



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

July 2025

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M.

**JULY 6
MORNING PRAYER
Lay Reader - Sam French**

**JULY 13
HOLY EUCHARIST
The Rev. Mike Kyle
Lay Reader - Don Kiefer**

**July 20
MORNING PRAYER
Lay Reader - Don Kiefer**

**JUNE 27
HOLY EUCHARIST
The Rev. Mike Kyle
Lay Reader - Kate French**

A Message from the Bishop's Warden



Dear Friends in Christ,

June 15th was Trinity Sunday in the Episcopal Church. I had morning prayer that Sunday, and I found a wonderful sermon on the Holy Trinity written by the Rev. Scott Gunn, the Executive Director of Forward Movement, a publication some of us read daily either in print or on-line. Since there were only five of us there that Sunday, I am going to share some of what he said.

Fr. Gunn began by saying the Holy Trinity cannot be described in a few sentences; instead, we just need to ask ourselves how the Holy Trinity affects us in our daily lives? He reminded us that on June 8th, Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the descent of the Holy Spirit onto the disciples. Jesus told his disciples, "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth." Jesus was speaking to his disciples at what we now refer to as The Last Supper. Fr. Scott Gunn reminds us that "Jesus wanted his followers to know that God would never abandon them, that the Holy Spirit would be their companion and guide forever. He was reassuring them that though they were about to face seemingly insurmountable challenges, God would be with them."

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CHURCH INFORMATION

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Bishop's Warden: Kate French, kfrench357@gmail.com

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Sometimes we just hear the story, forgetting that we too have received the Holy Spirit at our Baptisms. We need to remind ourselves that Jesus's words are for us, too. The Holy Spirit is within us also, speaking words of comfort, guiding us, showing us the way, and staying with us throughout all the challenges we encounter. The Holy Spirit (the third part of the Holy Trinity) is God the Father (the first part of the Holy Trinity) with us, never leaving us, helping us through everything we face. Jesus's promise is for us, too, today.

Jesus, God the Son (the second part of the Holy Trinity), spoke God's word and God's love for us all throughout his ministry. Isaiah 55:8 tells us, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways." Jesus shared the thoughts of his Father, saying in John 14:10, "The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me..." Jesus taught us the importance of love and forgiveness, and to see all people as children of God. His words aren't always easy to receive, understand, and follow, but we are called to live as God wants us to live, sharing with the world the love God has so freely given us. Fr. Gunn reminds us that "We are freed from the pressure to act as if we have it all figured out." Just aim to do as God tells us.

He went on to say, "Imagine, if you will, a different way of approaching the challenges of our lives. Imagine listening to God, rather than informing God of how we'd like things to work out. ... Imagine that we can turn to God for guidance when we face difficulty.

"Friends, we don't have to imagine: that is our reality. In the Trinity, we see a God who is with us always, who shows us perfect love, and who never abandons us." The Holy Trinity, right here, right now, affecting our very lives."

It is hard to summarize the ending of this sermon so let me just continue to quote it:

"In Jesus Christ, we see everything there is

to see about God's love. We see a person who entered our world in the humblest, most ordinary way possible. We see a person who loved everyone and who challenged everyone to be transformed. That's an important point: Jesus never said to someone he met, 'You're perfect just as you are,' but rather invited every person to be transformed by the power of God's love. Using prayer book language, Jesus invited everyone to 'grow into the full stature of Christ.'

"In Jesus Christ, we see that God was willing to endure the pain and suffering of our humanity in order that we might see the wide embrace of God's love for all people. And in Jesus Christ, we see the triumph of God's love over death itself. We see, in the Resurrection, that God's love can make us fearless – that we don't need to be afraid of anything, not even death.

"But the mystery of the Holy Trinity pushes us to look further. Last Sunday and today, as we think about the Holy Spirit, we see yet another dimension of God's love for us.

"In the Holy Spirit, God has promised to be with us always, to guide us into all truth. The Holy Spirit's guidance and love is inseparable from the love of God the Father and from the love of God the Son. The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus, and Jesus and the Father are one. There is a mutual glorification at work, and each person of the Holy Trinity reveals something about the other persons of the Trinity. And that is what can draw us into the heart of God's eternal love: the Trinity represents how God's very being is about relationship and love. The Holy Trinity is itself the manifestation of God's abiding promise to be with us at every turn, through every struggle." This is Good News in our time. So often our temptation is to tear apart the fabric of society and put others down, but we see in the Holy Trinity a God who unites and glorifies. So often our impulse is to separate ourselves from that which challenges us, but we see in the Holy Trinity a God who is eternally steadfast. So often we limit our reality or our possibilities

to what fits into our own finite understanding, but in the Holy Trinity, we see a God who promises to lead us into all truth, into deeper mystery.

“Today, let us not try to explain away something that is unfathomable. Instead, let us join heartily in songs of praise to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. And let us give thanks that this Triune God loves us more than we can imagine. Let us give praise for our God’s everlasting presence in our lives in this age and in the age to come. Let us savor a God who offers us the very best mystery of all, a love that is beyond anything we can ask or imagine. Amen.”

Love in Christ,
Kate

CHURCH NEWS:

Holy Eucharis Sundays: Fr. Mike will be with us the 2nd and 4th Sundays in July. We will have prayers for healing on the second Sunday.

Diocesan Council: We had our first Diocesan council meeting with Bishop Amy. She is going to be just wonderful! Bishop Diane told me we would love her, and she is right.

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
3-Kurt Gretzinger	31-John & Becky Tarver
4-John Tarver	
27-Ruana Gladfelter	

PRAYER LIST:

Healing:

Fr. Mike, Augustus Hockaday, Kirsten Hockaday, Kitty, Tina, Don, Therese Hopkins, Kathy, Steve Sheline, Olivia Lim, Mark, Keith, Ruana, Becky, Tom Clark

Cancer:

Heather C., Christy, Pat, Micheal, Cindy McAvoy, Rev. Jenny Ketner, Debbie M., Suzanne, Herb Johnson, Barb Chambers, Ruana, David Scott, Sylvia

Comfort, Strength, and Peace:

Gail Cloutte, Pat Decker, Kathy and Mike, Christy and Diane, Christopher, Connie and David Scott, Ruth Kindall, Doug Johnson, Zaha, Steve Sheline, Becky, Marie Hopkins, Linda C., Laurisa, Rick (hearing), Lois Hamblin, Janell Allred

Departed: Ray Hamblin

Others:

Peace in the world, those devastated by natural disasters, those facing personal challenges, Bishop Amy’s move and settling into their new family home.

Thanksgiving:

Family and friends, St. Paul’s, God’s many blessings, Bishop Diane’s three years with us, and Bishop Amy’s new ministry among

