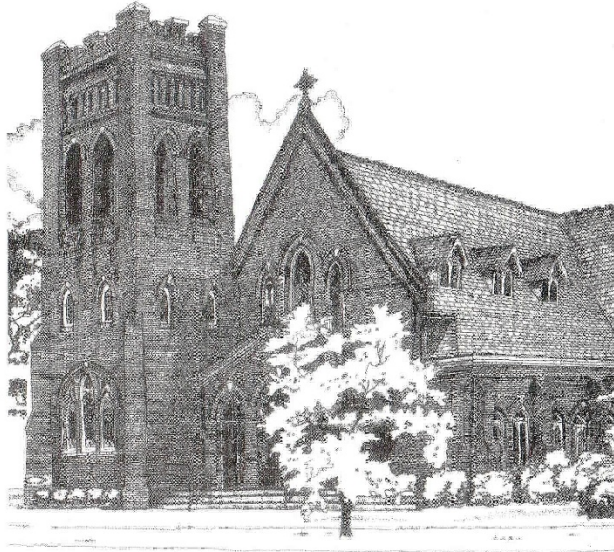


St. Paul's Episcopal Church



10:00 am Holy Eucharist

20 Pentecost: Blessing of the Animals

October 10, 2021

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

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING HYMN: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Hymn #405

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Leader: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: *Christ, have mercy.*

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PSALM: 22:1-15

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?

2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.

3 Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5 They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.

7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.

10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.

12 Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

13 They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

THE PRAYERS 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

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.

CLOSING HYMN: *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Hymn 686

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Distribution of communion hosts as you exit.

Prayers of the People

Please remember your prayers for the special needs of Mary Hagan, Pat Burger, Carmella Maurizi, Madge Bush, Ann Natoli, Virginia Reynolds, Jack Clay, Kara Shugart, David Ronn, Bud Greco, Andrew Grezaffi, Anne Stokes, Martha Hester, Lee Bettis, Wright Woodall, Charles Godwin, Chip Kelly, Hollis Lanier, Laura Childress, Wil Campbell, Menard Hall, Allen Baggs, Chris Anderson, Olivia Warren, Ethan Dutton, our Search Committee, Parish Staff, and Vestry.

Prayers for all first responders and all the men and women of our armed forces, at home and abroad. Defend them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for our congregations in Thomasville, All Saints, Good Shepherd, and St. Thomas and for their work at the Oak Street Episcopal Mission. We also pray for our ecumenical partners in Thomasville, especially St. Augustine's Catholic Church. In our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic, we pray for St. Luke (San Lucas) in Santiago.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, our Bishop, Frank Logue and our retired Bishop, Scott Benhase.

Worship Ministers:

Acolytes: Jackson Knight, Henry Rutledge

Lectors/LEM: Ted Wright, Joe Stubbs, Jon Woodcock

Stewardship Remarks: Henry Rutledge

Ushers: Bubba Mitchell, Ned Newcomb, Gaylon Ramsey

Organist: Dr. Marcia Hood

Celebrant: The Rev. Walter Hobgood

The altar is set each week by the ladies serving on the altar guild.

Announcements

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Faye Bolton Turner by Scott and Nancy Brown.

If you test positive or develop symptoms for COVID in the next 5 days, please call the church at 436-0196 (M-Th 9am-12pm) or Fr. Hobgood at 1-229-630-6444 or wphobg@gmail.com

Coffee Hour

We will have coffee and lemonade following the service on the patio.

Important Dates

Sun. Oct 10th — Blessing of the Animals Today
No Sunday School

Sun. Oct 17th — Blessing of all Pledges
Please return your pledge cards no later than October 17th.

Sat. Oct 23rd — Barney's Run for Warriors at Wildside Running

Sun. Oct 24th — 125th Anniversary Celebration and Confirmation
No Sunday School

Lay Eucharistic Ministers/Visitors

We need volunteers to serve as Lay Eucharistic Ministers at the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services and Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Please contact Father Hobgood if you are interested.

The ten o'clock service is available via St. Paul's Facebook page and by link from our website at: www.stpaulsalbany.org