

**Welcome to St. Paul's Elkins Park Church
An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church**

**Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
July 26, 2026, 9:00 a.m.**

***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
David Antony Lofton, Music Director
Tessika McClendon, Soprano
Veronica Flemings, Acolyte**

Holy Eucharist (BCP 355)

Prelude: Notturmo in C Major Opus 54 No. 4

Edvard Grieg

WORDS OF WELCOME

Opening Hymn: God is Working His Purpose Out

BLUE #543 v. 1, 3

The Word of God (BCP 355)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Hymn of Glory: Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!

LEVAS #243

The Collect of the Day (BCP 357)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: A reading from Genesis 29:15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 128 (BCP 783)

Happy are they all who fear the Lord,
and who follow in his ways!
You shall eat the fruit of your labor;
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.
Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house,
your children like olive shoots round about your table.
The man who fears the Lord
shall thus indeed be blessed.
The Lord bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
May you live to see your children's children;
may peace be upon Israel.

The Second Lesson: A reading from Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes

for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: Be Thou My Vision

BLUE #488 v. 1, 2

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered,

“Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. John Daniels

The Nicene Creed (RCP 358)

Celebrant: Our Affirmation of Trust in All that is Holy

People: 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 worshipped 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 (RCP 392 (Form VI))

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 this community, the nation, and the world;

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.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Daniel, our Diocesan Bishop; for John, our Priest in Charge; for Simpson, our Priest Associate; for David, our Music Director; for Tessika, our singer; for Veronica, our acolyte; for all bishops and other ministers, and for all people everywhere;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
(*Silence*)
Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
(*Silence*)
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.
(*Silence*)
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Confession (BCP 360)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
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 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.

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 (BCP 360)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Words of Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion (BCP 361)

Offertory Anthem: Here's One

William Grant Still

Tessika McClendon, Soprano

The Doxology

BLUE #380 vs. 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.

The Great Thanksgiving (BCP 361)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You have filled us and all creation with 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing the hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

BLUE #S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent

Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
*Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day your 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 (BCP 364)

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei

BLUE #S164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

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 (BCP 365)

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

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

Closing Hymn: Blessed Assurance

LEVAS #184

The Dismissal (BCP366)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Be Thou My Vision

arr. Dan Musselmann

Please Join us for Coffee Hour in the Narthex following the service

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
7809 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Schedule a meeting with Father John: If you would like to schedule a time to meet with Father John or want to speak with him at any time, please call at 484-983-7943.

Administrator Position: We need a part-time administrator to support the work of the rector, staff, and lay leaders. Hours will be three 5-hour days per week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays or Fridays. The administrator manages the day-to-day business and operations of the church. If you know someone who meets the job requirements, please have them email the church office: office@stpaulselkinspark.org.

The Women's Book Club is scheduling its next meeting. If interested in being a part please feel free to contact Laura at 215-870-3476 or Anneke at 651-248-8932.

The Prayer Band: A small, but faithful group, the Prayer Band has continued to meet faithfully over the last 10+ years. The Prayer Band meets every other Monday at 6 p.m. on Zoom.
ID: 85240760054; Password 728050.

Schatz-St. Paul's Community Farm is up and running. Garden plots are available for anyone interested. Please contact Adrienne Redd for more information 215-645-2686. Gardening will be taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6 p.m.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Paul's: The Prayer Shawl knitting group meets on the 2nd Saturday every month from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. There will be no meetings in July and August, but the Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume in September.

Food Donations: Remember to donate to the Food Pantry Wagon located in the Narthex.