



# REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE

April 28, 2024

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

**YOUTH SUNDAY**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*We are a diverse, inclusive community in the Episcopal Diocese of California, and are welcoming to all who attend in worship.*

*We're happy to have you with us today. Our worship follows the order of the Book of Common Prayer 1979 (BCP), Rite II, with music from a variety of musical resources authorized by the Episcopal Church: 1982 Hymnal, Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) and Enriching Our Worship (EOW).*

Join the service Live Stream on our Facebook page [here](#).

# The Liturgy of the Word

*At the sound of the bell, all stand for the entrance of the ministers.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## 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 following is said*

## THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*All sit.*

## THE FIRST READING

Acts 8: 26-40

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 the 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*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 22: 24-30**

*Deus, Deus meus*

- 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.

**THE SECOND READING**

I John 4: 7-21

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*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

John 15: 1-8

*All stand.*

*Deacon*            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."

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

## SERMON

Clark Gregory

*A period of silence is kept following the sermon.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

**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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*by Diana Pray*

O Lord our God, we praise you this Easter season as we celebrate the resurrected Christ! Bless us to follow Jesus's steps in the way that leads to eternal life.

In the rebirth that is spring, have us abide in you as you abide in us, that we may bear much fruit.

In the rebirth that is baptism, perfect your love in us by emboldening us to love one another.

In the rebirth that is the generation of our Jesus returned from death, may young people throughout the world, our descendents, be known as the Lord's forever.

We pray for your Universal Church, for all who love because you loved us first. Bless every leader and every member: especially Bishops Michael, Marc and Austin, and St. Paul's Oakland's

priests, deacons, seminarians, staff, and laity. We pray for young Clark, his family, and this congregation as we love him and all youth, that they will make your saving deeds known to generations yet unborn.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

We pray for all people of every nation and every land. Have us know and love each other as the sisters and brothers that we are. Save us from ourselves: we live in fear, striking and punishing one another; but your perfect love casts out fear.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

Creator God, have us restore your Earth to its life-sustaining perfection. Redeemer God, pull us back from self-destruction and the destruction of each other. Sanctifying God, perfect your love in us. Bless the youth of the world to grow and thrive and love one another. Embolden us to protect each one, as though they were our own flesh.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

Lord, bless today's Youth Pilgrimage to Grace Cathedral! Make it a joyful time, and bring each pilgrim closer to you and to each other.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

Lord, we grieve with all in need. As our hearts are moved, so move our bodies and minds to help. Do not let hopelessness crowd out the truth of your love. You promise us that if we abide in you, and your word in us, that whatever we ask shall be done. And so we ask for healing, nourishment, safe homes, mended hearts, and freedom from every bondage.

*The people may add their own petitions, aloud or silently.*

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

At Easter, we rejoice in resurrection! But many of us still sleep, and many more will sleep before the trumpet sounds. Comfort us in this meantime, as we live without our loved ones who have died. As we miss them, remind us that they are sure of the life of the world to come: even as they sleep, even in the dust, they worship and fall down before you.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.  
**If we love one another, God lives in us.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Holy Communion

*Here are ways to contribute to the mission and ministry of the parish:*

*Text to Give: Text the word "GIVE" to phone number 510-900-7759.*

*Online giving: Go to <https://stpaulsoakland.breezechms.com/give/online> or scan this QR Code:*



*Paypal contribution: scan this QR Code:*





*All stand as the Celebrant raises the offerings and together sing the Doxology.*

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Hymnal 380, verse 3

*Music: Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise  
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

*The Celebrant, says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel and the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

Therefore according to his command, O Father:

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*All*      **Amen.**

*The Celebrant then continues,*

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant breaks the bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then is said*

*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.**

*The Celebrant invites all to God's table saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome at the Lord's table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. To receive Communion in your pew, please ask an usher to notify the ministers on your behalf. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask at the altar rail.*

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After all have received Communion, people stand or kneel as the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

*All*     **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon*     Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*People*     **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## April 28, 2024 – Easter 5 (B) General Convention Young Adult Festival

Registration is open online for The Episcopal Church Young Adult Festival, scheduled to run during six days of the 81st General Convention this summer in Louisville, Kentucky. The deadline for participants needing housing is **May 6**; commuter registration deadline is **May 31**. Apply here: [iam.ec/yaf2024](http://iam.ec/yaf2024).

The Young Adult Festival is designed for those ages 18-30 to meet peers from across the globe, pray and learn together, engage in the church's legislative process, and help discern God's call for The Episcopal Church.

"This is a wonderful way for young adults to get to know more about General Convention, to understand more how our church creates priorities and budgets, to meet other young adults, to learn more about ministries across the church, to meet the presiding bishop and the president of the House of Deputies, to worship together, and to explore together," said the Rev. Shannon Kelly, staff officer for Young Adult and Campus Ministries.

"We look forward to welcoming everyone to Louisville."

General Convention will be held June 23-28 at the Kentucky International Convention Center. The Young Adult Festival will run from June 21-26, with programming events at the Galt House Hotel.

The cost for the event ranges between \$135 and \$595, depending on housing choices. Registration for those traveling to Louisville includes five nights of housing at the Galt House Hotel, dinner on June 22, General Convention registration, and all Young Adult Festival programming and activities. Space is limited for housing. Registration for commuters includes dinner, convention registration, and all festival programming and activities.

For more information, contact the Rev. Shannon Kelly: [skelly@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:skelly@episcopalchurch.org).



**Prayer requests for you or a loved one** may be communicated by placing a note in the offering plate. We will include them in our regular prayer concerns. You may also send prayer requests to [prayers@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:prayers@stpaulsoakland.org).

Tito Alvarez  
 Catherine Ann  
 Kathleen Jean Anthony  
 Stephanie Azlin-Carr  
 Anne Barclay  
 Dr. Basdeo Balkissoon  
 Aaron A. Benjamin  
 Lisa Bishop  
 Kate Britton  
 Helena Busquets  
 Miguel Chamorro  
 Cheryl Clausen  
 Sister Rose Coleman  
 Martika Crawford  
 John Ross Devlin  
 Victoria Maxine Devlin  
 Edwina Devlin  
 Brian Faucette  
 Jewelle Gibbs  
 Alexander Glenn  
 Grace Gough

Larry Gray  
 Londell Guffen  
 Vincent Hall  
 Chrystina Harris  
 Michelle Hartmann  
 David Holley  
 Sharon Hyde  
 Nick Indehar  
 Gregory Jackson  
 Peter Johnson  
 Priscilla Kingston  
 Alex Krueger  
 Reginald & Theresa Lane  
 Natalie Lehman-  
 Buckingham  
 Vita Lopata  
 Rafael Martin  
 Nicole McClain  
 James Meredith  
 Bryan Patterson  
 Garrett Petersen

Mark Pingree  
 David Raskin  
 Joel Reyna  
 Jessica Rojas  
 Manny Smith  
 Thomas Spitz  
 Paul Sporer  
 Ramona Terry  
 Cheryl Ting  
 Cheryl Torrance  
 Cary Virtue  
 Nancy & William Walker  
 Renee Walker-Bolden  
 Robert Wright

**CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Marc H.  
 Andrus  
*Bishop of California*

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio  
 Wilson  
*Rector*

The Ven. Canon Carolyn  
 Bolton  
*Archdeacon*

The Rev. Christian  
 Harding  
*Assisting Priest*

The Ven. Gary England  
*Archdeacon*

**STAFF**

Benjamin Bachmann  
 Music, FAGO  
*Music Director*

Philip Saunders  
*Assistant Music Director*

Jackie Kamakate  
*Parish Administrator*

Joan Clerk  
*Bookkeeper*

Danislav Nedevski  
*Sexton*

Elena Nedevska  
*Housekeeper*

**VESTRY**

**Class of 2024**  
 Indira Balkissoon—Sr.  
 Warden  
 Irene Plunkett  
 Matthew Schooler

**Class of 2025**  
 Pam Kruse-Buckingham—  
 Treasurer  
 Richard Larson—  
 Warden  
 Daniel (Digger) Lauter

**Class of 2026**  
 David Anderson—Clerk  
 Paula Hawthorn  
 Doug Jensen

**LITURGICAL  
SCHEDULE**

**Sundays**

8 AM Spoken Eucharist

10 AM Choral Eucharist

**Fourth Sundays**

8 PM Compline in the  
Church

**First Sundays**

4 PM Evensong in the  
Church

**Wednesdays**

12:10 PM Spoken Eucharist  
Livestream

**The Sacrament of  
Reconciliation may be  
scheduled with any priest.**

Music usage licensing and  
agreements: Church Hymnal  
Corporation, New York;  
OneLicense.net

***Celebrant***

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio J. Wilson  
*Rector*

***Preacher***

Clark Gregory

***Assisting***

The Rev. Christian Harding  
*Assisting Priest*

***Deacons***

The Ven. Canon Carolyn Bolton  
*Archdeacon*

The Ven. Gary England  
*Archdeacon*

***Subdeacon***

Kiandra Morris Wilson

***Lay Assistant***

Rachel Dikzeul  
*Seminarian*

***Altar Guild***

Paula Hawthorn, Erica Terry  
Derryck, Melanie Blake

## WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING

**Parking** is available in the Senior Center/ Veteran's Memorial Building lot (across Bay Place from the church) for Sunday services. Street parking is unrestricted on Sundays, but metered/2-hour limit all other days. Additional paid parking is available at Children's Fairyland on Grand Ave. and at lots at 155 Grand Ave. and at W 23rd St. & Waverly (behind 180 Grand Ave.). The nearest BART station is the 19th Avenue stop, a .7 mile walk.



**Event Notification:** If you would like to receive information on St. Paul's events and ministries, or receive a call from clergy, please fill out the welcome cards in the pews and place in the collection plate or sign the visitor book in the Narthex. **To join our email list, sign up on our website, [www.stpaulsoakland.org](http://www.stpaulsoakland.org)**

Parishioner Directories are available in either printed or digital form. To request your copy please call or email (510.834.4314 Ext. 501/ [admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org)).

### **The Restroom**

There are two restrooms available during worship: one at the back of the church in the Mustard Seeds Room, and one in the ambulatory (front of the church) on the epistle (right side facing the altar, through the doorway) side. If you require an accessible restroom please ask an

### **Our Vision**

*St. Paul's dares to be an open embracing community; discovering, celebrating, and sharing the Love of Christ.*

### **Our Mission**

*St. Paul's invites you to a spiritual journey: to love God and your neighbors near and far; to worship, pray and serve joyfully in our community; to strive to become more Christ-like in living out the promises of our baptism that all may know Christ's healing love.*



**St. Paul's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

114 Montecito Avenue ▪ Oakland, CA 94610

Office 510.834.4314 ▪ Fax 510.834.0166

Email: [admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org)

[www.stpaulsoakland.org](http://www.stpaulsoakland.org)