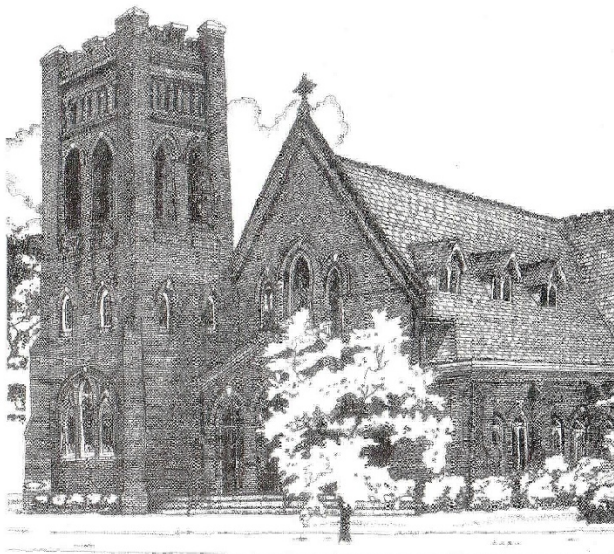


# St. Paul's Episcopal Church



**10:30 am Holy Eucharist**

**18 Pentecost: Blessing of the Animals**

**October 4, 2020**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
212 North Jefferson Street  
Albany, Georgia 31701  
(229) 436-0196



You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

PSALM: 80:7-14

- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; \*  
you cast out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; \*  
it took root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow \*  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea \*  
and its branches to the River.
- 12 Why have you broken down its wall, \*  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, \*  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;  
behold and tend this vine; \*  
preserve what your right hand has planted.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir;

come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

HOMILY

THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely  
bestowed upon us and for the beauty and wonder of your  
creation, in earth and sky and sea;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our  
pets;

*All: We thank you, Lord.*

Leader: That each pet here may be treasured with care;

*All: We pray to you, Lord.*

Leader: That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

*All: We pray to you, Lord.*

Leader: That we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your  
abundant creation;

*All: To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever, we pray to  
you, Lord. Amen.*

## THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

HYMN: *"All Things Bright and Beautiful"*

Hymn #405

## THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People: And also with you.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY

*The People offer their gifts of treasure to God's work at St. Paul's.*

*The People offer their gifts of Bread and Wine to the Glory of God.*

*The People offer their gifts-in-kind to God's work at the Humane Society.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING      *Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP 361

Leader:      The Lord be with you.

*People:      And also with you.*

Leader:      Lift up your hearts.

*People:      We lift them to the Lord.*

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

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY                      *said in unison*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power 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.

Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER      *traditional*

BREAKING OF THE BREAD      *said responsively*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in

the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. *Amen.*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *said by All*

Almighty God, our great Creator,

to you be the praise, the glory, the honor and all blessings!

To you alone do all things belong.

Be praised for giving us the animals, birds and fish which fill your world.

May we think of you and thank you

when we care for our pets.

Be praised for making us so happy to have our pets

and to have them to play with.

We ask you, Lord, that we may be good to our pets always,

so that they may be happy as well.

Help us always to take care of them

so that they will be healthy.

O God, your world is wonderful.

May we all come into your even greater world of the kingdom of heaven

where we shall see even more wonderful things

and where we shall live and love forever.

This we ask to your eternal praise, and to our blessing. *Amen.*

POSTCOMMUNION HYMN: *"Earth and All Stars"*

Hymn #412

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Distribution of communion hosts as you exit.