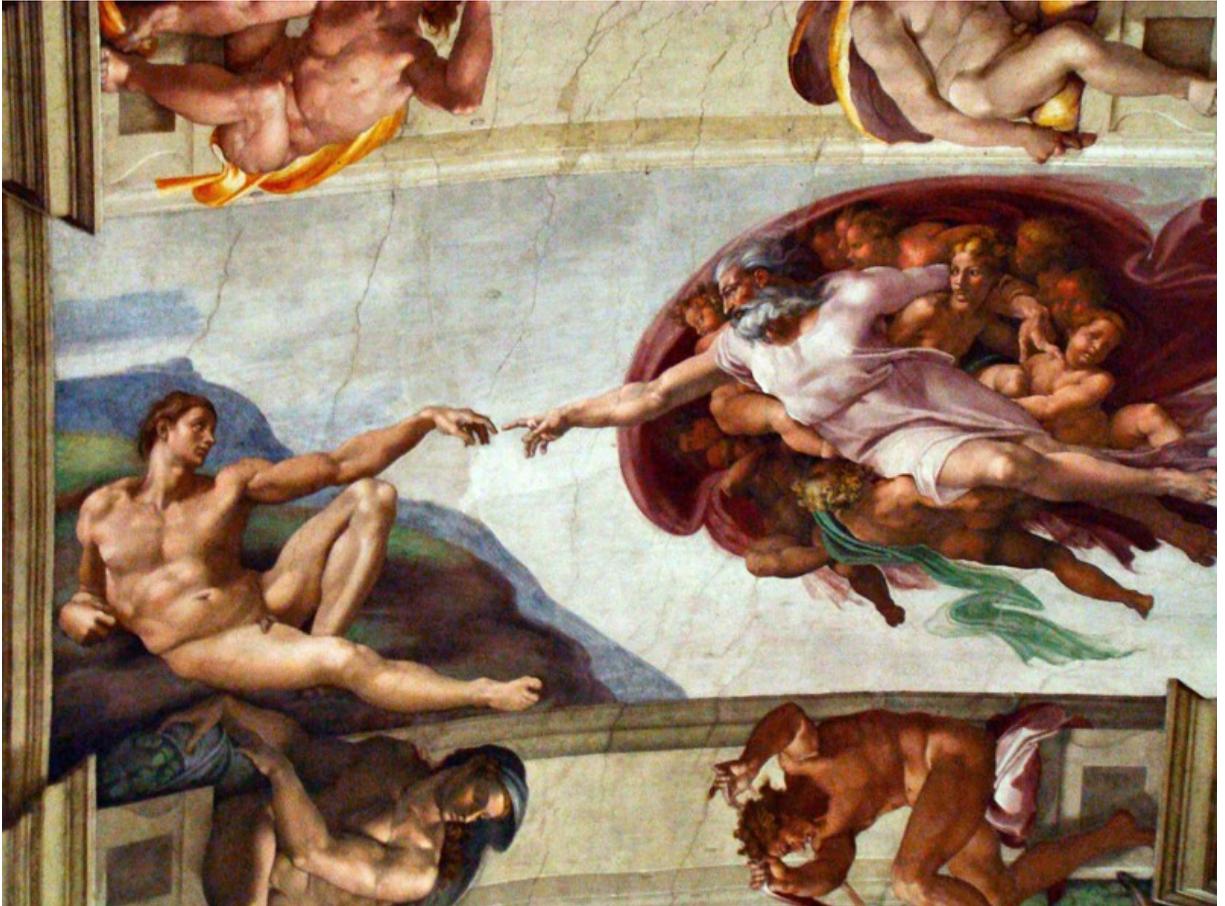


ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH @ HOME



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2020
AT 10:00 AM

WELCOME!

Welcome in the Lord's name to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. No matter who you are and where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome! You bless us with your presence. We have been gathering for over 150 years as a community to worship God and demonstrate our faith in our daily lives. We are currently gathering online, each in our own space, yet praising God together. We are delighted you are joining us, and hope to see you at future parish events.

ABOUT EASTER

The feast of Christ's resurrection. According to Bede, the word derives from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eostre. Christians in England applied the word to the principal festival of the church year, both day and season. Easter Day is the annual feast of the resurrection, the pascha or Christian Passover, and the eighth day of cosmic creation. Faith in Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday or third day following his crucifixion is at the heart of Christian belief. Easter sets the experience of springtime next to the ancient stories of deliverance and the proclamation of the risen Christ.

COVER ART

Michelangelo Buonarroti, *Hand of God giving life to Adam* (1508-1512)

Fresco located in the Vatican Palace in Vatican City, Rome.

Notes about this artwork: "Sometimes painters and sculptors are ahead of scholars when they suggest new interpretations of Scripture. For example, when Michelangelo was commissioned by Pope Julius II to decorate the vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, he was asked by the pontiff to read the biblical commentaries of a Dominican scholar.

Michelangelo read them, but he went his own way. Thus, in the fresco of the creation of man, he represented God transmitting, finger-to-finger, to the newly sculpted body of Adam, the spark of life. Under the left arm, God harbored a beautiful young woman, whom art historians, to this day, identify as the yet-uncreated Eve. Such a traditional interpretation is not convincing. In this fresco, the image of the young woman differs markedly from the picture of Eve which appears elsewhere on the vaulted ceiling of the chapel. In the representation of Adam receiving the spark of life, the young woman is Lady Wisdom, a personification of the Creator's intelligence, which is found in the sapiential literature of the Old Testament."

MORNING PRAYER: RITE II

Hymn In Procession

"All creatures of our God and King"

Hymn 400 vs. 1, 4 & 7

1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing:
alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams,
Pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Dear mother earth, you day by day
unfold your blessings on our way;
O praise him, Alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p.77

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Opening Sentence

Officiant: Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. *Hebrews 9:24*

The Invitatory

BCP, p.80

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Christ our Passover

Pascha Nostrum

BCP, p.83

Officiant and People

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 66:7-18

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
 nor withheld his love from me.

The First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Here ends the Reading.

Canticle 12: A Song of Creation *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* **BCP, p.88**

Invocation

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

The People of God

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *

praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Doxology

**Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Here ends the Reading.

The Apostles' Creed

BCP, p.96

Officiant and People together

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p.97

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People together

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.

Suffrages (Versicle and Response)

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collects

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: Let us now demonstrate the hope that fills our hearts by turning to God in prayer, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all ministers of the gospel, especially ++Michael, +Rob, and +Don our bishops; Bryan+ and Gary+ our priests; for the clergy & people of St. Dunstan's, Atlanta; St. Bede's, Atlanta; Church of Ascension, Cartersville; for the bishop and people of our companion and partner, Diocese of Cape Coast, Ghana; for all congregations seeking new or renewed direction; that they may preach the word boldly and without apology. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all leaders of nations, that they may be unrelenting in their quest for peace. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the suffering people of this world, especially those who suffer for doing what is right. We pray especially for those on our short and long term prayer lists. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, those among us who experience desolation, especially those for whom God seems most remote. We give thanks for the helpers, especially for our ministries with: Appleton Episcopal Ministries, Campus Ministry, Daybreak, Haitian Hope, Loaves and Fishes, Path to Shine, St. Paul Apartments and Village, and Weekend Lunch. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the sick and dying, that they may find life. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, the newly baptized, that they may never cease to praise you for the hope that fills their hearts. We pray:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, it is in the power of your abundant and life-giving Spirit that we call upon you in prayer. Deepen our hope in your presence and your promise; hear us in your tender love, now and forever.

People: Amen

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness**

BCP, p.101

to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Closing Hymn *“O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height”* **Hymn 432 vs. 1 & 4**

1. O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.
4. O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song to him be outpoured
all ages along! For love in creation,
for heaven restored, for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!

Blessing

Sending Forth

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Officiant: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we
can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in
Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*"We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus
as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually."*



CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop*
The Rt. Rev. Don A. Wimberly, *Assisting Bishop*
The Rev. Bryan Hinson, *Priest-in-Charge*
The Rev. Dr. Gary Abbott, *Retired Priest-in-Residence*

STAFF

Nadine Cheek, *Organist/Choirmaster*
Dena Hobbs, *Campus Ministry*
Leah Lowndes, *Parish Administrator*
Akram Saymeh, *Bookkeeper*
Mary Patmon, *Custodian*

VESTRY MEMBERS

Class of 2020
Dustin Gilmore
Alex Mitchell
Tamika Sanders

Class of 2021
Charlie Bradshaw
Teri Kramer
Nancy Ogilvie

Class of 2022
Billie Abbott
Andrea Freeman
Sean McCrackin

Peggy DuBose, *Treasurer* | Russell Lewis, *Interim Chancellor* | Lynn Elvins, *Clerk*

Thank you for joining us in worship.

*You are invited to view an additional video of today's appointed gospel reading and a sermon,
available on our website at www.stpaulsmacon.org in the Virtual Church section.*

SHORT TERM PRAYER LIST

Andrea, Anna, Bob, Bob, Brad, Bubber, Carol, Disa, Eve, Frances, Gary+, George, Geraldine, the Greene family, Harriette, Helen, Ishmael, James, Jamie, Jim, Jim, Julie, Kaleb, Madeline, Matthew, Martha, Melissa, Mike, Nadine, Nathaniel, Nichal, Pam, the Parker family, Ramsey, Robert, Ray, Roslyn, Roy, the Sanders family, Victor, Walter, William, William

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST

Amy, Becky, Betty, Bess, Bob, Chris, Connie, Cynthia, Danny, Dawn, Debbie, Francis, Hill, Howard, Jack, Jay, Jerry, Jessica, Jill, Jimmy, Jimmy, Jonas, Julie, Karen, Kay, Kelly, Laverne, Mackenna, Marian, Mercer, Mike, Nicholas, Patrick, Rebecca, Red, Rhonda, Richard, Ruth, Shirley, Thom, Toni, Tony