

**Welcome to St. Paul's Elkins Park Church
An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
October 11, 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: Be Thou My Vision

arr. Mary Byrne

WORDS OF WELCOME

Opening Hymn: Rejoice, the Lord is King

BLUE #481 vs. 1, 2

The Word of God (BCP 355)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Hymn of Glory: Glory to God in the Highest

LEVAS #53

The Collect of the Day (BCP 357)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray thee that thy grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: A reading from Exodus 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall

go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” Aaron said to them, “Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me.” So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.” They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 (BCP 741-43)

Hallelujah!

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord *

or show forth all his praise?
Happy are those who act with justice *
and always do what is right!
Remember me, O Lord, with the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;
That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.
We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *
and worshiped a molten image;
And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,
Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

The Second Lesson: A reading from Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,
stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask
you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me
in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose
names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to
everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by
prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and
your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any
excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for

the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: My Sheperd Will Supply My Need BLUE #664 vs. 1, 2

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 21:23-32

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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: Great is Thy Faithfulness **arr. Evelyn Simpson- Curenton**
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 forever 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

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.

BLUE #S164

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: Lead Me, Lord **arr. Samuel Wesley**
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: The Lord is My Light **LEVAS #58**

The Dismissal (BCP 366)

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Dialogue (Pieces de l'Orgue) **Michel Corrette**

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

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.

St. Paul's Women's book club is having brunch on Saturday October 24, 2026 at 9:00 AM.

Location:

First Watch- 1423 Old York Rd Abington PA 19001

Contact Yeisha Hinds to RSVP 914-319-9363 or y_hinds@yahoo.com

Friends of St. Paul's Restructuring Announcement. The Friends of St. Paul's is restructuring and looking for church and community members to serve as board members and officers. If interested, please contact Carlene N. Welles at [757-206-3804](tel:757-206-3804) or cnbrd13@gmail.com.

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 October 12, 2026

Zoom ID: 85240760054; Password 728050.

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.

St. Paul's Fall Birthday Celebration. Please join us on Saturday, November 14 from 1pm to 4pm at Jay Cooke Hall. For more details, contact Anneke, Carlene, Herb, or Yeisha.

Friends of St. Paul's Elkins Park Presents: Holiday Pops Concert. Join us and celebrate the holiday season on Saturday, December 19 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets will be \$25.

Bright Lights Ministry – Hats and Mittens for St. Stephen's Homeless Outreach. Our former deacon, Jeannie Sachs, is seeking knitted or crocheted hats and mittens for donation. They must be bright, vibrant, and colorful. Contact Jeannie at deaconjeannie@stpetersglenside.org or 215-877-1765 ext. 403.

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

Hospitality Hosts & Usher/Readers Wanted. We are scheduling hospitality hosts and usher/readers for November through January. Please contact Laura Pillsbury to volunteer (lauramspear@gmail.com or 215-870-3476)

St. Paul's Flea Market. Saturday October 17, 2026 from 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Discover vintage treasures, handmade crafts and great deals from local vendors. Donations are welcome. All proceeds benefiting St. Paul's Church. Vendors may participate with a \$25 vendor fee.

Have an Announcement to Share with our Church Family? We'd love to include it in next week's service bulletin! Please send your announcement to office@stpaulselkinspark.org by **12:00 p.m. on Wednesday** so we can make sure it is included.

October Birthdays

3 – Sandra Farmer
9 – Christian Stech
24 – Bob Lockyer

7 – Desulien Pierrelus
13 – Erica Moten