



Holy Eucharist
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025
8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

PRELUDE – *Victimae paschali*

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – #48 “O day of radiant gladness”

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

S72

Celebrant
Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People
The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

THE GLORIA

Malcolm Archer (b.1952)

2

Glo ry to God in the high est, and peace to his peo ple on earth. Lord God, heaven ly King, al migh ty God and Fath er, we wor ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo ry.

3

Lord Je sus Christ, on ly Son of the Fath er, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world: have mer cy on us; you are

take a way the sin of the world: have mer cy on us; you are
 seat ed at the right hand of the Fath er: re ceive our
 prayer. For you a lone are the Ho ly One,
 you a lone are the Lord, you a lone are the Most High,
 Je sus Christ, with the Ho ly Spi rit, in the glo ry of God the
 Fath er. A men, A men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 11:1-18

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane!' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved!' And as I began to

speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148 – *Read at 8am; Sung by the choir at 10:15*

Thomas Attwood (1814-1856)

- 1 Hallelujah!
 Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
 praise him in the heights.
- 2 **Praise him, all you angels of his; *
 praise him, all his host.**
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
 praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 **Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
 and you waters above the heavens.**
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
 for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 **He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
 he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
 you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 **Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
 tempestuous wind, doing his will;**
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
 fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 **Wild beasts and all cattle, *
 creeping things and winged birds;**
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
 princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 **Young men and maidens, *
 old and young together.**
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
 for his Name only is exalted,
 his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 **He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!**

THE EPISTLE

Revelation 21:1-6

Reader A reading from the Revelation to John.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – #439 "What wondrous love is this"

Wondrous Love

All standing, as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:31-35

All remain standing, as able.

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED – *All Stand, as able*

BCP page 358

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP page 388

Intercessor: Because God has been glorified in Jesus, let us pray for all those God loves in the name of Jesus saying: *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church: especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, and for those in leadership of our Diocese, that strengthened by the Risen Christ, we may be strong in our faith and bear witness to his commandment of love. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For this Cathedral community, that we may be known as disciples of Jesus by the love and care that

we show one another. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For Pope Leo XIV, bishop of Rome, that guided by the Holy Spirit he may be a sign of God's love, justice, healing and hope. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For people of all faiths who are experiencing persecutions and hardships, that God will protect them, fill them with courage, and help them to love in the face of fear. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the people of Ukraine, Gaza & South Sudan who live daily under the shadow of destruction and death, that peace and justice may prevail. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all whose work points to a new heaven and new earth, especially those who fight poverty, homelessness and hunger, that God's light and love will shine through their service and be a sign of hope for all. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the elderly and the home-bound, the sick and the suffering, remembering especially, Juanita, Lisa and family, Andrea, Miles, Karl, Barbara, Larry and Diane, Byron, Chris, Tabatha, Joe, Nick, Carl, Lori, Brandy and family, Larry, Carol, Renee, Sharon, Elaine, Don, Anne, Jim, Judy, and Shirley, that God will renew them and give them a taste of the water of life. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those who have died, remembering especially Don and Tim, and those whose anniversary of death we mark this week, that they may find a place in the new and eternal Jerusalem where death is no more. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Blessed Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Paul, and all the saints who have borne witness to the Risen Christ, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. ***Alleluia! To you, O Lord, we give praise and glory.***

*Celebrant: Blessed are you, God of glory, who gave us your Son. Hear the prayers we offer on behalf of your whole creation and strengthen it in your love, that we may honor your Spirit which fills the whole earth, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **AMEN.***

THE PEACE - All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – O God, Thou Art My God

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee
My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee: in a barren and dry land where no water is
Thus have I looked for thee in holiness: that I might behold thy power and glory
For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself: my lips shall praise thee
As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner: and lift up my hands in thy Name
Because thou hast been my helper: therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA

S120

The image shows musical notation for the Sanctus. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff is for the *Celebrant*, the second for the *People*, and the third for the *People*. The music is in common time with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation uses a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with various slurs and grace notes.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues with the Preface for Easter

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 AND BENEDICTUS

Archer

2

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

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."

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

S133

Celebrant

There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

The Celebrant continues

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.

The Eucharistic prayer concludes with the Doxology, the People respond with the following

THE GREAT AMEN

S146

A - men. A - men. A - men.

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
 People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

A period of silence is kept

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Archer

2

Lamb of God, you take a way the sins of the world; have
 mer cy up on _____ us. _____ Lamb of God, you
 take a way the sins of the world; have mer cy up on _____
 us. _____ Lamb of God, you take a way the sins _____ of the

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Paul's. It is our custom to receive the bread in the upturned palms of our hands, and eat it immediately. Gluten-free wafers are available; please let the minister know that you need one. Those who wish to receive wine should partake by sipping directly from the chalice (intincting, or dipping one's wafer into the wine, is no longer permitted). Please use your hands, holding the base of the chalice, to gently assist the server in guiding the chalice to your lips. If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing, indicating your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM – Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life from the Five Mystical Songs

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
 Such a Way, as gives us breath:
 Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
 Such a Life, as killeth death

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:
 Such a Light, as shows a feast:
 Such a Feast, as mends in length:
 Such a Strength, as makes his guest

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
 Such a Joy, as none can move:
 Such a Love, as none can part:
 Such a Heart, as joys in love

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP page 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

HYMN AT THE RETIRING PROCESSION – #610 “Lord, whose love in humble service” *Blaenafren*

DISMISSAL

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.

People

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POSTLUDE – Dialogue sur les grands jeux

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)

CATHEDRAL LIFE I MAY 18
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL – SPCBUFFALO.ORG

Letter from Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe on Episcopal Migration Ministries

May 12, 2025
Office of Public Affairs

Dear People of God in The Episcopal Church:

I am writing today with some significant news about Episcopal Migration Ministries, the organization that leads The Episcopal Church's refugee resettlement ministry.

Since January, the previously bipartisan U.S. Refugee Admissions Program in which we participate has essentially shut down. Virtually no new refugees have arrived, hundreds of staff in resettlement agencies around the country have been laid off, and funding for resettling refugees who have already arrived has been uncertain. Then, just over two weeks ago, the federal government informed Episcopal Migration Ministries that under the terms of our federal grant, we are expected to resettle white Afrikaners from South Africa whom the U.S. government has classified as refugees.

In light of our church's steadfast commitment to racial justice and reconciliation and our historic ties with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, we are not able to take this step. Accordingly, we have determined that, by the end of the federal fiscal year, we will conclude our refugee resettlement grant agreements with the U.S. federal government.

I want to be very clear about why we made this decision—and what we believe lies ahead for Episcopal Migration Ministries' vital work.

It has been painful to watch one group of refugees, selected in a highly unusual manner, receive preferential treatment over many others who have been waiting in refugee camps or dangerous conditions for years. I am saddened and ashamed that many of the refugees who are being denied entrance to the United States are brave people who worked alongside our military in Iraq and Afghanistan and now face danger at home because of their service to our country. I also grieve that victims of religious persecution, including Christians, have not been granted refuge in recent months.

As Christians, we must be guided not by political vagaries, but by the sure and certain knowledge that the kingdom of God is revealed to us in the struggles of those on the margins. Jesus tells us to care for the poor and vulnerable as we would care for him, and we must follow that command. Right now, what that means is ending our participation in the federal government's refugee resettlement program and investing our resources in serving migrants in other ways.

For nearly 40 years, Episcopal Migration Ministries has put hands and feet to our church's commitment to seek and serve Christ in migrants and refugees. We have served nearly 110,000 refugees during this time, many of whom are now American citizens and beloved members of our communities, workplaces, and neighborhoods. Over the years, EMM has resettled individuals from Ukraine, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Myanmar. We have supported vulnerable populations from across the globe, regardless of nationality.

Since March, a dedicated team of Episcopal Migration Ministries employees has fulfilled our commitment to serve people who arrived just before or in the first days of the new administration. Now that we are ending our involvement in federally funded refugee resettlement, we have asked the administration to work toward a mutual agreement that will allow us to wind down all federally funded services by the end of the federal fiscal year in September. We are working with the affected staff members to provide extensive outplacement services and severance packages.

I have said before that no change in political fortunes alters our commitment to stand with the world's most vulnerable people, and I want to reaffirm that promise. While our public-private partnership as a refugee resettlement agency is no longer viable, we are hard at work on a churchwide plan to support migrants and refugees through:

Diocesan partnerships: We have vibrant ministries around the church serving migrants of all kinds. Episcopalian support newcomers through education, direct service, and advocacy. Our dioceses also work to address the root causes of migration. We pledge to redouble our efforts to support these ministries and the migrants among us.

Global connections: We will invest in our ministries that support forced migrants throughout the countries and territories of The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. This includes our powerful ministry in Europe, where the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe has served more than 140,000 refugees in the last two years, primarily from North Africa, Ukraine, and Central Asia. We will continue to work with our dioceses and Anglican partners throughout Central America to help those seeking safety.

Continued support for refugees: While new refugee arrivals and funding have been curtailed by the current administration, thousands of refugees welcomed by Episcopal Migration Ministries in previous years still need support. We will invite Episcopalian to connect with resettled refugees and explore how to continue services we have long provided—language services, continuing education, support with childcare, and job training. If refugee resettlement begins again with the support of private sponsors, we will explore those new possibilities.

Fundraising: It is important to understand the scale of federal grant money from which we are stepping away. In most recent years, Episcopal Migration Ministries received more than \$50 million annually in federal funds. This is not a loss that can be bridged with donor funds or proceeds from investments. However, we will raise funds for new and expanded migration ministries across the church and for our partners in this ministry. You can contribute to this new work by making a donation on the Episcopal Migration Ministries website.

In the coming weeks, Episcopal Migration Ministries will share more news about how to be involved. In the meantime, please pray for vetted refugees who have not been granted permission to come to this country, for the staff who will be affected by the end of these federal grants, and for everyone who grieves the end of our federal refugee resettlement work.

May our faith in the Risen Christ, who draws all people to himself, sustain and guide us through the tumult of these times.

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe
Presiding Bishop
The Episcopal Church

Leadership Transition at Bishop Holly Chapter UBE

Submitted by Chuck Casto for the Social Justice Action Team

The local chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalian is named for the first African American bishop in the Episcopal church, and missionary to Haiti, the Rt. Rev. James Theodore Holly. This action and advocacy partner of St. Paul's Cathedral will elect a new president on Wednesday, May 28. Current president Wayne Blasingame is moving to Georgia, and two women familiar to us at SPC are running to succeed him: Deacon Kim Greene, who served here several years ago, and Latanya Jacob, currently a vestry member, eucharistic minister, and reader at SPC. Please pray for these candidates and the chapter membership. Consider joining us at St. Philip's, 15 Fernhill Avenue, Buffalo, at 6pm on the 28th, when you may activate your chapter membership (bring your checkbook) and join the party to thank Wayne for his leadership!

A Letter from the Presidents of the Standing Committees of WNY and NWPA

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the Presidents of the Standing Committees of the Dioceses of Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania, we write to share an update on the status of our Episcopal Partnership.

After a season of prayerful discernment, during which we listened to many voices across our dioceses, the May 3rd Joint Special Convention did not vote to extend the nature of our Partnership by electing a bishop diocesan together.

The Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania voted not to approve the resolution to begin the process of electing a

bishop diocesan in partnership with the Diocese of Western New York. The vote tally was Clerical Order: 3-25; Lay Order: 11-43.

The Diocese of Western New York voted not to approve the resolution to begin the process of electing a bishop diocesan in partnership with the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania. The vote tally was Clerical Order: 14-36; Lay Order: 45-68.

This decision was made carefully and faithfully, with a deep love for the Church and a commitment to what is best for the mission and ministry of each diocese. The Partnership Evaluation, Lenten Study and multiple in-person and Zoom listening and information sessions about the Special Convention provided invaluable assistance to our individual and collective discernment.

We want to say clearly: this decision does not erase the many ways God has blessed our shared life. Over the past 6 years, we have discovered the strength that comes from walking together, learning from each other, bearing witness together, and offering the world a witness of hope and collaboration. We give thanks for every relationship formed, every ministry strengthened and every new possibility glimpsed through our partnership. We will remain one in the Spirit even as we move forward as two dioceses.

The Standing Committees of each diocese will now begin the work of discerning next steps in securing its own episcopal oversight. Working with our Diocesan Councils, we hope to realign staff and administrative resources to serve each diocese separately—effective on or before July 1st. We are also making plans to celebrate what we have accomplished together in Partnership at a gathering on Thursday, June 19th. More information about this will be forthcoming. We ask for your prayers in the days ahead – prayers for our dioceses, for our leaders, for our congregations, and most of all, for the Spirit's continued guidance as we move forward. We trust that the God who has carried us thus far will continue to lead us into new chapters of ministry, filled with hope and new life.

With gratitude for you and for the journey we share,

Faithfully,
The Rev. Luke Fodor & The Rev. Canon Stacey Fussell

From the Dean's Desk:

Last Friday, the Cathedral received an emergency request to temporarily offer space to the Code Blue Shelter. While Code Blue officially ended on April 30, the shelter wrote a proposal to continue services as they are caring for many of our neighbors, some who quite vulnerable. The need for the shelter to continue uninterrupted was vital due to a critical shortage of shelter space and affordable housing in Buffalo. Following a discussion with our senior warden, I emailed by Vestry and after a day of discussion back and forth, we moved forward to open our space for this purpose. An announcement was made to the congregation at both services last Sunday, May 4th. The shelter that is run by Sylvia's House in cooperation with the Western New York Coalition for the Homeless and is a temporary 24 hour shelter. They will be renting space from us in the Walker Room and adjacent areas while they work towards moving into a permanent facility in the next few weeks. The shelter is staffed by 2-3 people at all times and there is professional security services on site at all times.

I realize that this will interrupt the normal flow of our common life here at St. Paul's, particularly on Sunday mornings, but it is a gracious act of living into the Gospel. On Sundays the coffee hour host, and those assisting, will bring refreshments to the narthex, or other designated location while the shelter is in operation. We will need to share restroom facilities; if needed, there is a small restroom in the sacristy hallway (please see a clergy person or altar guild member, for assistance).

Thank you for your anticipated flexibility as we host our guests remembering always Jesus' words, "What you did for the least of these, you did unto me."

In Christ's peace,
Dean Rebecca

Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations – Action Alert

In this present political climate, people feel deeply that their must voices be heard: Loud and Clear. We have an official resource to endorse the views that our Episcopal Church has already articulated. The Office of Government Relations - Action Alert (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/action-alerts/>), provides channels directly to elected representatives. Use this resource to live out our Baptismal vows that bind us to seek God's Justice in our own country, and indeed, upon the whole earth.

Music at St. Paul's and around the Diocese

Commonwealth University (PA) Choirs to perform at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral

Please note new time: 7PM!

Mixed-Voice, Treble, and Male Ensembles in Free Public Concert

The choirs of Commonwealth University-Bloomsburg in Pennsylvania will present a free public concert at 7:00 pm on Sunday, May 18, 2025 in St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral of Buffalo, NY. Performing ensembles will include the mixed-voice Concert Choir and the Male-Voice Husky Singers, both under the direction of Dr. Alan Baker, and the Golden Voices Treble Choir under the direction of Dr. Amelia Garbisch. Pianist Brian Farrell will accompany each ensemble.

The program will feature a wide variety of octavo-length repertoire, including sacred music of Daniel Elder, John Tavener, Mack Wilberg, and K. Lee Scott, as well as spirituals, folksongs, jazz arrangements from the American Songbook, Americana, Broadway, and Sea Chanties.

Free will offering will be taken to benefit the Cathedral's Garden of Love ministries.

East Aurora Chamber Music Festival

- o Friday, June 6, 2025
- o Sunday, June 8, 2025
- o Friday, June 13, 2025
- o Saturday, June 14, 2025

The time for all four concerts is 7:30 PM 9:30 PM at Saint Matthias' Church, 374 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. For more information:
<https://www.eastauroracmf.org/concerts>

Prayer and Pastoral Care

We lift up the following in prayer especially Juanita, Lisa and family, Andrea, Miles, Karl, Barbara, Larry and Diane, Byron, Chris, Tabatha, Joe, Nick, Carl, Lori, Brandy and family, Larry, Carol, Renee, Sharon, Elaine, Don, Anne, Jim, Judy, and Shirley. We also remember all those who have died, especially those whose anniversary of death we mark this week. We pray for them and their loved ones who remember them.

New or visiting today? Everything you need to participate in worship is in this bulletin and the Hymnal in the pew (red or blue). We invite you to join in praying, singing, and responding, as you are comfortable.

Restrooms are located on the lower level. From the elevator, proceed through the double glass doors and look to your right for an accessible restroom. Additional restrooms are on the same level, to the left, near the kitchen.

Children are always welcome in worship and are invited to explore! Greeters can provide activity kits, available in the back of the church. Godly Play is also offered. For details: cathedral@spcbuffalo.org.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Kathy Reiss, Delwyn Milander; Altar Guild
David Jemmott, Robert Jones; Ushers
Jessy Alexander; Coffee Hour Host
Kourosh Karami; Live Stream Coordinator

Kevin O' Neil, Tom Salvatori, Estelle Siener; Readers
A. Peter Snodgrass; Intercessor
Charles Casto Jr., Evelyn Smigelsky; Eucharistic Ministers
Tim Socha; Guest Organist

The Rev. Phil Cunningham; Deacon
The Very Rev. Rebecca A. Barnes; Celebrant

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<https://episcopalpartnership.org/>

CATHEDRAL CLERGY / STAFF

The Very Rev. Rebecca A. Barnes, Dean · deanrebecca@spcbuffalo.org · 646-533-1836
The Reverend Philip Cunningham, Cathedral Curate · 716-713-9738
Teresa Carter, Administrator · teresa@spcbuffalo.org · 855-0900 ext. 222
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CATHEDRAL WARDENS

Estelle Siener, Warden (estelle.siener@gmail.com) · Michael Bonilla, Warden (bonz5647@yahoo.com)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

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The people of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral strive to be a beacon of God's love in Western New York through transformative worship, inclusive fellowship, and active service in partnership with the wider community.



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