and sing along at home!**

Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a-conflict, many a-doubt  
Fightings and fears within, without  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down  
Now, to be thine, yea thine alone  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

## **The Gospel**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John 17:18–23

*People*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Looking up to heaven, Jesus said, “As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Homily**

**The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid**

### **Our Affirmation of Trust in all that is Holy**

You, O God, are supreme and holy.

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us. You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.

You came to us before we came to you.

You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.

You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcame death.

You are God. We worship you.

*Taken from the New Zealand Prayerbook*

## **The Prayers of the People**

The Leader 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;

*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 our assisting Bishops; for Paul, our Rector, for Simpson, our Priest Associate, for David our Music Director, for Shango and Tessika, our singers, and for all bishops and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in his 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 add their own petitions for those who have died.)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*

*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.***

## **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

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**

**The Offertory**

### ***Lord, Listen to your Children Praying***

Tessika McClendon, Soprano    Shango-Jamal Lewis, Baritone

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 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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give us knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

## **Sanctus**

*Celebrant and People*

**Spoken**

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.

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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 of the new Covenant,  
which is poured out for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
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.

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection,  
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 Saint Paul and all your saints,  
past, present, and yet to come,  
we may praise your Name for ever.

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.

And now, let us say together the words our savior taught us,

*People and Celebrant*

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:* 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.

## **Agnus Dei**

## **Spoken**

*Celebrant:* Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

*People:* Have mercy upon us.

*Celebrant:* Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

*People:* Have mercy upon us.

*Celebrant:* Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

*People:* Grant us your peace.

*Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

## **Postcommunion 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 Celebrant pronounces a Blessing

### Closing Hymn

*God is Love, let heaven adore him*

**Blue Hymnal #379**

**Join our soloists and sing along at home!**

God is love, let heaven adore him;  
God is love, let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him  
and exalt him with one voice.  
God who laid the earth's foundation,  
God who spread the heav'ns above,  
God who breathes through all creation:  
God is love, eternal love.

God is love; and love enfolds us,  
all the world in one embrace;  
with unfailing grasp God holds us,  
ev'ry child of ev'ry race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
then we find that selfsame aching  
deep within the heart of God.

God is love; and though with blindness  
sin afflicts all human life,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
guides us through our earthly strife.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain:  
God is love, so love forever  
o'er the universe must reign.

### The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

The People respond *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Postlude: *Grand Jeu* by Guilain

Hymn (After Coffee Hour) - *God Be With You* Lift Every Voice #234  
*Join our soloist and sing along at home!*

God be with you, God be with you, God be with you  
Until we meet again. (Repeat)

Front cover illustration: *Caravaggio*