

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(1135 12th St.)
P.O. BOX 737
Sparks, Nevada
89432-0737



775-358-4474 (phone)
775-313-0806 (fax)

www.StPaulsSparks.org

Praise Holy Eucharist Service 10:00 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

On ZOOM: Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/3FcKREH> Meeting ID: 824 1236 4013 Password: 308693
Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833

The Rt. Rev. Elizabeth Gardner
Bishop of Nevada
The Very Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff
Rector

Welcome to All

St. Paul's is a theologically diverse community seeking to embrace their diversity in order to live through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a place of learning and belonging for all people.

Kid's Area

Located on the south side of the church is a special area where there are some coloring materials which can be used there or at other places in the church. Please return these supplies to their baskets following worship.

Holy Communion in Your Seat

If you desire to receive Holy Communion but are unable to walk up to the altar rail, please notify an usher.

They will inform the clergy of your request, and the clergy will gladly bring Holy Communion to you in your seat.

Wine, Grape Juice, and Gluten Free

We offer both wine and grape juice during Communion as well as a gluten free wafer option. The chalice with the grape juice will be identified. All chalices continue to be intinction only.

If you are in need of a gluten free Communion wafer, there is a small basket as you enter the north side of the worship space. In it you will find a stone. When it is time for you to receive Communion, hold the stone in the palm of your hand and the clergy will exchange it with a gluten free wafer.

Guests and Visitors

We are especially excited to have you here with us today. Please take the time to sign the guest book located on the Welcome Wagon near the south entrance.

If you have any questions about St. Paul's or the Episcopal Church, please don't hesitate to visit with one of our clergy, either today or during the week.

Laundry Love

This once-a-month ministry helps people do their laundry so they can use their limited funds on medicine, rent, etc. Doing a load of laundry is expensive, so we continually collect quarters (or other \$\$ that we can turn into quarters).

Monetary donations can be sealed in special Laundry Love envelopes and placed in the offering plate.

If you have any questions or interest in helping with ministry, contact Linda Devon at LSD4764@hotmail.com.



Helpful Hints for Receiving Holy Communion

- Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. Everyone!
- The usher will let you know when it is time for your row to go up.
- Watch the people in front of you to get the flow of things.
- Only receive bread in your palm if you are skipping the chalice.
- To receive the bread and if you want to Intinct ("dipping" the wafer into the cup of wine/grape juice) the minister will place the wafer between your thumb & pointer fingers (pinch it) then you can Intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice.
- Please do not drink from the cup. Intinction only.
- There is a designated chalice on the north side, that has **grape juice**.
- If you would like a **gluten free** wafer, either say gluten free to the clergy distributing the bread, or you can get a small black stone from the basket in the back of the worship space on the north side. Present it in the palm of your hand to the clergy and they will exchange it for a gluten free wafer.

Prelude: *“Come into His Presence”*

Welcome and Announcements

All stand in body or spirit

Procession: *“Give a little bit”*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord 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.**

Song of Praise: *Forever Reign*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life:
Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ
to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may
steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to
eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All Sit

THE FIRST LESSON *Acts 8:26-40*

Lector: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go
toward the south to the road that goes down from
Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he
got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a
court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians,
in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to
Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in
his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the
Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join
it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the
prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you
are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone
guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit
beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he
was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the
slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he
does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was
denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his
life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked
Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet
say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then
Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture,
he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As

they were going along the road, they came to some
water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What
is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded
the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the
eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized
him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of
the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no
more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found
himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the
region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns
until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30

Lector: We will now read part of Psalm 22 in unison.

**My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those
who worship him.**

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
“May your heart live for ever!”**

**All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow
before him.**

**For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.**

**To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down
in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

**My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall
serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.**

**They shall come and make known to a people
yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.**

THE SECOND LESSON *1 John 4:7-21*

Lector: A reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from
God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows
God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for
God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this
way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we
might live through him. In this is love, not that we
loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be
the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God
loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God
lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we
know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has
given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify
that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the
world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the

Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand in body or spirit

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia Give Thanks"

THE GOSPEL *John 15:1-8*

Minister: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON: The Very Rev. Kirk Woodliff, Rector

THE NICENE CREED *(All in unison)*

Presider: Let us all stand in body or spirit and affirm our faith in God.

**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 worshiped 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.**

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine, for the Lord is risen and moves among us. Guide us to be Christ's Light in the world as we proclaim the resurrection saying:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

O God, we give you thanks for the goodness of creation, for your victory in the resurrection, and for the grace of our salvation. May the Church, as we celebrate the great 50 days of Easter, bring the light of Christ into the world as we proclaim:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

We pray that the newly baptized may grow in their love of you and never lose the hope of your saving embrace, as together we proclaim:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Bring trust and understanding between the peoples of the world. Make all the nations into one household. In the Spirit of the resurrection,

we proclaim:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

We pray for all who are blind to the gift of Easter; for all who journey from sickness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to joy, and especially for those we now name... *(Pause)*

Blessing of the Quilts *(If there are Quilts to bless, they are done at this time, after which the Leader continues.)*

As we celebrate the healing power of the Spirit, let us proclaim:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

O God, guide your Church in all things and confirm in your truth all the baptized, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth, our Bishop, and for all clergy, and teachers of the faith.

We pray for

St. George Episcopal, Austin, the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil, and Emmanuel First Baptist Church.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

We pray for Mark, Sean, Aden, Bradley, Alex, Suzanne, and the all men and women, both in our neighborhoods and worldwide, who with courage wake each day to keep the peace and protect humanity.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia!

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Presider: Lord of light and life: We thank you for your loving kindness, and for shaping us through the journey of the resurrection. Accept the prayers we now offer, and give us the strength to continue the Easter celebration every day of our lives; all this we ask through Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Offer on another some sign of Christ's peace.

THE OFFERING

During this time we make an offering to the church for its mission and it is also a time in which we fully offer ourselves to be Christ in the world around us.

If mailing in an offering, please remit to:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 737, Sparks, NV 89432

Or online at www.StPaulssparks.org:



Scan with your smart phone camera to give secure and "contact free" donations.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "God of Wonders"

All stand in body or spirit

PRESENTATION SONG "Everlasting God"

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Presider: All things come of thee O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Prayer A

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:

SANCTUS: Praise Team

The people remain standing.

Presider: 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:

Presider and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider: 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 forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us
we now pray.

People and Presider:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider: Alleluia!
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

THE INVITATION

Presider: Come and be fed;
you who have much faith,
and you who are seeking more;
you who come here often,
and you who are new among us;
you who have done well,
and you who have stumbled along the way.

All of you are welcome and belong here at Christ's table. So come as you are, for it is Christ who invites us to meet him here, and these sacred gifts are for you.

COMMUNION TO THE PEOPLE

If you are new to receiving Holy Communion, there are some helpful hints on the front page.

COMMUNION SONGS: Praise Team
"Come Just As You Are" & "Breathe"

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us all stand in body or spirit
as we pray together.

People and Presider:

**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

Presider: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his goodness.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL SONG *"With Every Act of Love"*

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE: Praise Team *"Lord of the Dance"*

Episcopal Women of Nevada Spring Tea

The TEA will be held at St. Paul's on May 4th at noon. There will be prizes for best table and prettiest hat. We will serve sandwiches, scones, lemon curd and desserts. Cost is \$20.

Please make a reservation by emailing Margaret Bouzek at margaret.bouzek@gmail.com by April 30.

St. Paul's Girls Weekend 2024

Save the Dates for: May 3-5, 2024

Who: Women of all ages and their friends are invited.

When: Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5

Where: Camp Galilee, Lake Tahoe

Why: Come enjoy the beauty of Lake Tahoe, walk on the beach (the camp is steps from Lake Tahoe), get to know other women from our church, eat delicious food, have great conversations, play games, watch movies, enjoy an art project or two, go to South Lake Tahoe to shop or see a movie, and relax!

Price: \$200 per person. Limited scholarships are available- if needed, please chat with Tia. Payment due before the event.



Paint Party @ Hot Spot

Paint a Bowl on May 19, 2024
at the Hot Spot - 1180 Scheels Drive
(across from the IMAX)

Bowls are \$12 or \$20, depending on the size.
All ages are welcome. Instruction will be available on site to assist with your masterpiece.

Bowls will be auctioned at
The Empty Bowls Fundraiser on September 18, 2024,
supporting The Community Food Pantry.

Pentecost Potluck

Save the date: May 19th after 10:00 a.m. service
More info to come!

Episcopal Night At the Aces

Save the Date: July 26th
Reno -vs- Las Vegas
More info to come!

St. Paul's Potluck Picnic/Camping

Davis Creek Regional Park (RV Group Site) by
Washoe Lake

Saturday September 14, 2024

Arrival Time: 2:00 pm Potluck: 3:00 pm

Signup sheet in Narthex

Camping: Friday and Saturday Nights

Questions: contact Jon Mittelstadt at 775-7223469 or
jon.mittel@gmail.com

UNITED THANK OFFERING 2024

May 5 – November 3, 2024

The United Thank Offering (UTO) was founded in 1883 as a way to raise funds to support mission and ministry sites of The Episcopal Church that were without funding. The women of the church began by asking the assembled groups to make a thank offering for all the blessings of their past year. UTO encourages people to develop a practice of gratitude and from that practice to make thank offerings for all the blessings they experience. 100% of these offerings are then given away the following year to support innovative mission and ministry projects around the globe. Currently all grants awarded in the next three years are within the focus of Mathew 25, welcoming the stranger.

St. Paul's United Thank Offering Campaign will begin May 5 and May 12 with UTO BOXES featured in the Narthex and culminating on Ingathering Sunday November 3. The UTO Blue Boxes offers St. Paul's parishioners a chance to express Gratitude for Blessings large or small.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathie Dixon, 774-747-4485.

Our Church home needs some TLC

Like most of our homes, our church home also needs some occasional routine maintenance.

If you have expertise in helping with any of the following projects, please contact
Jr. Warden, Mark Sawdon (707) 327-9125 or
email: MVSawdon@gmail.com.

- Cross on southside facing the school needs sanding/paint and reattached.
- Garden planters' wood: sand/paint.
- Garden planters' tiles – some need reattachment.
- Roof beam end caps (garden side) need sanding/painting and reattach metal protection.
- Door behind southside cross needs prep and staining/paint.
- Lynch Gate - whole unit needs paint (after pre-arranged repairs.)
- Gazebo - whole unit needs paint.
- North Narthex Doors – needs threshold/weather stripping.