## The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul Newton Highlands, Massachusetts

## The Second Sunday of Easter

## Holy Eucharist

April 27, 2025 at 10:00am



From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C) Holy Eucharist with Joyful Noise

#### Prelude

Musicians

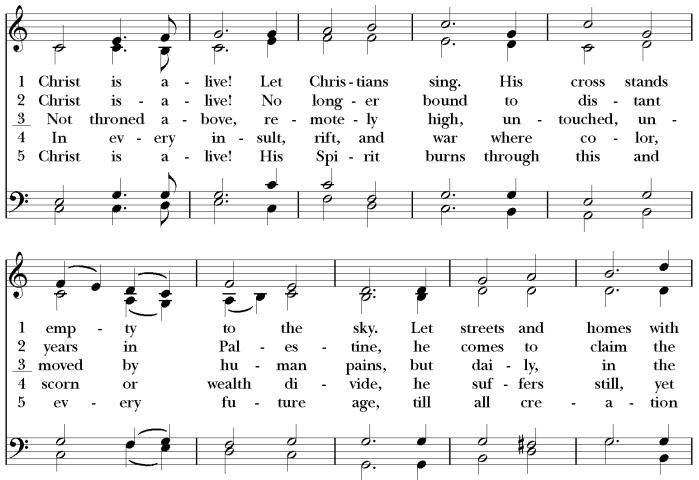
From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

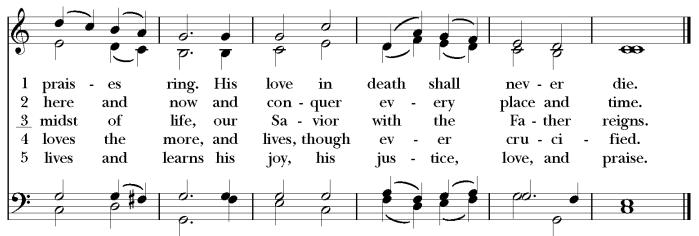
### Gathering Rites / Book of Common Prayer p. 355

#### Gathering Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

The Hymnal 1982, #182 - Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing.





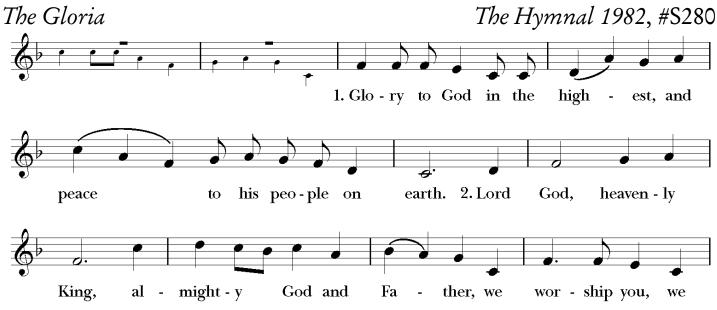
Section: Easter Title: Christ is alive! Let Christians sing Meter: LM Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt. Copyright: Words: Copyright <sup>®</sup> 1975 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Opening Acclamation Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen! People Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

#### The Collect for Purity

Presider

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.





Collect of the Day Presider God be with you. People And also with you. Presider Together let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### Please be seated The First Reading

The Acts of the Apostles 5:37-42

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted Christ at God's right hand as Leader and Savior that Christ might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who listen and hear."

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God. People

The Psalm

Psalm 150

Said responsively by whole verse

Alleluia! Praise God in the holy temple; praise God in the firmament of power.

#### Give praise for God's mighty acts; praise God's excellent greatness.

Praise God with the blast of the ram's-horn; praise God with lyre and harp.

#### Praise God with timbrel and dance; praise God with strings and pipe.

Praise God with resounding cymbals; praise God with loud-clanging cymbals.

# Let everything that has breath praise God. Alleluia!

This week's Psalm is from the St. Helena Psalter, used by permission.

### The Second Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from God, the source of our being, who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before God's throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of all the rulers of the earth.

To Christ who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a commonwealth, priests serving our God and Creator, to Christ be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

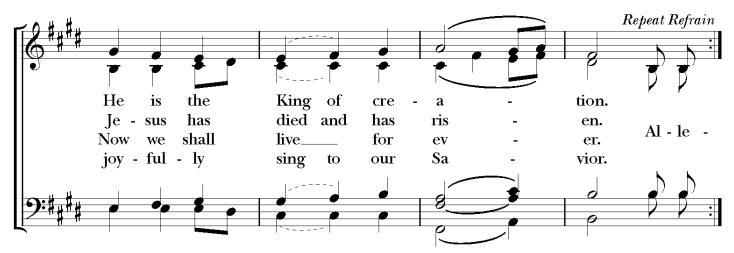
Look! Christ is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on Christ's account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says our God, the source of our being, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.People Thanks be to God.

#### Sequence Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Hymnal 1982, #178 - Jesus Is Lord of All the Earth





#### The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Section: Easter Title: Jesus is Lord of all the earth Meter: 887. 85 Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938) Copyright: Words: <sup>®</sup> 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. Music: Melody <sup>®</sup> 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

#### The Gospel

#### John 20:19-31

# *Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.*People* Glory to you, O Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the people, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After Jesus said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Savior. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As God, the source of our being, has sent me, so I send you." When Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Savior." But Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

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A week later the disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Savior and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Holy Wisdom and Word of God, and that through believing you may have life in Christ's name.

Priest	The Gospel of Christ.
People	Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Sermon

Priest-in-Charge

A few moments of silence will be kept

Statement of Faith *Intercessor:* Please rise as you are comfortable as we proclaim our Statement of Faith.

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt,

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we put our trust in God; and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice, and to live in peace; to care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness, and the power of the Spirit of love. And in the company of the faithful we will be the church, a community of flawed and forgiving disciples, for the glory of God alone. Amen.

Statement of Faith adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, ©2001, The Iona Community.

Prayers of the People

Almighty One, you have filled your Church with new life and empowered us through the conquering love of Jesus: Raise us with your Spirit that we may live in the power of Christ's resurrection to bring life and light to all the world. Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** 

The right hand of the Most High has triumphed over evil and death, bringing new hope to all the world: Speak your living truth unto everyone who leads and holds authority among the nations, that they may be agents of life and justice. We pray especially for all those working in our world to bring a quick end to violence and suffering. Either silently or aloud, for whom do we pray this day? *(The people may add their own petitions.)* Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  The Apostle Peter has taught us, O God, that you show no partiality but accept all who live reverently and do right: Let your peace extend to every person, that the power of evil and injustice may be banished, and all people may live as beloved children of the divine. Either silently or aloud, for whom do we pray this day? *(The people may add their own petitions.)* Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** 

Be with us in this community of the Parish of St. Paul. And be with our diocesan bishop, Julia, our presiding bishop, Sean, and all ordained and lay ministers. Be with those in our diocesan family for whom we pray today: Grace Church, Newton, St. John's Church, Newtonville, St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls, Parish of St. Paul, Newton Highlands; and for all Prison Ministries. May we all be glad witnesses of your goodness, O Holy One. Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let Christ's resurrection power bring healing and hope to those for whom we pray, especially Paul Friedman and Bernice Cramer and their family, Gary and Barry Koger, Robert Koger and Joyce Connolly, Charles and Mary Lou Montgomery, Kristin, Deb, David Murphy, David Tabors, the family of Mangok Bol and Thon, Magot, Ajoe, and Majuei Mach, John McDargh, and Jacob and Leslie Cathers; and the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church. Either silently or aloud, for whom else do we pray this day? *(The people may add their own petitions.)* Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hear our prayers of grateful gladness this Easter Season as we give thanks for the blessings in our lives. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what do we give thanks this day? *(The people may add their own thanksgivings.)* Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia**! Remember in the light of the resurrection those who have died. Either silently or aloud, whom do we remember by name this day? *(The people may add their own names.)* Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Prayer for the Social Order (BCP p. 823)

Intercessor Together let us pray.

All Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence

Presider offers a collect.

The Peace

PresiderThe peace of Christ be always with you.AllAnd also with you.The congregation is invited to exchange signs of peace.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

The Presider offers instructions for receiving communion, and bids the offertory sentence.

Offertory Anthem

The Doxology – Old Hundredth Please rise as you are comfortable.

> Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below Praise God above all life and death Creator, Christ, and Holy Breath. Amen.

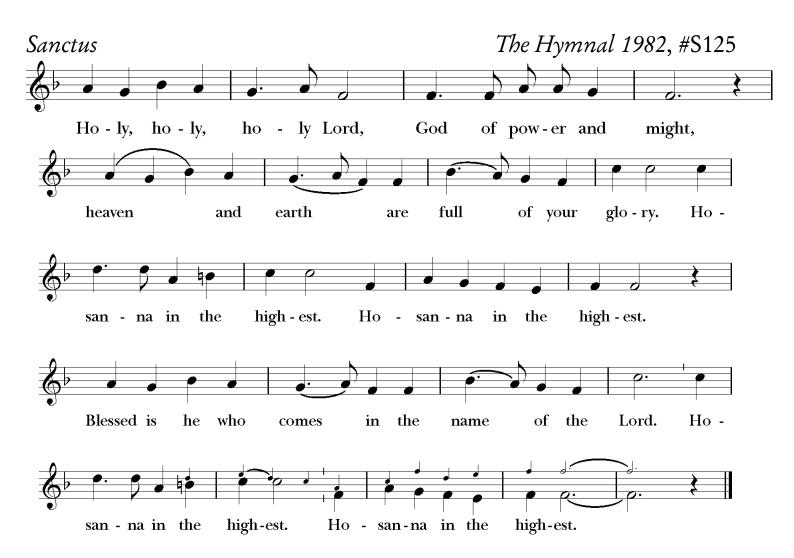
You are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.
The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer B
Presider God be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up to God.
Presider Let us give thanks to God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Child Jesus Christ our Savior; who is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. Christ has destroyed death through death, and through rising to life again, Christ has won everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The Presider continues – you are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable. We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all, in Jesus, your Word and Wisdom made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Jesus, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Jesus, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before Jesus 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 disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

#### Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and the Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in Christ's sacrifice, through whom may we all be acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [\_\_\_\_and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, children all; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

#### All AMEN.

### The Lord's Prayer

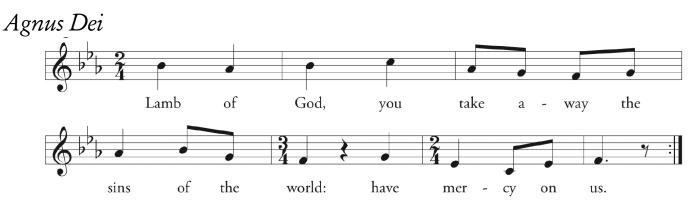
You are invited to say whatever version of the Lord's Prayer is meaningful for you today

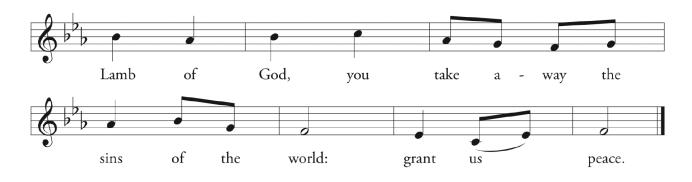
#### Presider

As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kindom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kindom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the BreadPresiderAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.





#### Presider

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and loved, died, and rose for you, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### Communion

Jesus says, "Come and see."

You are welcome at this Table, exactly as you are, because of who you are. If you feel called to the Table, please come forward to receive Communion.

At this time, the Parish of St. Paul offers a common cup as well as individual cups for receiving the consecrated wine. Please either take an individual cup (found on a front pew on the right as you approach the altar for communion) or indicate to the Lay Eucharistic Minister that you would like to receive from the common cup. If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please know that receiving the consecrated bread alone constitutes a full Communion.

If you do not desire Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire a blessing.

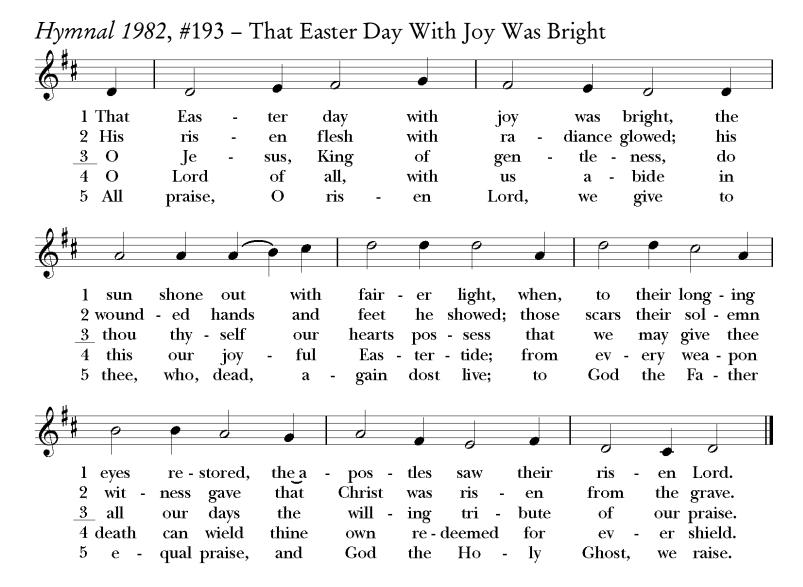
#### Prayer of Spiritual Communion

(The following prayer of Spiritual Communion is said privately and is intended for individuals participating remotely, and for individuals who may not wish to receive Communion or a blessing.)

In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

#### Postcommunion Hymn

You are invited to stand, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable.



Section: Easter Title: That Easter day with joy was bright Meter: LM Words: Latin, 5th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940* Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; alt. acc. John F. Erickson (b. 1938) Copyright: Words: <sup>®</sup> The Church Pension Fund.

### Postcommunion Prayer

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

People and Presider

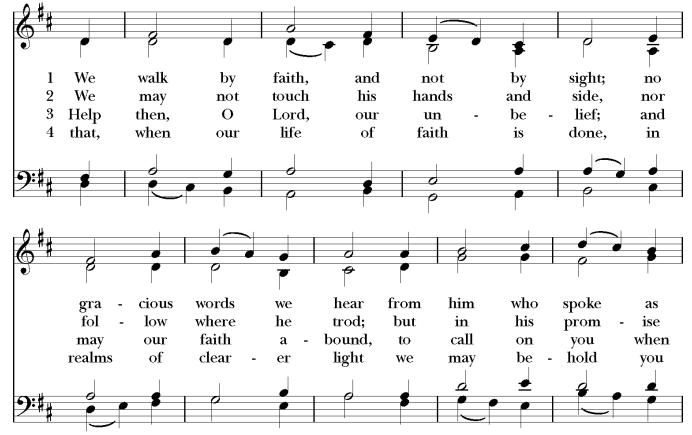
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of compassion. You have united us with Christ, and you have made us one with all peoples and creatures in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that our lives may give birth to your love in the world,

and that we may continue to make our home in your life. Amen.

Blessing

Processional Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #209 - We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight





Section: Easter Title: We walk by faith, and not by sight Meter: CM Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt. Music: St. Botolph, Gordon Slater (1896-1979) Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

#### Announcements

#### Dismissal

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

Presider Our worship has ended, let our service begin. Go in peace to love and serve God and God's people. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia!

#### People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!



#### TODAY'S LITURGY

#### Participants

The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – Priest-in-Charge Brenda Carter – Keyboardist David Montgomery – Lector of First Reading and Leader of Psalm Chris Gruener – Lector of Second Reading Margaret Hummel – Intercessor and Lay Eucharistic Minister Ellie Pandorf and Amy Trueblood – Altar Guild Phil Whitbeck – Usher/Attendance Kim Koger and Chris Gruener – Counters Adam Taylor – Tech

#### Front Cover Art

Barlach, Ernst, 1870-1938. Reunion - Thomas and Christ, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville,

TN. <u>https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56116</u> [retrieved April 22, 2025]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:G%C3%BCstrow\_Gertrudenkapelle\_-Barlachsammlung\_Wiedersehen\_1.jpg.

#### PRAYERS

#### In Our Diocesan Cycle Of Prayer:

For the Episcopal Church; for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia Whitworth, our Diocesan Bishop; and for the following churches of the Charles River Deanery: Grace Church, Newton, St. John's Church, Newtonville, St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls, Parish of St. Paul, Newton Highlands; and for all Prison Ministries.

#### Parish Prayer List - Prayers are Requested for:

Paul Friedman and Bernice Cramer and their family, Gary and Barry Koger, Robert Koger and Joyce Connolly, Charles and Mary Lou Montgomery, Kristin, Deb, David Murphy, David Tabors, the family of Mangok Bol and Thon, Magot, Ajoe, and Majuei Mach, John McDargh, and Jacob and Leslie Cathers; and for the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church.

(To add a name to the prayer list, please contact Lise at <u>office@parishofstpaul.org</u> or Rev. Meghan, or use the QR code here.)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### Choral Evensong - Sunday, May 4 at 5pm

The Jubilate Chamber Choir returns to POSP to offer Evensong on Sunday, May 4 at 5pm with a light reception to follow. Invite your friends and neighbors!

#### Compline Prayer and Care - Tuesday, May 6 at 7:30pm on Zoom

Join with others to pray Compline and share joys and concerns. This service follows the Order for Compline in the *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 127-135. Either computer or phone participation are possible. **Online Zoom link:** <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85942732773</u>. **Phone dial-in information**: Call 646-931-3860; when prompted, enter meeting ID: 859 4273 2773.

#### Walkathon for the Global Village Children's Project on May 17

Save the date! GVCP's first ever Walkathon Fundraiser to raise school tuition costs for the Global Village Children's Project will be held on **Saturday, May** 17<sup>th</sup> at noon. More information soon! Watch for details in your email inbox. Questions and to be added to the GVCP email list? Please connect with Chris Gruener.

#### Queerly Beloved - Saturday, June 14 at 10:30am

DioMass will be marching *en masse* in this year's Boston's Pride for the People parade. More information soon about POSP's participation!

#### Save the Date! Newton Highlands Village Day on Sunday, June 15

More information *soon*!

#### Centre Street Food Pantry - Thank You!

We collected \$940 through our Lenten collection for the Centre Street Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity and support of the pantry.

#### Vestry Mutual Ministry Review

On March 8, your vestry and priest-in-charge gathered on Zoom to undertake a mutual ministry review, facilitated by the Rev. Canon Greg Perez, with the purpose of checking in about the past few months since Rev. Meghan arrived, and, very significantly, to articulate short and long-term goals for the parish. At its Vestry meeting on March 19, the vestry began to discuss the MMR conversation and began to think about short and long term goals. To access the notes from the MMR, please use the following QR code (hard copies of the notes are also available on the table by the baptismal font). The vestry will continue discussing the MMR at its monthly meetings (approved minutes of which are found on the bulletin board in parish hall). If you have thoughts, ideas, etc., please be in contact with Rev. Meghan or a vestry member.

#### Pastoral Care



If you desire pastoral care for a particular need, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan. It could be as simple as a private prayer request emailed to her, or an inperson conversation about something of concern.

#### Receive the Parish Newsletter!

The newsletter is sent about once per week (occasionally more often if there is a pressing notice, for example, of snow cancellation, etc.). The newsletter contains reflections from parishioners, and *lots* of information and announcements about our diocese, the greater church, and other goings-on in and around town and in the world, that are not printed in this bulletin.

Scan to access this week's newsletter



Scan to sign up to receive the newsletter



#### Can Redemption Volunteers

Volunteers sought to assist with can redemption for the Plenty ministry. Please connect with Christopher Gruener or speak with Rev. Meghan if you can assist.



#### Staff and Office Hours

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – meghan@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours: In-Person, usually on Wednesday, 9am -1pm and by appointment (please email Rev. Meghan directly if you would like to make an appointment).

Parish Administrator: Lise Brody – <u>office@parishofstpaul.org</u>. Office Hours (may vary): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm (Note: Lise will be away and the office will be closed April 30 – May 6.)

#### Vestry

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to be in touch with your vestry. The next Vestry Meeting happens on Wednesday, May 21.

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney Co-Warden: Kim Koger, mkskoger5@gmail.com Co-Warden: David Montgomery, dmontgomery@montlegal.com Treasurer: Richard Pearce, Richard@northinfo.com Clerk: Bernice Cramer, bernicecramer@gmail.com Kathryn Anderson, kmanderson.english@gmail.com Chris Gruener, crossroadscounseling101@gmail.com Lee Hatfield, leebateshatfield@verizon.net Dustin Ledgard, ledgarddustin@gmail.com

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