

The Ascension Window

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
117 Main Street
Owego, NY 13827

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday, May 16, 2021

Covid Regulations

Everyone is required to wear a mask over both mouth and nose at all times except when consuming their communion wafer in their pew.

Masks will be given to anyone entering without one with the above instructions.

There are pews with social distancing tape to guide everyone to seats. The tape that is clearly six feet apart is for groups of one or two. There is also tape at much closer distances that is for families and groups of more than two. People need to be seated one person/group at a time. Those waiting to be seated should also remain at least 6 feet apart from everyone else waiting.

The greeters will also be assisting people when it is time for communion, allowing for a minimum of six feet between persons/groups.

One of the new things the greeters will be doing is to "usher" people at communion and the end of the service, releasing each pew or group separately, similar to a wedding. Again, this will need to be done allowing for social distancing. Please keep 6 feet apart from other groups or families.

Unfortunately, there will be no coffee hour until further notice.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.

Holy Eucharist

Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Rite

Opening Hymn

Hail the day that sees him rise

Hymnal 214

- 1 Hail the day that sees him rise
glorious to his native skies;
Christ, awhile to mortals given,
enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!
- 2 There the glorious triumph waits;
lift your heads, eternal gates!
Wide unfold the radiant scene;
take the King of glory in! Alleluia!
- 3 See! he lifts his hands above;
See! he shows the prints of love:
Hark! his gracious lips bestow,
blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!
- 4 Lord beyond our mortal sight,
raise our hearts to reach thy height,
there thy face unclouded see,
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Alleluia!

All standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

Amen.

The Celebrant says

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, all standing

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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 The Lord be with you.

People
Celebrant

And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

First Reading

Acts 1:15-17,21-26

All sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

Psalm 1

BCP p. 585

Beatus vir qui non abiit

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of
the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when
judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Second Reading

1 John 5:9-13

A Reading from the First letter of John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

Sequence Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

When Christ was lifted from the earth

Hymnal 603

- 1 When Christ was lifted from the earth,
 his arms stretched out above
 through every culture, every birth,
 to draw an answering love.

- 2 Still east and west his love extends
 and always, near or far,
 he calls and claims us as his friends
 and loves us as we are.

- 3 Where generation, class, or race
divide us to our shame,
he sees not labels but a face,
a person, and a name.
- 4 Thus freely loved, though fully known,
may I in Christ be free
to welcome and accept his own
as Christ accepted me.

Holy Gospel

John 17:6-19

All stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
<i>People</i>	Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus prayed for his disciples saying, “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I

guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

Sermon

The Reverend Trula Hollywood

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

All remain standing.

All remain standing.

As branches of Jesus, the living Vine, we seek to abide in the Spirit of love, and bring our prayers to God, saying: *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Trula our Priest; Chris, our District Dean; Dorothy our District Deacon; Alice, our Lay Preacher & Worship Leader, that we may always bear witness to the truth of God's love. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For this parish family, that we who are sent may go forth and continue Christ's mission of bringing hope and healing to all. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For the gift of peace in all places of conflict, that God will touch hearts, and give courage to those who work tirelessly for justice and the common good of all. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those preparing for baptism at Pentecost, and all who seek a deeper experience of the Holy Spirit, that God will fill them with the Spirit of truth and love. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all those in places overwhelmed by the pandemic, that God will strengthen those caring for the sick, working against great odds, and distributing the vaccine. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those celebrating birthdays, especially Claudia Pena. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all who serve in the armed forces, especially Shannon Murray Tessmer, Gregory Cello, Jr., Adam Jacquet, Nick Tessmer, Daniel Murray, Emmily Botts, Jenna Keathly and Tim Garland. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all teachers, students, and parents, and especially for our college students, Mary Standinger, Larissa Hankey, Kayla Hankey, Laura

Robertson, Mikayla Sedlacek and Andrew Clark. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all those in need of our prayers, remembering especially Mary K Fogleberg, William Ellis, Brian Murphy, Bob Powell, Sharon Griffen, Carol Shrauger, John Lobsiger, Pauline Stoner, Susan Beattie, Esther Thomas, Julia Zepkowski, Johanna Masters, Diane Conneman, Eli Ames, Jean Radice, Joan Gibbs, Jane Cornett, Joseph Murphy, Dorette Burnham, Melanie, Noelle, Greg Cello Sr., Louise Woodburn, Gail Yost Moyka, Joan Meddaugh, Johnny Wall, Doug Worthing, Matthew Smithkors, John Wall, Florence Sawyer, Violet Geller, Father Lee Love, Anthony Fusco, Marge Jackson, Maxine Bailey, Joan Babcock, Wylie Duerson, Darlene Allen, Joan Pascuzzo, Laura Ingram, (pause) and all those who care for them, that Christ will renew the gift of life within them, and strengthen them in God's love. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

For those who have died, remembering especially..... that they will be welcomed into the peace and joy of God's eternal reign. ***Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.***

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, 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, Lord of heaven and earth, source of all joy. Hear our prayers and send us your Holy Spirit that we may bear witness to your abiding love made known to us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

All kneel.

The Celebrant says

Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12:29-31*

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Minister and 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 Priest 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.*

Peace

All stand.

*Celebrant
People*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

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

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

*Celebrant
People*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

*Celebrant
People*

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant
People*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. *AMEN.*

The Celebrant then continues

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

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.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Sending Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus

Hymnal 460

1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph,

his the victory alone;

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion

thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus out of every nation

hath redeemed us by his blood.

3 Alleluia! bread of Heaven,

Thou on earth our food, our stay!

Alleluia! here the sinful

flee to thee from day to day:

Intercessor, friend of sinners,

earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless

sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,

thee the Lord of lords we own:

Alleluia! born of Mary,

earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:

thou within the veil hast entered,

robed in flesh, our great High Priest:

thou on earth both Priest and Victim

in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of holy Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

+++++

Thank you to St. Paul's Choir and Betty Berghorn, organist.

Upcoming Special Services

Graveside Service for Pat Liddington: There will be a graveside service for Pat Liddington on May 21st at 11:00 a.m. at the Hope Cemetery in Newark Valley. The family invites those who knew Pat to attend.

June 6th- A Verger Investiture Service will be held for Bill O’Connell when he will officially become St. Paul’s Verger.

What’s a Verger? It is an ancient lay office, dating back to the Middle Ages. Those who hold it bear a significant responsibility for the maintenance of “plate and fabric” but also for the mission of the church. The Verger helps prepare the building for service to allow the Church to fulfill its vocation and draw people together to celebrate Christ’s presence together.

CARE TEAM: submitted by Kathy Medovich

Prayer Tags: The prayer tags are available on the front porch for anyone with any concern. Although we are progressing with Covid vaccinations, the concerns are still there for health safety, loneliness and isolation, unemployment, and many, many other issues. Mother Trula reads them and privately prays for the concerns.

Blessing Box: A continued thank you for those donating non-perishable food items, personal and household items, and pet food. The box is filled weekly from the tote inside the Elevator Lobby.

Soap for Hope: Tioga County Rural Ministry counts on all of us during the month of May to donate toiletries and household items for their pantry. The tote will be in the Elevator Lobby. Items needed:

Laundry Detergent

Shampoo

Toothpaste

Disposable Razors

Facial Tissues

Feminine Pads and Tampons

Dish Soap

Toilet Paper

Mouthwash

Body Wash

Paper Towel

CPR: SAVE THE DATE – June 13th from 1-4 PM.

Bill O'Connell will be our trainer, providing all materials needed for the course, and course will be modified to meet the CDC guidelines for Covid 19. Please wear your face masks. The Care Team will provide light refreshments. Due to equipment limitations, more than 10 people can attend this course. A sign-up sheet will be provided on the bulletin board when we reopen May 2nd. Also, Narcan training will be reviewed. The church already has Narcan nasal spray in the emergency kit. Cost for this course is part of the Owego EMS's Fund Raiser and will include ASHI card via PDF.

Cost for the training: CPR/AED \$25 cash or check, or \$26 Paypal through Owego Emergency Squad website.

Readers' Schedule

Today: Laura Coppens

Next Week: Ladd Yost

RESOURCES- Book of Common Prayer On-Line-

If you do not have a Prayer Book at home, it can be downloaded free from this site: www.bcponline.org

A Note on Today's Readings

The Seventh Sunday of Easter—Year B

Welcome to our parish. Today we begin the final week of celebrating the Lord's resurrection. Each Sunday during these fifty days, we have explored some aspect of our baptism into the dying and rising of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading is a portion of Jesus' prayer for his disciples on the night before he died. In that prayer, he asked the Father to unite us with him and to give us the same mission and grace the Father gave to him.

The sense of unity within the fellowship of Jesus' disciples was reflected in the period between his ascension and the day of Pentecost. We hear about the most significant event during that period in the first reading today when, under Peter's leadership, the disciples chose a replacement for Judas.

The reading from 1 John also reflects the theme of unity between Jesus and the

Father, and between Jesus and us.

Our life in Christ is the gift of God in and through the resurrection. That new life by water and the Holy Spirit will be our theme next week when, on the fiftieth day of Easter, we rejoice that we are filled with the Spirit of God.

~Children's Corner~

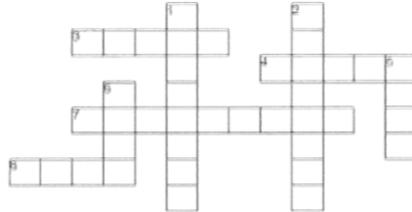
4/1/2021

The True Vine Crossword | Sermons4Kids

The True Vine

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 15:1-8.



ACROSS

3. Praise or honor
4. The part of a vine or tree which is eaten
7. Those who follow Jesus
8. A plant that climbs or creeps along the ground

DOWN

1. Arms that grow out from the trunk of a tree
2. A person who works with plants and flowers
5. The opposite of false
6. Burning flame

TRUE	FIRE	GARDENER	FRUIT
DISCIPLES	GLORY	VINE	BRANCHES

The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan Probe
Bishop of Central New York

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(570) 468-4177
Email: thollywood177@gmail.com
Available for pastoral care or individual meetings by appointment

Services: Sunday 10 A.M.
Available on our Facebook Page

Church Staff

Patricia O'Connell	Choir Director
Diane Miller	Parish Sexton
Amy Dunham	Parish Treasurer

The Vestry

Wardens

Debra Standinger	Senior Warden
James Hankey	Junior Warden

Class of 2021	Janice Koncak	Mary Green	Kathy Medovich
Class of 2022	Scott Calkins	Andrew Robertson	
Class of 2023	Laura Coppens	Jennifer Kotski	

All Members of St. Paul's are Ministers of the Church

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