

St. Paul's Church, 166 High Street, Newburyport, MA

May 2, 2021 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Prelude: Two preludes on "Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands"

Georg Philipp Telemann(1681-1767) and Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Opening Hymn: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians sing!"

#182 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

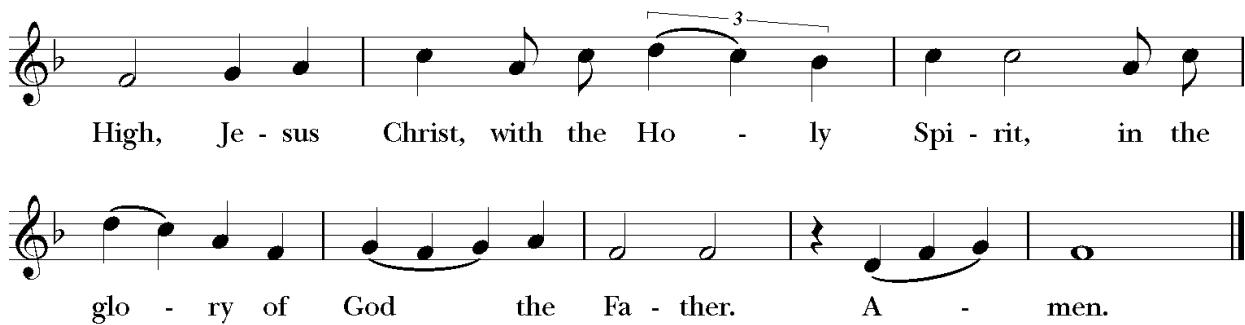
People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia**

Gloria "Glory to God"

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, 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 Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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 8:26 – 40

Reader: 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 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD’s for ever.

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

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7 – 21*Reader:* 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia

The Alleluia is sung by a cantor, then repeated by all, then repeated by all again after the gospel sentence.



Al-le-lu-ia, Al - le-lu-ia, Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: John 15:1 – 8

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: 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.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Jarred

Nicene Creed

*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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.*

*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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.*

Prayers of the People:

The Celebrant introduces the prayers.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who have passed through the waters of baptism and into your resurrection life may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another, work to end racism, liberate the oppressed, feed the hungry, lift up the lowly, and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, loving one another as he loves us, and dispelling the darkness with the light of his resurrection.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for:

Kathy Steele – Friend of Ed Winslow

Karen Staffeld – Niece of Ann Staffeld

George Partaledis – Friend of Joyce Thayer

Mike Dichiara Jr. – Friend of Susan Flint

Jane Robinson – Friend of Annie Winslow

Willard Hadley – Parishioner

Peggy Dunlap – Parishioner

Mary Paddy – Parishioner

Allison Ballentine – Friend of Susan Acquaviva

Betty Abby Stearns – Parishioner

Nick Varoutsos – Friend Alison & Peter Novello

Rachel Perry – Daughter of Karen Caplan

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, among those who have died recently, Susan Smith and William Hubbard, and we bring before you Josiah Welch, whose funeral will be held this Saturday, that your will for them be fulfilled and that they may share with all your saints in the glory of Christ's resurrection.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in our fellowship with Blessed Mary, Paul and all your saints, we offer our whole lives to you and in a moment of silence our own prayers.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Celebrant & People

Most merciful God,

***we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.***

***We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

*All share signs of Christ's peace with one another,
especially seeking to amend any hurts or conflicts.*

MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

The offering is taken and the altar is set for the Eucharist.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory Hymn: "God is Love, let heaven adore him"

#379 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break-ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Celebrant proceeds

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: "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

S 128 *The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

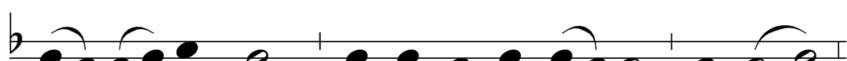
The Celebrant continues with the Doxology, to which all respond with the “great Amen.”



Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the



u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spi - rit, to you be hon - or,



glo - ry, and praise, for ev - er and ev - er. A - MEN.

The Celebrant then continues

As our Saviour taught us, now we pray:

People and Celebrant

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

Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God"

S 163 *The Hymnal 1982*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Celebrant: As we are not all gathered to receive the sacrament together, we pray this prayer of spiritual communion:

All: Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Post-Communion Anthem: “My eyes for beauty pine”

Words: Robert Bridges (1844-1930) Music: Herbert Howells (1892 – 1983)

*My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddes grace;
No other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart that burns with true desire
Is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.*

After communion the Celebrant continues:

Let us pray.

Celebrant & 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.*

Blessing

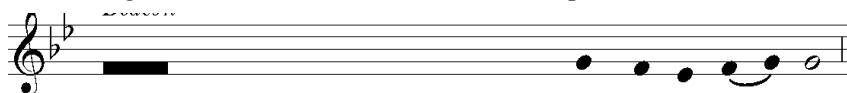
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

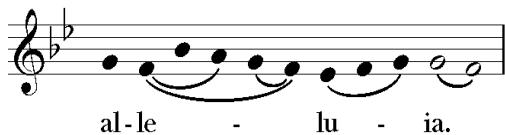
*The celebrant pronounces a blessing, after which all respond
Amen.*

Dismissal

The Celebrant sings the Easter dismissal, and all respond:



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.



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

Closing Hymn: "Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life"

#487 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
joy as none can move; such a love as none can

strife; such a life as kill - eth death.
length; such a strength as makes his guest.
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Postlude: "Fugue in E-Flat Major"

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

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TODAY'S SERVICE LEADERS

Clergy: The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer

Music Director: Mark Meyer

Choir: Terry Anderson, Richard Blumenscheid, Elaine Bucher, Joyce Cejka, Virginia Meyer, Jane Niebling

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Bev Brennan

Lectors: Clare Keller

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Valid for: 03/18/2021 – 03/17/2022

Cycle of Prayer

Today as we worship we keep in our prayers the ***Parishes of the Concord River Deanery***; St. Anne's in-the-Fields Church, Lincoln; St. Paul's Church, Natick; Trinity Chapel, Shirley; St. Mark's Church, Southborough; Congregations: Acolytes, and in the ***local cycle of prayer***: East Parish Church, Salisbury.

Prayer List

Person to Pray for and Relationship

Allison Flynn – Niece of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Eve Steinberg – Friend of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Judy Abby – Parishioner
Debby Demopoulos – Sister of Pat Maslen
Marya Toffey – Niece of Ann Winslow
Keetah Life – Parishioner
Stephen Mathis – Friend of Priscilla Bellairs
Talia Duff—Niece of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Stephen Jones—Nephew of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Betty Moberger – Sister-in-law of Ingrid Sanborn
Marilyn Diehl – Friend of Ingrid Sanborn
Jill Davila – Niece of Carole Bishop
Tony Broer - Brother of Carole Bishop
Joanne Norris – Friend of Sheila & Jack Butler
Karen – Friend of the Budzyna family
Theresa Winslow – Mother of Ed Winslow
Olin Braids – Brother of Priscilla Bellairs
Karen Greene – Family of Wendy Colby
Betty Trowbridge – Friend of Donna Northam
Marie Buckman – Mother of Linda Davis Siess
Lois Schofield – Parishioner
Mary Snowdon – Parishioner
Ken Leistler – Friend of Susan Flint
Laura Hobbs – Friend of Susan Flint
Jeanne Rainoldi – Friend of Ann Staffeld
Vikas Chandhoke – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Richelle Stephens – Friend of Susan Flint
John Coliano – Friend of Cathleen Williamson
Ann Davis – Friend of Cathleen Williamson

Kristin Corning – Parishioner
Nancy Burkholder – Sister-in-law of Pat Maslen
Jori Guldenstern
Rev. Connie Reinhardt – Friend of St. Paul’s Church
Alan White – Friend of Susan Flint
Tim Coco – Friend of Susan Flint
Barbara Barnes – Cousin of Joyce Thayer
Alexander Wood – Cousin of John Neale
Corey – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Kathy Steele – Friend of Ed Winslow
Karen Staffeld – Niece of Ann Staffeld
George Partaledis – Friend of Joyce Thayer
Mike Dichiara Jr. – Friend of Susan Flint
Jane Robinson – Friend of Annie Winslow
Willard Hadley – Parishioner
Peggy Dunlap – Parishioner
Mary Paddy – Parishioner
Allison Ballentine – Friend of Susan Acquaviva
Paul Lucas – Parishioner
Karen Caplan – Parishioner
Richard and Jane Ellis – Friends of Pat Maslen
Jim Reid – Parishioner
Douglas Schaller – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Harriet Sosa – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Jim Reid – Parishioner
Betty Abby Stearns – Parishioner
Nick Varoutsos – Friend Alison & Peter Novello

Statement of Call - St. Paul's Church

St. Paul's is a Christian community where people are met and accepted without judgment for who they are and are adopted into a loving and caring family. Our faith provides a framework within which we explore, honor and celebrate the presence of God in daily experiences, especially in the crises, conflicts and transitions of life, and are thereby equipped to live fully in an increasingly complex and changing world

We believe we are called to center our life in Jesus Christ through a regular discipline of Eucharistic worship, scripture study and prayer.

We believe our faith leads us to fulfill our mission, which is to share ourselves and our resources with each other, our community and the world.

We believe we are called to discover and affirm our spiritual gifts and be responsible and committed ministers of these gifts in the name of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul's 2021 Vestry
Ed Winslow – Senior Warden
Karen Spangler – Junior Warden
Nick Ives – Treasurer
Deirdre Budzyna – Clerk

Shepherds
Class of 2024
Lorrie Jones
Lisë Reid
Class of 2023
Kerry Lagueux
John Neale
Alison Novello
Class of 2022
Vanessa Ayersman
Jane Niebling
Sam Walker

St. Paul's is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Our bishops are:

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates
The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris

St. Paul's Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer, Rector – rector@stpauls-nbpt.org
Mark Meyer, Music Director – markmeyer49@gmail.com
Linda Siess, Children & Youth Coordinator - stpauls.childrenyouthcoord@gmail.com
Deb Hay, Office Manager – stpauls@stpauls-nbpt.org
Office: 978-465-5351

Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday 8am – 4pm
Thursday – Friday 8am – 2pm

Websites

Diocese of Massachusetts www.diomass.org
St. Paul's Church www.stpaulsnewburyport.org