

The Second Sunday of Easter: April 19, 2020

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US AT WWW.STPAULSTX.ORG

903-455-5030

secretary@stpaulstx.org

75402-3004

8320 Jack Finney Blvd. Greenville, Texas

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8am - 2pm

Service Times

SUNDAY

10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

WEDNESDAY

Noon Noonday Prayers

Morsel for Meditation

It is customary to blame secular science and anti-religious philosophy for the eclipse of religion in modern society. It would be more honest to blame religion for its own defeats. Religion declined not because it was refuted, but because it became irrelevant, dull, oppressive, insipid. When faith is completely replaced by creed, worship by discipline, love by habit; when the crisis of today is ignored because of the splendor of the past; when faith becomes an heirloom rather than a living fountain; when religion speaks only in the name of authority rather than with the voice of compassion – its message becomes meaningless.

Religion is an answer to man's ultimate questions. The moment we become oblivious to ultimate questions, religion becomes irrelevant, and its crisis sets in. The primary task of philosophy of religion is to rediscover the questions to which religion is an answer. The inquiry must proceed both by delving into the consciousness of man as well as by delving into the teachings and attitudes of the religious tradition. There are dead thoughts and there are living thoughts. A dead thought has been compared to a stone which one may plant in the soil. Nothing will come out. A living thought is like a seed. In the process of thinking, and answer without a question is devoid of life. It may enter the mind; it will not penetrate the soul. It may become a part of one's knowledge; it will not come forth as a creative force.

Abraham Joshua Heschel, *God in Search of Man: A Philoso-phy of Judaism* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1976), 3-4. Italics original.

Lay Ministry

10:30 AM OLD TESTAMENT AND PSALM LECTOR

04/19: BILL ROLSTON

NEW TESTAMENT LECTOR / LEM

04/19: BILL ROLSTON

ACOLYTES

04/19: JEFF FAUNCE 04/26: JEFF FAUNCE

ALTAR GUILD

04/19: Gail Rolston, Laura Funk 04/26: Georgianna Harrison

VESTRY PERSON OF THE DAY

04/19: JOE BLEIER, DANA MEDFORD

04/26: JOHN-PAUL BALLARD, ELIZABETH PORTER

CIRCLE OF CARE (WEEKLY)

04/19: MIKE LAVIGNE, SUZANNE TAYLOR 04/26: ELAINE HODGE, NANCY WYANT

INTERCESSORY PRAYER (WEEKLY)

ON HOLD UNTIL IN-PERSON MEETINGS RESUME

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church
The Rt. Rev. Dr. George R. Sumner, Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Funk, Rector
The Rev. Gordon Miltenberger, Assisting Priest
David Gish, Music Director
John Shasteen, Organist
Angela Dryer, Parish Administrator

Order of Worship

Pray for the Church, the Body of Christ

Please pray for those on our prayer list this week: Wes Archer, Judy Shaddox, Chris Bynum, Lily Stipe, Chris Wiltz, Allen Clegg Sr., The Clegg Family, Jo Dodson, Elaine Hodge, Beverly Gish, Cyndi Sehr, Faye Hamann, Dana Medford, Bob Lanier, Alice Cooney, Wayne and Lillian McHenry, Eileen Jenkins, Father Gordon, Dolores Miltenberger, Dru Ann Jamison, Mike Lavigne, and Paula Reeves. We also pray for our Daughters of the King Ministry as they bring their strength and service together by praying for friends and for the people.

Contact our church office to add a name to our prayer list: 903-455-5030.

Highlights/Announcements

- Per the directive of Bishop Sumner, the St. Paul's Church office is closed for the forseeable future. Angela Dryer, our Parish Administrator, will check the office voicemailand email daily and respond to any messages.
- The Memorial Fund of St. Paul's gratefully acknowledges contributions by Dan & Kim Bond, Dixie Hunt, and Ginger Garcia in Loving Memory of St. Paul's faithful family member, PAULA BACKUS.

Stewardship Today

Part of our stewardship is taking time, developing our ability to pray - to communicate with God in Prayers of Intercession for those in need of God's healing. In practicing good Christian stewardship, it is not time or abilities, or money, but all three, given to make known God's love for this world. We are healed not to retire from God's service, but to serve God's world. We are always called upon to practice good stewardship. One Minute Stewardship Sermons by The Rev. Charles Cloughen, Jr.

Frank McKee- Stewardship Committee Chair

April 12 - Offering: \$2,145.00

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (black) H= Hymnbook (red) A3 = Alleluia III (yellow)

10:30 — HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Prelude Processional Hymn
First Reading Acts 2:14a,22-32 Psalm Psalm 16 Epistle 1 Peter 1:3-9 Gospel Hymn
Gospel John 20:19-31 Sermon The Rev. Dr. Bill Shaddox The Nicene Creed BCP 358 Prayers of the People - Form III BCP 359 The Confession BCP 360 The Peace BCP 360 Announcements
Holy Communion
Offertory
O praise ye the Lord! (Laudate dominum)
Offertory Anthem
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A BCP 361
Sanctus
The Lord's Prayer BCP 364
Agnus Dei
The Presentation BCP 362
Communion Hymns
I Have Decided to Follow Jesus A3 #73
Let Us Break Bread Together A3 #107
Post Communion Prayer BCP 365
The Blessing & Dismissal BCP 366
Recessional Hymn
Come, thou fount of every blessing (Nettleton)

Upcoming Events

04/19: Sunday - Tune in to the Church's Facebook Live or YouTube at 10:30am for the morning service

04/19: Sunday - Virtual Coffee Hour following the morning service via Zoom

04/22: Wednesday - Noonday prayer at Noon via Zoom (also posted live on the Parish's Facebook page) 04/22: Wednesday - 8am & 6pm - Tune in to GEUS community Channel 34 for a broadcast of the previous

Sunday's service at St. Paul's - a weekly event!

04/24: Friday - Interactive Bible study via Zoom at 8:00am

04/26: Sunday - Tune in to the Church's Facebook Live or YouTube at 10:30am for the morning service

04/26: Sunday - Virtual Coffee Hour following the morning service via Zoom

To Join Zoom Meetings, use the following information:

Website: https://zoom.us/j/9037772020

Meeting ID: 903 777 2020 Password: 7777777

One tap mobile: +13462487799,,9037772020# Dial by your location: +1 346 248 7799

Rector's Update - April 17th

Happy Easter! We celebrated Easter with the traditional pomp due this High Holy Day, and we sent it out live via YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCmlrRFxbQF7CSAnFS8H9FA) and Facebook (https://facebook.com/st-paulsepiscopalgreenville). People were able to worship sans shoes, and I wonder how many added Kahlua to their coffee during the sermon (you'll have to hear the sermon to get that joke). There's a good amount of talk concerning continuing the live stream after we return to normal, as we have well over a hundred views on both YouTube and Facebook each week. Additionally, our Sunday service is broadcast on the GEUS community Channel (Channel 34) on Wednesdays at 8 am and 6pm. We're getting the message of the Gospel out in Hunt County and beyond!

At the end of last month, April 15th was predicted to be the height of Coronavirus deaths in the US, with the lowest estimate being 100K, and the highest being 2.2M. To date, the US has only had 29K. We have reason to give praise to God for this, and reason to thank those who have being toiling for the safety of others! Our community joined with others throughout the world to pray for an end to this virus. I thank those who participated in the 72-hour Prayer Vigil via For the City. Governor Abbot has announced that our we'll continue with the shutdown through April 30th, and the Hunt County Commissioners have echoed that with their Shelter-in-Place order for the same time period. Furthermore, Bishop Sumner has ordered that we will continue with streaming only worship through (and including) May 10th. I would add that even though we expect to return to worship by the middle of May, St. Paul's is not planning on potlucks until our patron saint's day on June 28th. This is because we can worship will keeping within the 6' physical distancing, there's not a proper way to keep that same distancing during a potluck. We're looking toward cautiously ramping things back up, and are aware that we need to resume with our activities and business as soon as we can.

We are physically distancing, but not socially or spiritually distancing. Even introverts like me need to stay in touch with our friends and neighbors. Most have a good amount of unplanned time on their hands, and I encourage each of us to call and check on those who come to our hearts and minds. I remember speaking with one parishioner a number of months ago, and when I said that people had been asking about her, she responded with 'well, if they really cared, they'd have called me.' That was both a stinging and accurate response. Rather than asking someone about someone else, why not call the person you're concerned about? This is a double-edged situation, and whereas it's accurate to encourage people to call those whom they care about, it's also accurate to encourage those sitting at home feeling lonely to pick up the phone themselves. I've had this conversation repeatedly with my own mother over the years, where she didn't call me, and when I did call, she complained about me not calling. Most, if not all of us, have telephones that both call out and receive calls. Please use them! The Daughters of the King will be dividing up our directory, and reaching out to all our members over the next week. If you do not have a directory, please call the church office and ask for one to be mailed or emailed to you.

- The church building is now locked when not in use. This is to allow for the expensive video equipment to remain in place between services, and to make it so that we do not have to complete a top-to-bottom sanitizing every time we use the church. If you are one of the parishioners who use the church for private prayer, please contact the Rector.
- Our CARE Act loan applications for the Parish and School have been turned in to Alliance Bank.
- Pastoral Care is being done via phone and videoconferencing. Face-to-face pastoral calls are only done in dire situations, and by the Rector only. If you have needs, please email or call we can help!
- Our 'Bible and Breakfast' Bible Study continues at 8:00 on Friday morning (without the breakfast) via Zoom.
- We have our Sunday Coffee Hour after the 10:30 service via a Zoom meeting.
- St. Paul's Episcopal School has reopened for the children of Essential Personnel. We have about 20 students now, compared with our normal enrollment of over 80. We have begun a rotation of teachers and staff, and are continuing to work to pay them at a rate that they can live on, and also keep the school functioning longer.