

**Welcome to St. Paul's Elkins Park Church
An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 20, 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: Because He Lives **William & Gloria Gaither arr. John Purifoy**

WORDS OF WELCOME

Opening Hymn: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing **BLUE #493 vs. 1, 2, 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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you

have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord. Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 (BCP 738, 740-41)

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him,
and speak of all his marvelous works.

Glory in his holy Name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the Lord and his strength;
continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done,
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant,
O children of Jacob his chosen.

He led out his people with silver and gold;
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
Egypt was glad of their going,
because they were afraid of them.
He spread out a cloud for a covering
and a fire to give light in the night season.
They asked, and quails appeared,
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
He opened the rock, and water flowed,
so the river ran in the dry places.
For God remembered his holy word
and Abraham his servant.
So he led forth his people with gladness,
his chosen with shouts of joy.
He gave his people the lands of the nations,
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
That they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws.
Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson: A reading from Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: Amazing Grace

LEVAS #181 vs. 1, 3

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 20:1-16

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily: The Rev. John D. Daniels

The Nicene Creed (BCP 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 (BCP 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: Plen'y Good Room
Tessika McClendon, Soprano

arr. Marvin Mills

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.

Communion Anthem: Break Thou the Bread of Life **William F. Sherwan**
Tessika McClendon, Soprano

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: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty **BLUE #390 vs. 1, 2, 3**

The Dismissal (BCP 366)

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Suite du Premier Ton: Duo

Michel Corrette

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
www.stpaulselkinspark.org

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.

New Administrative Assistant. We are happy to announce that Jocelyn Heyser has joined St. Paul's as our new Administrative Assistant. She will be working in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If you need assistance, you can contact Jocelyn at the office email: office@stpaulselkinspark.org.

New Vestry Member. Catherine Reed Holochwost has been nominated to join the Vestry and she has accepted. If you have any objections to her serving on the Vestry, please contact one of the Vestry members by October 4, 2025. The Vestry is currently composed of: Felicia Anyanwu, Karen Jantzi, Bob Lockyer, Doug Martin, Kumi Reed, and Herbert Welles.

Church Picnic. Holy Nativity Church is holding a picnic on September 27, 2026 at noon. All are welcome for food, fellowship, and fun for the whole family. Holy Nativity Church is located at 205 Huntingdon Pike, Rockledge, PA.

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.

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. The next meeting will be September 28, 2026.
Zoom ID: 85240760054; Password 728050.

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

September Birthdays

2 – Danny Wright
11 – Aiden Caverner Conley
19 – Genevieve Harlan

8 – Patricia Caverner
15 – Chineuhelum Anyanechi
21 – William Pillsbury