

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Brunswick, Maine

First Sundays Life Together Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Celtic Morning Prayer in the Nave*

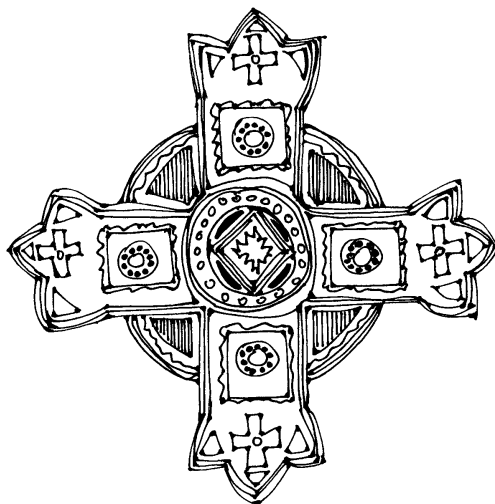
10:30 a.m. First Sundays Life Together Eucharist in the Great
Hall and on www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswick/live

*Live-streamed on <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswick/live>

May 7, 2023

Welcome to St. Paul's

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today!



www.stpaulsmaine.org

Find us on Facebook — [facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswick](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsBrunswick)

stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org (207) 725-5342

27 Pleasant St., P.O. Box 195

HOLY EUCHARIST 10:30 A.M.

If you find yourself in physical discomfort when standing, especially for extended periods, please feel free to be seated at any time. If kneeling is difficult for you, either stand or sit instead.

PRELUDE

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WELCOME

The Rev. Katie Holicky and
The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

OPENING HYMN

Everytime I feel the Spirit

LEVAS #114

Harmony

Ev' - ry time I feel the spir - it, mov - ing

in my heart, I will pray. Ev' - ry time I feel the

Fine

spir - it, mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

unison

1. Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke, out of his
2. Jor - dan ri - ver chil - ly and cold, chills the

1. mouth came fire and smoke. All a-round me looked so
 2. bod-y but not the soul. There ain't but one train runs this

1. fine, asked my Lord if all was mine.
 2. track, runs to heav-en and runs right back.

D.C.

OPENING SENTENCES *(all standing as able)*

Celebrant: God is here!

Response: God is here!

Celebrant: Let us bless God!

Response: Let us bless God!

Celebrant: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Response: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Celebrant: God be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

THE COLLECT

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.*

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60 (NRSV)

Lector: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout

all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

THE GOSPEL

John 14:1-14 (adapted)

(The Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In God's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to God except through me. If you know me, you will know God also. From now on you do know them and have seen them."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us God, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen God. How can you say, 'Show us God'? Do you not believe that I am in God and God is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but God who dwells in me does their works. Believe me that I am in God and God is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to God. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that God may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

AFFIRMATION

Daily Prayers for All Seasons, Holy Week, Discernment

As children of God, we affirm:

That God, who is Love, created all and called it good,
that God is present with all of creation, and that,
in darkness and in light, God is faithful;
therefore we, too, seek to be faithful.

That Jesus came to show us Love with a human face,
that he taught justice and reconciliation and suffered on our behalf,
and that through his faithful example, he embodies hope;
therefore we, too, seek to be people of justice, reconciliation, and hope.

That the Holy Spirit guides and accompanies us,
that this same Spirit offers wisdom and discernment,
and that, when we are open, the Spirit can always find a way;
therefore, we seek to be people filled with God's Spirit:
discerning, loving and transforming our world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYER (Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary are invited to come forward. It has been our custom for generations to bring forth, if possible, offerings of coins in the amount of your age.)

The people stand and say together.

Watch over your children, God, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Bring them comfort when they are sad or sick, help them up if they fall, and bring your peace into their hearts. *Amen.*

The presenters, acolytes are invited to the chancel step for the commissioning

Sponsor: I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Acolyte in this congregation.

Antiphon: Do not be negligent, for the Lord has chosen you to stand in their presence, to minister to God, and to be God's minister.

Versicle: I will go to the altar of God;

Response: To the God of my joy and gladness.

Let us pray: O God, bless the acolytes of your Church that they may so serve before your earthly altar in reverence and holiness, that they may attain, with all your saints and angels, the joy of serving you and worshiping you before your Heavenly Altar; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you N. as Acolyte in this Church, and give you this cross as a token of your ministry.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

RECEIVING COMMUNION

You may,

- 1. Receive communion in "one kind" - bread only or wine only. In the Episcopal Church, receiving in one kind is considered full communion. If you would like gluten-free bread, please place your hands facing down.*
- 2. Drink from the common cup.*
- 3. Cross hands over chest after receiving the bread and the Chalice Bearer will say, "the blood of Christ" but will not distribute the wine.*

Please help the Lay Eucharistic Ministers by choosing one of these three options. Please do not dip the wafer into the chalice.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

(You may also make an electronic contribution to the glory of God and the missions of St. Paul's on our website <http://stpaulsmaine.org/giving>)

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the Depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might,
put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears,
for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry be fed,
for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn!

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
Who is turning the world around.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

(Stand as able as gifts are presented.)

The Celebrant receives the offerings and lifts them up to God.

PRESENTATION HYMN

(sung together standing as able)

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

Text by Randy Day

Praise be for love in Christ made known,
For treasures gleaned from God alone,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
With mind and heart and voice we sing,
To God, our song of thanks we bring.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer written by Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund)

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

God, you are the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You have filled the world with the beauty of oceans and rivers; mountains, granite, apple trees and lupine; moose, deer, chickadees, cats, dogs and lobsters. Thank you for this earth "our island home." You sent Jesus your Son to be one of us. He died to redeem us and all Creation. Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life and make the world new. That's why we shout out our praise! We shout with the throngs of angels, archangels and with all the heavenly host. We shout our praise together:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy LORD,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We bring you bread and wine as our offering. Bless them with your Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus. On the night of his last supper with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it apart, shared it with his friends, and said, "Take, eat. This bread is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After they finished supper, he took the cup of wine. Jesus gave thanks to God and said to his friends, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood which is poured out for you. It is poured out for all to save us from our sins. Drink this to remember me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
All: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Gather us up by this bread and wine and make us the Body of Christ in God's church. Make us new people in Christ's Spirit. 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. *AMEN!*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People:

Our God 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

THE FRACTION

The Celebrant says

Be known to us Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We are the communion of Christ's Body.

All: We share one bread together.

THE INVITATION

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Then the Celebrant says The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.

COMMUNION HYMN 1
All are invited to sing.

I've Got Peace like a River African-American Spiritual

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1. riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my
 2. foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain in my
 3. o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my

1. soul; _____ I've got riv - er in my soul. _____
 2. soul; _____ I've got foun - tain in my soul. _____
 3. soul; _____ I've got o - cean in my soul. _____



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Welcome to our digital congregation. We invite you to connect with Christ's communion by saying the following prayer.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Loving God, we are grateful for the love that we share in this community and in Your Holy Food. Send us into the world to listen to our neighbors with hearts of love, and to share the Good News of Jesus. Amen.

THE BLESSING

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

I have decided to follow Jesus

LEVAS #136

1 I have de - ci - ded to fol - low Je - sus, I have de -
2 The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be -
3 Though none go with me, I still will fol - low, though none go
4 Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de -

ci - ded to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - ci - ded to fol - low
hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -
with me, I still will fol - low, though none go with me, I still will
cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low

Je - sus no turn - ing back, no tur - ning back.
fore me no tur - ning back, no tur - ning back.
fol - low, no tur - ning back, no tur - ning back.
Je - sus? no tur - ning back, no tur - ning back.

DISMISSAL (*sung*)

Go Now in Peace

by Natalie Sleeth

(sung in unison, then in a round)

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere
You may go.

POSTLUDE

MINISTRIES	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
CELEBRANT	The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund	
PREACHER	The Rev. Katie Holicky	
DEACON	The Rev. Mary Lee Wile	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Celtic Morning Prayer Bill Edman, leader	Lois Kwantz Dick Brautigam
LECTORS		Helen Walter First Lesson Ranen Family Ps Titcomb Family Pt
MUSIC		Randy Day and St. Paul's Choir
GREETERS		The Ranen Family
USHERS		Deborah Goodwin Jerry Brown
ACOLYTES		Torchbearers: Anders Hoenen -Arnberg and Linnea Hoenen- Arnberg
ALTAR GUILD	Nancy Gardner and Connie Barras	
FLOWERS	Abigail Manny and Susan Martens	
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	Fireside Chat Intergenerational Group	

THE DIOCESE OF MAINE, THE RT. REV. THOMAS JAMES BROWN *Bishop*

ST. PAUL'S STAFF AND VESTRY

The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund *Rector*

The Rev. Katie Holicky *Assistant Rector*

The Rev. Mary Lee Wile

Deacon

Randy Day
*Parish Administrator and
Music Ministry Director*

Cliff Ruprecht
Senior Warden

Andrea Lauerman
Sacred Ground Coordinator

Karen Tucker
Communications Administrator

Deborah Goodwin
Junior Warden

Carolyn Farr
Administrative Assistant

Vestry

Term ending 2024 — Bill Edman, Ellen Hall, Ellen Ranen

Term ending 2025 — Susan Brown, Karen Rienert, Meghan Williams

Term ending 2026 — Fred Hollmann, Greg Millert, Patsy Oehl

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